



Minnesota Voters Alliance ■ P.O. Box 4602 ■ Saint Paul, MN 55104
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Minnesota Supreme Court to hear MVA's 'signature matching' case

Watch the hearing live on February 2, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Dear Friends,

The Minnesota Supreme Court has scheduled **February 2, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.** in the State Capitol Building, second floor to hear oral arguments in Minnesota Voters Alliance (MVA) v. Secretary of State (Case Number: A22-0111).

In this important election lawsuit, the **MVA defends** the state law that requires an absentee ballot envelope to have, in certain circumstances, a **voter signature that matches the signature on the application** that requested that absentee ballot be sent to the voter. With absentee voting now comprising **millions of votes**, more than half of the statewide total, the misapplication of voting requirements like signature matching can **impact the results of close elections**.

Note: Our case is the *second* case being heard, so it will probably start closer to 10:00 a.m.

Case summary

As you know, on January 25, 2022, Minnesota Voters Alliance (MVA) and three Ramsey County absentee ballot board members, represented by the Upper Midwest Law Center, filed a **lawsuit against the Secretary of State** because the Secretary of State promulgates Minnesota Administrative Rule 8210.2450 that violates Minnesota's absentee ballot board law, Minnesota Statutes 203B.121.

Rule 8210.2450 makes it **impossible for election judges** to comply with their legal duties by properly comparing signatures between absentee ballot applications and the return envelopes. The Secretary's rule writes the **signature matching** safeguard out of the law. But **rules aren't allowed to override laws** passed by our Legislature.

Making sure an **absentee ballot is really cast by the person** who requested it is what is at issue. In addition, ballot board members cannot be forced to accept ballots which appear to them to be **fraudulent**. These are important principles that we are fighting for in this case.

Our straightforward **legal analysis shows how the Minnesota Court of Appeals got it wrong** when it ruled against the MVA, as we explained with some detail in our previous update. The good news, however, is that the **Minnesota Supreme Court has granted our request** for review! The Supreme Court only grants review in about **10% of cases**, so this is an **impressive legal victory** in its own right.

[Click here](#) to view our final reply brief submitted to the court.

Watch the Supreme Court hearing online LIVE!

The public may **attend in person** at the State Capitol or can **livestream** the hearing that morning. Thirty minutes prior to commencement, there will be a link available at www.mncourts.gov/SupremeCourt.aspx. Once there you'll see a button on the left: "Oral Argument Livestream on Feb 2 at MN Capitol"

There are approximately 36 seats in the hearing room, seating is first-come, first-served. For parking options at the capitol, please visit: <https://mn.gov/admin/citizen/buildings-grounds/parking/>

Join us at DeGidio's Restaurant following the court session

In-person attendees, and others who are not able to attend the hearing, are also invited to **attend a special get-together** following the court hearing at **DeGidio's Bar & Restaurant located at 425 7th St West, St. Paul, MN 55102**, just minutes from the state capitol.

Join us if your schedule permits to meet up with old friends and meet new ones, while enjoying a **delicious Italian buffet lunch**, AND, a great guest speaker, **Attorney James Dickey**, Senior Counsel at the Upper Midwest Law Center!

This special event will begin at approximately **11:30 a.m. and go until 1:00 p.m.** Doors open at 10:45 a.m. There is a \$15 suggested donation to help cover the buffet cost.

Critical Support!

We are deeply grateful to our friends and members who provide the continuing support needed to sustain the critical work of the MVA. The recent generosity shown by so many supporters is heartwarming and we ask those of you who are able to please join them!

Consider a generous "tax deductible" donation today! Your check may be made payable to the "Minnesota Voters Alliance" and sent using the envelope provided, or you can contribute online at **www.MNVoters.org**.

Sincerely,

Andrew E. Cilek
Executive Director
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*Minnesota Voters Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible.
We can accept personal as well as corporate contributions. Tax ID: 20-2957982*