

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

THE TEXAS HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES,

Petitioner,

vs.

JOHN H. BUCY, III, in his official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 136,
HAROLD V. DUTTON, JR., in his official
capacity as Texas State Representative,
District 142,

ANN JOHNSON, in her official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 134,
RAMON ROMERO, JR., in his official capacity
as Texas State Representative, District 90,
JAMES TALARICO, in his official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 50,
CHRIS TURNER, in his official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 101,
CHARLENE WARD JOHNSON, in her official
capacity as Texas State Representative,
District 139,

GENE WU, in his official capacity as Texas State
Representative, District 137,

RAFAEL ANCHIA, in his official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 103,

SHERYL COLE, in her official capacity as Texas
State Representative, District 46,

DIEGO BERNAL, in his official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 123,

NICOLE COLLIER, in her official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 95,

BARBARA GERVIN-HAWKINS, in her official
capacity as Texas State Representative,
District 120,

JESSICA GONZALEZ, in her official capacity as
Texas State Representative, District 104,

CHRISTINA MORALES, in her official
capacity as Texas State Representative,
District 145,

CASE NO. _____

JON ROSENTHAL, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 135,
TONI ROSE, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 110,
ANA-MARIA RODRIGUEZ RAMOS, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 102,
RON REYNOLDS, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 27,
TREY MARTINEZ FISCHER, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 116,
LAUREN A. SIMMONS, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 146,
VENTON JONES, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 100,
RHETTA BOWERS, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 113,
JOHN BRYANT, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 114,
LIZ CAMPOS, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 119,
AICHA DAVIS, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 109,
JOSEY GARCIA, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 124,
TERRY MEZA, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 105,
DONNA HOWARD, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 48,
LINDA GARCIA, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 107,
GINA HINOJOSA, in her official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 49,
VINCE PEREZ, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 77,
RAY LOPEZ, in his official capacity as Texas State Representative, District 125,

Respondents.

PETITION FOR RULE TO SHOW CAUSE

1. A minority of members of the Texas House of Representatives are harming the good order of Texas's representative democracy. They have intentionally broken the quorum of the Texas House of Representatives by fleeing the State. The Texas Representatives named herein hope the State of Illinois will provide safe harbor for their political actions and shield them from legal process. The United States Constitution, federal statute, and the doctrine of comity between states demand otherwise. This Court must give full faith and credit to warrants duly issued by the Texas House of Representatives that compel these civil servants to return to Texas and to their civic responsibilities.

2. The American republican experiment has brought 250 years of unprecedented freedom and prosperity to the people of the United States. This success has always been premised on the struggle between competing political factions borne out by the good order provided by the political and legislative processes of representative democracy. Our success has also been premised on good-faith engagement by duly elected civil servants.

3. This case concerns duly elected members of the Texas House of Representatives who have fled Texas with the explicit aim of forestalling the operation of Texas's democratic process. Texas, like Illinois, is a representative democracy in which all legislative power is delegated to the state legislature, which is constituted of Representatives and Senators duly elected by the People of Texas to represent the People of Texas. Each of these members has a voice and a vote—they do not have the right to deny the voices and votes of other members by withholding their own. They do not have a right to bring the machinery of democratic legislative to a screeching halt over results with which they do not agree.

4. In Texas, the Legislature does not meet year-round. Instead, it meets for a Regular Session that is limited to 140 days every two years and for any Special Sessions called by the Governor. Under the Texas Constitution, any Special Sessions are limited to 30 days and may act only on the subjects set forth in the Governor's call. The Texas Constitution mandatorily directs

that when the Governor calls a Special Session, “the Legislature shall meet.” Tex. Const. Art. III Sec. 5.

5. On July 9, 2025, the Governor of Texas called a Special Session to deal with, among other matters, disaster flood relief and redistricting. Ex. 1. That Special Session convened with the constitutionally required quorum of the Texas Legislature on July 21, 2025. Ex. 2. A minority of members of the Texas House of Representatives, including the Respondents in this action, thereafter determined that they disagreed with the majority on redistricting. Rather than merely express their views and votes, as part of their participation in the democratic process, Respondents decided to obstruct that process and disable the Texas House of Representatives from functioning.

6. Respondents knew that the Texas Constitution specifically authorizes each House of the Legislature to “compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each House may prescribe.” Tex. Const. Art. III Sec. 10; *see also In re Abbott*, 628 S.W.3d 288, 292–93 (Tex. 2021) (holding that civil arrest of absent members was “valid exercise” of power granted to the House under Texas Constitution). Thus, Respondents knew that they could and would be subject to arrest if they refused to attend the Special Session. To evade this lawful civil arrest, Respondents—approximately one-third of the members of the Texas House of Representatives—conspired to and did leave Texas for Illinois. Each did so with the intention of obstructing the Texas Legislature from functioning as it is required by the Texas Constitution and evading lawful civil arrest.

