

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO
 CIVIL DIVISION**

JILL REARDON, et al.	:	
	:	
Plaintiffs,	:	Case No. 20CV-2105
	:	
v.	:	(JUDGE FRYE)
	:	
FRANK LaROSE, in his official	:	
capacity as	:	
OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE,	:	
	:	
Defendant.	:	

JOURNAL ENTRY

This case arose on the evening before the long-scheduled Ohio primary election. It was prompted by concern over the risk to Ohio voters from the COVID-19 or Corona Virus pandemic that has impacted the United States.

The case was filed at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Monday March 16, 2020 by two individual plaintiffs. Their filing was entitled “Complaint for Emergency Injunctive Relief” and it was accompanied by short affidavits of plaintiff Jill Reardon and plaintiff Judith Brachman. The sole defendant was Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose. Shortly after the case was filed the undersigned was randomly drawn by the Clerk’s Office as the assigned judge, from among the 17 active judges of this court.

Plaintiffs filed a “Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction” with their other papers. The relief sought in the Motion was to “postpone” the statewide March 17 primary election “until June 2, 2020.” (Memorandum of plaintiffs, at unnumbered page 3.)

Following receipt of a set of the filings the court allowed time for counsel to assemble at the courthouse from elsewhere in the city, and at approximately 6:20 p.m. began a hearing on the record. No further evidence was presented beyond the two affidavits referenced above. Counsel for defendant Secretary of State indicated on the record that he did not oppose the relief sought, but attorneys who appeared on behalf of others, and a non-lawyer member of the Ohio House of Representatives who traveled in

person from Dayton, all offered varied perspectives on the issue. No affidavit or other statement was conveyed to the court by either the Governor or the Director of the Ohio Department of Health.

Following the hearing the court **DENIED** the request for a Temporary Restraining Order, for the reasons dictated in a bench opinion in open court. That ruling is incorporated by reference.

Subsequent actions were apparently taken by the Director of the Department of Health and a majority of Justices on the Ohio Supreme Court. *State ex rel. Speweik v. Wood County Bd. Of Elections and Frank LaRose*, Supreme Court Case No. 2020-0382. Those postponed the primary election and may have mooted further proceedings in this case. However, for the present this case will remain open should further proceedings be necessary.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

Date: 03-17-2020
Case Title: JILL REARDON -VS- OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE FRANK
LAROSE
Case Number: 20CV002105
Type: JOURNAL ENTRY

It Is So Ordered.

The image shows a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Richard A. Frye". The signature is written over a circular official seal. The seal is partially obscured by the ink of the signature but is clearly visible as a textured, circular emblem.

/s/ Judge Richard A. Frye

Court Disposition

Case Number: 20CV002105

Case Style: JILL REARDON -VS- OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE
FRANK LAROSE

Case Terminated: 18 - Other Terminations

Motion Tie Off Information:

1. Motion CMS Document Id: 20CV0021052020-03-1699900000

Document Title: 03-16-2020-MOTION FOR TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER - PLAINTIFF: JILL REARDON

Disposition: MOTION DENIED