

Published reporting has made the central problem visible: a continuing fight over who controls key election functions, systems, and resources. Regardless of where one stands politically, Maricopa County voters deserve elections administered by officials who are empowered to execute their statutory responsibilities, not boxed in by shifting agreements, constrained access, or punitive maneuvers that create confusion and distrust.

Accordingly, we urge the Board to take the following immediate actions:

- Publicly commit to opposing any effort to remove Recorder Heap and end rhetoric that normalizes that extreme outcome.
- Stop interfering with or impeding the Recorder's operational control where the Recorder is responsible and restore the practical resources and access needed to perform those responsibilities effectively.
- De-escalate: pause adversarial tactics that intensify mistrust (including escalating subpoena fights in the middle of broader litigation), and return to disciplined governance focused on election readiness.
- Negotiate transparently and in good faith so that the public can see clearly who is responsible for what and so that operational accountability is unmistakable.

Maricopa County cannot afford a government-manufactured crisis in election administration. The voters elected Recorder Heap to lead and improve election operations in his lane. He should be allowed to do that work, fully equipped, fully supported, and free from political retaliation.

We respectfully request a written response stating what immediate steps the Board will take to (1) end removal talk, (2) cease obstructive conduct, and (3) restore functional cooperation with the Recorder's Office for the benefit of Maricopa County voters according to the statutes, as outlined by the Arizona Legislature's amicus clarifying state law.

Respectfully,

AZGOP Legislative District 9 Board

Ian Murray, Chairman  
Madeleine McDonald, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman  
Lynne Spear, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman  
Mark Sid, Treasurer  
Gwen Carey, Secretary  
Rachael Altman, Southwest Zone Chairman  
Lawrence Moody, Downtown Zone Chairman  
Kevin Medema, Northwest Zone Chairman  
Stephen Haws, Southwest Zone Chairman

cc: Sergio Arellano, Chairman, Arizona Republican Party  
Craig Berland, Chairman, Maricopa County Republican Committee