7. On August 4, 2025, the Texas House of Representatives acted in accordance with Article III, § 10 of the Texas Constitution and its Rules of Procedure adopted pursuant to Article III, § 11 of the Texas Constitution (the “Quorum Order”), moving to instruct the sergeant-at-arms of the Texas House of Representatives to secure and maintain the attendance of absentee Members of the Texas House. Ex. 3 at 92; Ex. 4 at 21–22.

8. Accordingly, Speaker of the House Dustin Burrows issued civil warrants for the members who had deliberately and without excuse broken quorum. Ex. 5. The civil arrest warrants (the “Quorum Warrants”) were duly and lawfully issued pursuant to the Quorum Order. Texas

requests and is entitled to the assistance of its sister State, the State of Illinois, to enforce the Quorum Order and Quorum Warrant as to each of the Texas House members breaking quorum and evading civil arrest in Illinois.

9. Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul on August 5, 2025, issued a statement that “in Illinois, the rule of law matters, and law enforcement must have a legitimate basis to arrest someone.” Ex. 6. Texas takes Attorney General Raoul at his word. Texas seeks enforcement of the rule of law in Illinois, the assistance of Illinois law enforcement officials, and this Court’s assistance, to lawfully return to Texas the Respondent legislators who fled to Illinois to evade their duties to participate in the ongoing Special Session of the Texas Legislature.

10. The Texas House of Representatives seeks an order recognizing the Quorum Warrants as a public Act of the State of Texas that is entitled to full faith and credit in Illinois, and requests that this Court issue civil warrants directing the appropriate Illinois law enforcement officials to effectuate the civil arrest of Respondents and coordinate with the Sergeant of Arms of the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Department of Public Safety to return them to Texas.

11. The Texas House of Representatives and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton have already attempted to resolve this dispute without the intervention of this Court, repeatedly notifying the absentee House Members of their obligation to return to Texas and fulfill their constitutional duties. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 7; Proceedings of the 89th Legislative Session, First Called Session, August 4, 2025 (House Speaker Dustin Burrows stated, “To those who are absent, return now. Show the courage to face the issues you were elected to solve. Come back and fulfill your duty.”), available at <https://www.house.texas.gov/videos/22427> (accessed August 7, 2025).

PARTIES

12. Petitioner the House of Representatives of the State of Texas (“Texas House”) is part of the Legislature of the State of Texas; the Texas House, together with the Texas Senate, are

vested with the legislative power of Texas. *See* Tex. Const. Art. III Sec. 1. The Texas House petitions on its own behalf to obtain full faith and credit of its public Acts.

13. Respondent John H. Bucy, III is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 136. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Bucy is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

14. Respondent Harold V. Dutton, Jr. is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 142. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Dutton is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

15. Respondent Ann Johnson is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 136. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Johnson is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

16. Respondent Ramon Romero, Jr., is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 90. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Romero is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

17. Respondent James Talarico is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 50. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Talarico is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

18. Respondent Chris Turner is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 101. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Turner is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

19. Respondent Charlene Ward Johnson is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 139. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Johnson is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

20. Respondent Gene Wu is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 137. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Wu is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

21. Respondent Rafael Anchia is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 103. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Anchia is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

22. Respondent Sheryl Cole is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 46. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Cole is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

23. Respondent Diego Bernal is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 123. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Bernal is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

24. Respondent Nicole Collier is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 95. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Collier is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

25. Respondent Barbara Gervin-Hawkins is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 120. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Gervin-Hawkins is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

26. Respondent Jessica Gonzalez is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 104. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Gonzalez is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

27. Respondent Christina Morales is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 145. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Morales is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

28. Respondent Jon Rosenthal is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 135. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Rosenthal is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

29. Respondent Toni Rose is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 110. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Rose is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

30. Respondent Ana-Maria Rodriguez Ramos is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 102. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Rodriguez Ramos is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

31. Respondent Ron Reynolds is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 27. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Reynolds is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

32. Respondent Trey Martinez Fischer is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 116. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Martinez Fischer is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

33. Respondent Lauren A. Simmons is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 146. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Simmons is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

34. Respondent Venton Jones is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 100. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Jones is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

35. Respondent Rhetta Bowers is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 113. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Bowers is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

36. Respondent John Bryant is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 114. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Bryant is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

37. Respondent Liz Campos is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 119. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Campos is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

38. Respondent Aicha Davis is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 109. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Davis is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

