

IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

VICTORIA JACKSON GRAY ADAMS, <i>et. al.,</i>	)	Civil Action No.
	)	02-cv-877-KLH-CKK-RJL
<i>Plaintiffs,</i>	)	<i>consolidated with</i>
	)	02-cv-582-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	(lead case)
)	
<i>-vs-</i>	)	<i>and</i>
	)	02-cv-581-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	02-cv-633-KLH-CKK-RJL
)	
THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION <i>et al.,</i>	)	02-cv-751-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	02-cv-753-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	02-cv-754-KLH-CKK-RJL
<i>Defendants.</i>	)	02-cv-781-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	02-cv-874-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	02-cv-875-KLH-CKK-RJL
	)	02-cv-881-KLH-CKK-RJL

Declaration of Victoria Jackson Gray Adams

I, Victoria Jackson Gray Adams, declare as follows:

1. I have been an active advocate for voting rights for over forty years. During the 1960s, I was a State Supervisor of Citizenship Education of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Mississippi and a founder of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, which challenged the seating of Mississippi's all-White delegation to the 1964 Democratic Party's national convention. I currently serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Fannie Lou Hamer Project, which advocates for equal voting rights regardless of economic status.

2. I am a registered and qualified voter in Petersburg, Virginia. I have voted regularly, and believe that the failure to vote would betray the many people who lost their lives in the voting rights struggle. I also contribute what money I can to candidates who stand for equality, although I am only able to make small contributions.

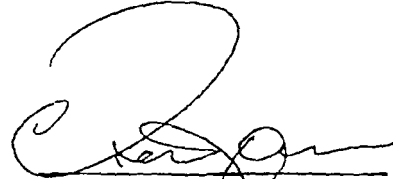
3. As hard as I have fought for voting rights, I believe that the right to vote is useless if the only people who can qualify for office don't have a clue as to the needs and aspirations of the average citizen. The increased contribution limits of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (BCRA) will mean that candidates who do not have personal wealth, or connections to people with wealth, will be at such a great disadvantage that many will not run for office. Candidates who represent my interests, and the interests of non-wealthy communities, will be blocked from office. This will deprive me of full political participation and discourage me from involvement with electoral politics.

4. I cannot afford to contribute anywhere near \$2,000 to a candidate, and if the individual contribution limits are raised to \$2,000, I will be discouraged from giving any money at all. Candidates will be forced to gather as many \$2,000 contributions as they can, dwarfing the kind of contribution I could afford to give.

5. If candidates are forced to seek \$2,000 contributions in order to be competitive, those who cannot afford such contributions will have less of an opportunity to be heard on policy matters. The largest donors get more attention, and when the ceiling is raised the voices of small contributors and voters like myself will be lost.

I declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

This 4 day of October, 2002.



Victoria Jackson Gray Adams