

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA  
HAMMOND DIVISION**

John B. Curley, as Chairman of the Lake County,  
Indiana, Republican Central Committee, and as a  
registered voter, and Jim B. Brown as member of  
the Lake County Board of Elections and  
Registration and as a registered voter,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 2:08 cv-00287-JVB

Lake County Board of Elections and Registration,  
and the Honorable Thomas Philpot, not  
individually but as Lake County Clerk,

Defendants.

Linda Peterson, Roosevelt Phillips, Mary Aaron,  
Service Employees International Union, and  
Indiana State Conference of National Association  
for the Advancement of Colored People Branches,

Proposed Intervenor-Defendants.

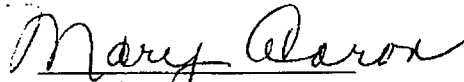
**DECLARATION OF MARY AARON**

## DECLARATION OF Mary Aaron

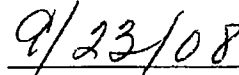
- 1) My name is Mary Aaron and I live at 645 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Place in Gary, Indiana.
- 2) I am a registered voter. I voted in the 2008 primary election on May 6, 2008 and I plan to vote in the 2008 general election.
- 3) I am an educator in the Gary school system and school is open on election day.
- 4) I also coach cross country and basketball at the school. The teams have games or meets every Tuesday.
- 5) I usually leave for work at 6:30 a.m. Because of games and practices, I usually work until at least 6:00 p.m.
- 6) The polls are open on Election Day from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. I need an early voting location close to my home because due to my working hours, I only have a small window of time to vote on Election Day.
- 7) In my experience as a voter, sometimes the polls do not open on time. If that happened or if there were long lines, I would have to be late to work in order to vote.
- 8) I would prefer to vote early at a location close to my home because I would be able to vote on a day other than Tuesday.
- 9) In addition to teaching, I am the President of the Hammond NAACP. About a year ago, the Hammond Health Department was threatened with closure. As part of my role as President, I argued that the Health Department should stay open because it would be a hardship for people without transportation to get to the Health Department in Crown Point.
- 10) Although I have a car, to better understand the challenges of people without transportation, I and a fourteen year old girl from the neighborhood took public transportation from the corner of Kenwood and Calumet Avenue in Hammond to the Health Department in Crown Point, which is in the Lake County Government complex.
- 11) It took me approximately five hours roundtrip to get from Hammond to Crown Point to get to the Health Department and cost, for myself and a fourteen year old child, between \$30.00 and \$35.00.
- 12) To get from Hammond to Crown Point, I had to take a bus from Hammond to the East Chicago station. I then took a South Shore train from there to Gary. That train only runs once every two hours.

- 13) This train stops at the Gary Metro Center. The trip takes about ten minutes.  
From there, I took a bus to Crown Point. The bus runs about every 30 minutes and takes 30-40 minutes to get to Crown Point. The bus stops at the Lake County Government Center.
- 14) To get back to Hammond, I had to retrace my steps. Because the South Shore line only runs every two hours, I had to wait around an hour and a half for the train to arrive.
- 15) Since I took this trip, the prices for the South Shore line have risen.
- 16) I need an early voting location close to my home because I only have a small amount of time that I could vote on Election Day, and although I have a car, my working hours would make it hard for me to make it to Crown Point during the hours that early voting is permitted.

I hereby swear under penalty of perjury that the foregoing facts are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Aaron

645 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Pl  
Gary, Indiana 46408

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date