39. Respondent Josey Garcia is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 124. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Garcia is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

40. Respondent Terry Meza is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 105. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Meza is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

41. Respondent Donna Howard is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 48. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Howard is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

42. Respondent Linda Garcia is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 107. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Garcia is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

43. Respondent Gina Hinojosa is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 49. She is sued in her official capacity. She fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Hinojosa is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

44. Respondent Vince Perez is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 77. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Perez is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

45. Respondent Ray Lopez is a Texas State Representative, representing Texas House District 125. He is sued in his official capacity. He fled Texas to Illinois to break quorum and evade arrest. Representative Lopez is a resident of Texas and is presently located in Illinois.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

46. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-209(c) because the United States Constitution and federal statutory law require Illinois to give full faith and credit to public acts of the state of Texas.

47. Venue is proper pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-101 because all Respondents are nonresidents of Illinois and are located in Illinois; therefore, an action may be commenced in any county.

CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT I

FULL FAITH AND CREDIT, U.S. Const., Art. IV, § 1

48. Texas and Illinois are sovereign states of the United States. They each are bound by the United States Constitution, and their citizens have fought together against enemies of the United States on many occasions to preserve that Constitution. Texas and Illinois, like the United States Government itself, vest the lawmaking power of democratically elected representatives of their People in the Legislative Branch of their respective governments.

49. The Texas Legislature is currently unable to exercise its essential lawmaking function on behalf of its People by reason of the actions of Texas legislators who have fled Texas during a Special Session duly called by the Governor of Texas in accordance with its Constitution. Specifically, these legislators have conspired with each other and with others not named herein for the purpose of depriving the Texas House of Representatives of a quorum and disabling it from enacting laws in accordance with the Texas Constitution.

50. Respondents fled Texas because (a) they knew that the Texas House of Representatives would promptly act to compel their attendance in accordance with Article III, § 10

of the Texas Constitution and (b) these legislators sought to evade lawful civil arrest. The Texas House of Representatives on August 4, 2025, affirmatively acted to lawfully order the civil arrest and compelled attendance of Respondents. *See In re Abbott*, 628 S.W.3d at 294 (noting that Article III, § 10’s text “fully supports [the] understanding” that it might “become necessary to use physical compulsion to force a quorum”); *see also Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168, 190 (1880) (interpreting federal quorum clause to permit the same).

51. Article IV § 1 of the United States Constitution—the Full Faith and Credit Clause—imposes the following duty on each State, including Illinois:

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State of the public Acts, Records, and judicial proceedings of every other State.

The courts of Texas’s fellow states therefore have the mandatory constitutional duty to respect and give full faith and credit to the public acts of the Texas House of Representatives, including the Quorum Order and the Quorum Warrants.

52. This constitutional duty applies regardless of policy disagreements properly taken up by the Texas House of Representatives once quorum is restored. Restoration of functional representative democracy, as evidenced by 250 years of American history, is the best and only way to resolve policy disputes. The public acts of Texas to restore that democratic process are entitled under the United States Constitution to full faith and credit from Illinois.

53. Finally, this constitutional duty of full faith and credit applies to legislative acts of sister States like those at issue here, and not only to court judgments of sister States. *See, e.g. Franchise Tax Bd. of Cal. v. Hyatt*, 578 U.S. 171, 176 (2016) (recognizing a statute as a “public Act”); *Hughes v. Fetter*, 341 U.S. 609, 611 (1951). The Constitution extends full faith and credit not only to “judicial Proceedings,” but also to “public Acts.” That provision can be given meaning only by recognizing that legislative as well as judicial acts are entitled to respect and enforcement in sister States.

COUNT II
FULL FAITH AND CREDIT, 28 U. S. C. § 1738

54. The Full Faith and Credit Clause of the United States Constitution also granted express authority to Congress to make “general Laws” to prescribe how the acts, records, and proceedings of sister States may be authenticated and carried into “Effect.”

55. Congress did so in 28 U.S.C. § 1738. After describing how “legislative acts,” may be authenticated, Section 1738 states:

Such Acts, records, and judicial proceedings . . . shall have the same full faith and credit in every court within the United States . . . as they have by law or usage in the courts of such State

Petitioner hereby presents to this Court the acts of the Texas House of Representatives—the Quorum Order and the Quorum Warrants—duly authenticated under the statute with the Seal of the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, and respectfully request that this Court give full faith and credit to these legislative acts by the State of Texas in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1738.

56. Accordingly, this Court should issue such orders and process as may be necessary to effectuate the Quorum Warrants, just as if they were acts of the State of Illinois. To wit, the Court should treat the Quorum Warrants as its own civil order.

