

# NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court  
Administrative Office of the Courts



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## **Arizona Supreme Court Denies Emergency Special Action to Extend Deadline for Curing Ballots, Deemed Unnecessary**

**PHOENIX**—The Arizona Supreme Court today denied an emergency petition for special action filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the League of United Latin American Citizens-Arizona (LULAC) to extend the deadline for voters to cure early ballots with inconsistent signatures beyond the 5 p.m. deadline on Nov. 10, 2024, established by the legislature (Laws 2024, Ch. 1 § 22 (H.B. 2785)). The requested extension is unnecessary.

Relying on information found on the Arizona Secretary of State’s [website](#) regarding the processing of early ballots, the ACLU and LULAC asserted that county recorders had not even begun the signature-verification and curing process for thousands of remaining ballots, which could result in potentially thousands of Arizona voters not receiving reasonable notice of a perceived signature mismatch and an opportunity to cure their ballot before the deadline. The ACLU and LULAC’s fears of voter disenfranchisement are unfounded.

Because the petition was filed outside of Court hours, on Nov. 9, 2024, Court staff informally asked for responses from county recorders to be filed on or before Nov. 10, 2024, at 12 p.m. As of 4:35 p.m., the Court received responses from the Apache County Recorder, Coconino County Recorder, the Pima County Recorder, the Maricopa County Recorder, the La Paz County Recorder, the Yuma County Recorder, the Santa Cruz County Recorder, and the Navajo County Recorder. No county recorder has stated that they are unable to comply with the statutory requirements for reasonable notice and, as Maricopa County specifically notes, “Early ballot ‘processing’ does not mean signature verification. And the fact of the matter is, the Maricopa County Recorder finished signature verification of the last remaining early ballot affidavit signatures on the morning of Fri., Nov. 8, 2024.” It appears from the county recorders that all voters with inconsistent signatures have been notified of the need and opportunity to correct their ballots.

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*This news release is intended solely to notify the public about a Court order. It is not to be considered as official commentary by the Court or any member of the Court nor may it be cited as legal authority for any reason or purpose. The full order is attached for those seeking additional procedural details and further information regarding the Court’s reasoning.*

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