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December 3, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
Kim Westbrook Strach
Executive Director

Re: Production of <u>materials in the custody of the State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement ("State Board") obtained and developed in connection with an investigation into election processes in certain counties within Congressional District 9.</u>

Dear Director Westbrook Strach:

The State Board has long sought to promote public confidence in elections through the transparent production of official records and extensive public data when disclosure is possible without undermining the integrity of ongoing investigations or prematurely exposing sources. Recognizing the importance of public disclosure of materials obtained in connection with the above-referenced investigation, and acknowledging pending requests for the same, I direct that staff undertake a review of materials that may be produced on a rolling basis in a manner reasonably calculated to serve the public interest without compromising the investigation.

Notwithstanding the agency's authority to withhold records of criminal investigations, consistent with past practice and the prior guidance of the Attorney General's Office, every effort should be made to begin production of records at staff's earliest opportunity and continue thereafter.

Sincerely,

Joshua D. Malcolm

Cc. Josh Lawson, General Counsel