57. Texas respectfully requests the Court issue a rule to show cause why Respondents should not be held in contempt for their knowing efforts to evade Texas’s duly-issued Quorum Warrants.

58. The Texas Supreme Court has already blessed the use of Quorum Warrants as a lawful exercise of legislative authority bearing the full effect of law—equivalent to a court-ordered subpoena or warrant. “The Texas Constitution empowers the House to ‘compel the attendance of absent members’ and authorizes the House to do so ‘in such manner and under such penalties as [the] House may provide.’” *See In re Abbott*, 628 S.W.3d 288, 291–92 (Tex. 2021) (quoting Tex. Const. Art. III Sec. 10). “The Texas House of Representatives has established the ‘manner’ and ‘penalties’ under which it will exercise its constitutional authority to compel the attendance of

absent members” by, *inter alia*, “authoriz[ing] the physical ‘arrest’ of absent members in order to compel their attendance.” *Id.* at 292; *see* Tex. H.R. Rule 5, § 8, Tex. H.R. 4, 89th Leg., R.S., 2025 H.J. of Tex. 42, 94, *reprinted in* Texas House Rules Manual 92 (2025) (“All absentees for whom no sufficient excuse is made may, by order of a majority of those present, be sent for and arrested, wherever they may be found, by the sergeant-at-arms or an officer appointed by the sergeant-at-arms for that purpose, and their attendance shall be secured and retained.”).

59. This instant petition for a rule to show cause “is the method for notifying the court that a court order may have been violated, and the petitioner requests a hearing on the issue.” *In re Marriage of LaTour*, 241 Ill. App. 3d 500, 508 (1993). This Petition, therefore, “initiates the contempt proceedings, but it does not establish that a violation of a court order has in fact occurred.” *Id.*

60. A rule to show cause would “operate together” with this Petition to “inform the alleged contemnor[s] of the allegations against [them].” *In re Marriage of LaTour*, 241 Ill. App. 3d at 508. This rule would serve as “the method by which the court brings the parties before it for a hearing,” and would “also notif[y] the alleged contemnor[s] of the time and place of the hearing.” *Id.*

61. This rule would not, in and of itself, constitute “a finding a violation of a court order has occurred,” but would rather form “part of the process of notifying the alleged contemnor[s] of the charges, and time and place of the hearing.” *Id.*

COUNT III COMITY

62. Judicial comity is the “principle whereby the courts of one jurisdiction may give effect to the laws and judicial decisions of another, not as a matter of obligation, but out of deference and respect.” *Safety-Kleen Corp. v. Canadian Universal Ins. Co.*, 631 N. E. 2d 298, 483, (Ill. App. 1994), citing *Schoeberlein v. Purdue University*, 544 N. E. 2d 283 (Ill. 1989).

63. Here, Illinois shares the same fundamental interest as Texas in preventing “factionists and disorganizers” from blocking a quorum in its legislature and thereby “block the

wheels of government” by disabling the legislative function entirely. *See People ex rel. Harless v. Hatch*, 33 Ill. 9, 160–61 (1863). This is a far more fundamental common policy of the two sister states than any political differences about any legislation the Texas House of Representatives may consider or act on when a quorum is restored.

64. Texas respectfully requests the assistance of Illinois and this Court, as a matter of comity, in restoring the legislative function in Texas that has been unlawfully disrupted by Respondents, who seek to evade arrest in Illinois.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

65. If the Quorum Order and Quorum Warrants are not given full faith and credit and are not enforced in Illinois, Texas is threatened with immediate and irreparable harm for which damages are an insufficient remedy. Special Sessions of the Texas Legislature are limited by the Texas Constitution to thirty days, and the current Special Session will end no later than August 20, 2025. Absent immediate action by this Court, the Texas Legislature will be unable to address any of the eighteen subjects enumerated by the Governor of Texas in his call of this Special Session, including disaster flood relief and matters involving the Texas public school system.

66. Accordingly, in these rare and critically important emergency circumstances, Texas is entitled to relief via any order or orders necessary to effectuate the Quorum Warrants in Illinois and return Respondents to Texas.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this matter be considered by the Court on an emergency basis and that the Court issue a rule to show cause:

1. initiating contempt proceedings against Respondents for unlawfully seeking to evade Texas’s duly issued Quorum Warrants, and
2. setting a hearing as soon as practicable at which Plaintiffs may present evidence of Respondents’ willful attempts to circumvent Texas law.

Date: August 7, 2025

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Respectfully submitted,

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VERIFICATION BY CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-109

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief, and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

/s/ Ryan G. Kercher
RYAN G. KERCHER