EXHIBIT A

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LANCASTER LAW FIRM, PLLC

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BY

June 18, 2024

RE: THE HAND MARKED, HAND COUNTED PAPER BALLOT ORDINANCE OF 2024

COUNTY WIDE ORDINANCE

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is drafted and presented in compliance with Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-915(a)(3).

My name is Clint Lancaster. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in Arkansas and my bar number is 2011179. I have reviewed this petition for the purpose of ensuring that it does not conflict with existing ordinances, and that its form, title, legality, and constitutionality are proper.

I certify that its form and title are proper.

I certify that the acts required by the ordinance are legal and constitutional.

I certify that there is, or will be if passed, no conflict with any existing ordinances in Saline County.

Not only have I reviewed this petition, I drafted all its content at the requests of a citizen of Saline County and the America Voter Integrity Initiative, Inc.

Sincerely,

Clinton W. Lancaster,
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EXHIBIT A

INITIATIVE PETITION

To the County Clerk of Saline County, Arkansas. We, the undersigned registered voters of Saline County, respectfully propose the following Ordinance, and by this, our petition, order that the same be submitted to the people of said county, to the end that the same may be adopted, enacted, or rejected by the vote of the registered voters of said county at the regular general election to be held on the 5TH day of NOVEMBER 2024, and each of us for himself or herself says:

I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of Saline County, Arkansas, and my printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, and date of signing this petition are correctly written after my signature.

POPULAR NAME

The Hand Marked, Hand Counted Paper Ballot Ordinance of 2024

BALLOT TITLE

An Ordinance that requires all elections in this County, except for only those voters with disabilities who may continue to use a voting machine, be conducted with secure paper ballots containing inherent security features designed to prevent unauthorized duplication; with vote selections marked by hand using permanent ink placed directly on the ballot by the voter in a manner which continues to both insure and ensure the secrecy of the votes cast on the ballot and the anonymity of the voter casting the ballot; requiring that the certification of all elections be based on a hand count of the votes performed and verified by human intelligence; and directing the Quorum Court to allocate funding to effectuate and implement the terms of this Ordinance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS, AS A COUNTYWIDE ORDINANCE AND NOT AN INITIATED ORDINANCE

§ 1 Short Title

This County Wide Ordinance shall be known as the "Saline County Election Integrity Restoration and Preservation Ordinance."

§ 2 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective on and after November 18, 2024.

§ 3 Definitions

(a) "Disabled Voter" means a voter with a disability as that term is defined by Arkansas law.

(b) "Hand-Marked" means the physical touching of a secure paper ballot by a voter with a permanent ink pen held by the voter's hand and creating a mark on the secure paper ballot for his or her vote selections by manipulating the permanent ink pen with the voter's hand to create the mark on the ballot.

(c) "Help America Vote Act" means the federal act of the same name passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2002.

(d) "Human Intelligence" means the mental processes of a human being consisting of human thought as well as the physical and chemical processes of the human brain instead of the thought or process of a computer or an artificial intelligence.

(e) "Inherent Security Features" means watermarks or other features on paper that is made up of unique or complex patterns, holograms, and/or florescent ink.

(f) "Secure Paper Ballot" means a ballot used for voting which contains inherent security features designed to prevent unauthorized duplication

or counterfeiting.

§ 4 Effect on State and Federal Law

This Ordinance shall not apply when its terms or language are superseded by state or federal law.

§ 5 Selecting the Use of Paper Ballots.

Pursuant to Ark. Code. Ann. § 7-5-301(a)(3), Saline County, Arkansas, shall, except for disabled voters who choose to use a voting machine, conduct all public elections by the people in this county by a secure paper ballot containing inherent security features with vote selections hand-marked by the voter using permanent ink in such a manner that both ensures and insures the anonymity of the voter and the secrecy of individual votes.

Voting machines may only be used by disabled voters in compliance with the Help America Vote Act and any voter who qualifies to use a voting machine pursuant to that Act may also use a voting machine in any public election in the county. However, no voter shall be forced, mandated, or otherwise compelled to use a voting machine against his or her will.

§ 6 Compliance with State Law and Certification of the Election Results

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as conflicting with Ark. Code Ann. § 7-5-602(c). However, votes counted by an electronic vote tabulation device shall be a preliminary and unofficial count. Certification of an election shall be based on a hand count of the votes performed and verified by human intelligence consistent with the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. § 7-5-603.

§ 7 Legislative Implementation, Self-Executing

This Ordinance shall be self-executing, and all its provisions shall be treated as mandatory. The quorum court shall not pass legislation or rules promulgated to restrict, hamper, or impair the intent of this Ordinance. The quorum court shall enact legislation to effectuate the terms of this Ordinance and allocate funding to the appropriate county governmental agency and county board of election commissioners to facilitate, implement, and carry out this Ordinance.

§ 8 Appropriations

The quorum court shall make such appropriations as may be required for the effectuation of this Ordinance.

§ 9 Repealer

Any ordinance which conflicts with this ordinance shall be repealed and, if a question or issue is presented about whether another ordinance or this ordinance controls, this ordinance and no other shall control.

§ 9 Severability

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

§ 10 No Ordinances

Absent a vote of the people, the quorum court may not amend, alter, or repeal this Ordinance.