



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

November 1, 2011

Commissioner Colleen Mathis, Chair  
Independent Redistricting Commission  
1100 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Ms. Mathis:

Thank you for your October 31, 2011 letter, in response to my October 26, 2011 letter, in which you were given written notice of allegations that you have committed substantial neglect of duty and/or gross misconduct in office. The Arizona Constitution is designed to ensure that Arizona's redistricting process is undertaken by commissioners committed to their constitutional duty to apply the provisions of Arizona Constitution, Art. 4, Pt. 2, §1 in an honest, independent and impartial fashion, and to transact the redistricting process in a way that upholds public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process. To that end, the Constitution expressly confers on me the authority to remove a commission member when in my judgment, and with the concurrence of two-thirds of the Arizona Senate, there has been substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, or an inability to discharge the duties of office.

After careful review of your response and the responses of the other commissioners, I have determined that you have failed to conduct the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission's business in meetings open to the public, and failed to adjust the grid map as necessary to accommodate all of the goals set forth in Arizona Constitution Art. 4, Pt. 2, § 1(14), including, but not limited to, the failure to consider or determine whether the creation of a competitive district is practicable or does not cause significant detriment to the other goals. The result is a failure to apply the Arizona Constitution's redistricting provisions in an honest, independent and impartial fashion, and a failure to uphold public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process. In my judgment, the foregoing constitutes substantial neglect of duty or gross misconduct in office.

Accordingly, I hereby remove you as the fifth member of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission and as its Chair. This removal will be effective immediately upon concurrence of two-thirds of the Arizona Senate.

Sincerely,

Ken Bennett  
Acting Governor  
on behalf of  
Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

Cc: The Honorable Russell Pearce