

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

RABBI MERILL SHAPIRO, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No.: 2011-CA-1892
(Honorable Jackie L. Fulford)

KURT BROWNING, in his official capacity
as Florida Secretary of State,

Defendant.

ANSWER

Defendant, Kurt Browning, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State ("Secretary"), pursuant to Rule 1.110(c), Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, answers Plaintiffs' Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief as follows:

1. Admitted that the action seeks declaratory and injunctive relief; denied that Plaintiffs are entitled to such relief. Denied as to remaining allegations.
2. Admitted that the Court has subject matter jurisdiction; otherwise denied.
3. Admitted that the Court has jurisdiction to grant declaratory and injunctive relief; denied that Plaintiffs are entitled to such relief.
4. Admitted.
5. Admitted as to the second sentence. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.
6. Admitted as to the second sentence. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.
7. Admitted as to the second sentence. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.

8. Admitted as to the second sentence. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.

9. Admitted as to the second sentence. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.

10. Without knowledge and therefore denied.

11. Admitted as to the second sentence. As to the fifth sentence, admitted that Plaintiff Ford sues in his individual capacity and as President of the Florida Education Association; otherwise denied. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.

12. Admitted as to the second sentence. As to the fifth sentence, admitted that Plaintiff Swift sues in his individual capacity and as President of the Florida School Boards Association, Inc.; otherwise denied. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.

13. Admitted as to the second sentence. As to the fifth sentence, admitted that Plaintiff Summers-Persis sues in her individual capacity and as President of the Florida Association of School Administrators, Inc.; otherwise denied. Without knowledge and therefore denied as to the remaining allegations.

14. Without knowledge and therefore denied.

15. Admitted.

16. Admitted.

17. Article I, section 3 of the Florida Constitution speaks for itself; otherwise denied.

18. CS/HJR 1471 speaks for itself; otherwise denied.

19. Admitted that CS/HJR 1471 was filed with the Secretary on July 1, 2011 and that the ballot statement has been designated for placement on the November 2012 general election ballot as “Amendment 7;” otherwise denied.

20. Admitted as to the first sentence. The ballot statement speaks for itself.

21. Denied.

22. Admitted as to the first sentence. As to the second sentence, section 101.161(3)(b)2, Florida Statutes (2011) speaks for itself.

23. Chapter 2011-40, Laws of Florida, speaks for itself; otherwise denied. CS/HJR 1471 speaks for itself.

24. Chapter 2011-40, Laws of Florida, speaks for itself; otherwise denied. CS/HJR 1471 speaks for itself.

25. Denied.

26. Denied.

27. The Secretary incorporates his answers in paragraphs 1 – 26 as if fully set forth herein.

28. Denied.

29. Denied.

30. Denied.

31. Denied.

32. The Secretary incorporates his answers in paragraphs 1 – 31 as if fully set forth herein.

33. Section 101.161(3)(b)2, Florida Statutes (2011), speaks for itself; otherwise denied.

34. Denied.
35. Denied.
36. Denied.

Respectfully submitted,



DANIEL E. NORDBY
General Counsel
Florida Bar No. 014588
Daniel.Nordby@dos.myflorida.com

ASHLEY E. DAVIS
Assistant General Counsel
Florida Bar No. 48032
Ashley.Davis@dos.myflorida.com
Florida Department of State
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250
(850) 245-6536
(850) 245-6127 facsimile

*Counsel for Kurt Browning
Florida Secretary of State*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished to the following by U. S. Mail, facsimile and email this 11th day of August, 2011 to:

Ronald G. Meyer
rmeyer@meyerbrookslaw.com
Jennifer S. Blohm
jblohm@meyerbrookslaw.com
Lynn C. Hearn
lhearn@meyerbrookslaw.com
Meyer, Brooks, Demma and Blohm, P.A.
131 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 656-6750 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

Scott D. Makar
scott.makar@myfloridalegal.com
Louis F. Hubener
lou_hubener@myfloridalegal.com
Timothy D. Osterhaus
timothy.osterhaus@myfloridalegal.com
Office of the Attorney General
The Capitol, PL-01
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050
(850) 410-2672 facsimile
Counsel for State of Florida

Ayesha N. Khan*
khan@au.org
Alex J. Luchenitser*
luchenitser@au.org
Americans United for Separation of Church
and State
1301 K Street NW
Suite 850, East Tower
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 898-0955 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

John M. West*
jwest@bredhoff.com
Joshua B. Shiffirin*
jshiffirin@bredhoff.com
Bredhoff & Kaiser, P.L.L.C.
805 15th Street, NW
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 842-1888 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

Pamela L. Cooper
pam.cooper@floridaaea.org
Florida Education Association
300 East Park Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 884-0447 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

John J. Dingfelder
jdingfelder@aclufl.org
ACLU Foundation of Florida, Inc.
Post Office Box 25477
Tampa, FL 33622-5477
(813) 289-5694 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

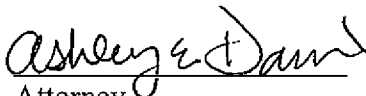
David L. Barkey
dbarkey@adl.org
Southeastern Area Counsel & Religious
Freedom Counsel
Anti-Defamation League
One Park Place
621 NW 53rd Street, Suite 450
Boca Raton, FL 33487
(561) 989-0712 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

Daniel Mach*
dmach@dcacclu.org
ACLU Program on Freedom of Religion
and Belief
915 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 546-0738 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

Randall C. Marshall
rmarshall@aclufl.org
ACLU Foundation of Florida, Inc.
4500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 340
Miami, FL 33137-3227
(786) 363-1108 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

Alice O'Brien*
aobrien@nea.org
National Education Association
300 East Park Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 884-0447 facsimile
Counsel for Plaintiffs

**Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice to be filed or pending*


Attorney