STATE OF MICHIGAN

COURT OF CLAIMS

MICHAEL A. COX and MIKE COX 2026,

Plaintiffs,

v

Case No. 26-000151-MZ

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE and JOCELYN BENSON,

Hon. Michael F. Gadola

Defendants.
_____ /

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' 8/20/26 MOTION TO AMEND COMPLAINT

On August 20, 2026, plaintiffs filed an expedited motion to amend the complaint along with a proposed first-amended complaint. On August 21, 2026, the Court entered an order directing defendants to respond to the motion by August 28, 2026, and allowing plaintiffs to reply to the motion no later than August 31, 2026.

Defendants stated in their response that they did not object to the Court granting plaintiffs' motion to file the proposed first amended complaint. The Court therefore GRANTS plaintiffs' motion. The proposed first-amended complaint filed on August 20, 2026 is accepted for filing.

Defendants requested a minimum of 21 days from entry of an order granting plaintiffs' motion for leave to amend to respond to the first-amended complaint "based on the extent of amendments, and the new claim for declaratory judgment." In reply, plaintiffs objected to defendants' request, noting that under MCR 2.108(C)(3), the response must be served and filed within 21 days of the August 20, 2026 service of the amended complaint. However, MCR

2.108(C) allows the Court to set a different time for pleading. The Court directs defendants to respond to plaintiffs' first-amended complaint within seven days of the date of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED. This order is not a final order and does not close the case.

Date: September 8, 2026

Hon. Michael F. Gadola
Chief Judge, Court of Claims