

ICYMI: Fair Fight v. True the Vote Virtual Pre-Trial Press Briefing

Briefing provided an overview of the current landscape for federal voting rights litigation and key background on Fair Fight v. True the Vote ahead of October 26 trial date

ATLANTA — Ahead of an October 26 trial date, Fair Fight held a virtual press briefing on the background and key issues in our federal case, *Fair Fight v. True the Vote*, and how that legal battle fits within the larger voting rights landscape and the fast-approaching 2024 election cycle.

A recording of the briefing can be found <u>here</u>, along with the slide deck <u>here</u>.

Key takeaways from the briefing included:

- In Georgia and beyond, mass challenges appear to be core to anti-voter efforts, with Georgia serving as the testing ground for an alarming and dangerous strategy to make administering elections more difficult while intimidating and harassing voters the GOP deems undesirable.
- Since 2020, Fair Fight has dedicated substantial resources to combatting the effects of
 mass challenges, beginning with its response to learning of True the Vote's plan to
 launch eligibility challenges against more than 364,000 Georgians ahead of the runoff —
 many of whom were Black, brown, and first-time voters.
- Voters have come forward seeking assistance from Fair Fight and to voice the
 intimidation they felt when they were challenged in the 2021 runoff elections and how
 those challenges threatened their fundamental right to vote; those voter stories are at
 the center of Fair Fight's claim that True the Vote unlawfully intimidated voters in
 violation of Section 11(b) of the Voting Rights Act.
- Attendees of the briefing heard directly from a voter, Courtney, who shared her experience helping her 77-year-old mother navigate having her eligibility challenged ahead of the 2022 midterm elections. Courtney's personal account illustrates how challenges are both burdensome and a form of intimidation.
 - Courtney shared that her mother was one of the thousands of voters whose eligibility was challenged by Jason Frazier, who has drawn significant recent attention for the mass challenges he has filed in Fulton County, GA.
 - Fair Fight's research and analysis shows that since 2021, at least 100,000 (or appx. 1 in every 70) Georgia voters have had their eligibility challenged, and that a vast majority of the challenges — about 89,000 of 100,000 — were submitted by just six right-wing activists.

Attendees also heard remarks from Fair Fight Executive Director Cianti Stewart-Reid and Allegra Lawrence-Hardy, a founding partner at Lawrence & Bundy and lead counsel for the Plaintiffs in Fair Fight v. True the Vote. Highlights include:

"Georgia has become the testing ground for modern-day mass voter challenges and other anti-democratic tactics we believe are being deployed as part of a national effort led by followers of the Big Lie. These efforts are not taking place in a silo, but rather appear to be part of a coordinated, state-by-state, precinct-by-precinct strategy to leverage undemocratic tactics that restrict voter access and hamper election administration." — Cianti Stewart-Reid

[...]

"As right-wing conspiracy theorists and opportunistic bad actors threaten our democracy and try to suppress the vote of Georgians and voters across the country, Fair Fight is clear about the task ahead of us: organize collective efforts to expose, mitigate, and reverse the voter suppression, while remaining true to our core mission of educating, empowering, and mobilizing voters." — Cianti Stewart-Reid

[...]

"By bringing this suit, Fair Fight is taking a stand against voter intimidation and mass challenges. And that stand could not come at a more critical time, as mass challenges are becoming a growing threat to eligible voters nation-wide, just as we prepare for the intensely important 2024 election cycle." — Allegra Lawrence-Hardy

Fair Fight will host a second briefing session Tuesday, October 24 at 10 am ET. The briefing will focus on:

- A closer look at the claims of Fair Fight's case
- Background on True the Vote
- A preview of testimony expected from Georgia voters and expert witnesses
- The impact of this case on the 2024 elections and beyond

A timeline of True the Vote's activities in Georgia and Fair Fight's litigation is available <u>here</u>. More information on True the Vote and mass voter challenges in Georgia can be found <u>here</u>.

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