

VIVA Witness and Their Liberal Connections

Not all the information in this list was provided by the witnesses or their attorneys (in writing or in person) in testimony to enjoin parts of the new election reform law (HB 589 / VIVA). In some cases it took research to find all the partisan associations. For instance, in the case of Gary Bartlett, while he was introduced only as the former executive director of the State Board of Elections, there was no mention of his prior experience.

Before his appointment as executive director in 1993, his work experience consisted entirely of employment as former Democratic Congressman Martin Lancaster's aide and a volunteer for former Democratic Gov. and Senate candidate Jim Hunt. Then there was George Gilbert, former Board of Elections Director in Guilford County; only after cross-examination by the defense did he admit to prior work experience working for liberal/progressive U.S. Senators, Chris Dodd (Dem-IA) and John Culver (Dem-IA). Another interesting fact is that State Senator Josh Stein's father is Adam Stein, one of the lawyers representing the plaintiffs.

Gary Bartlett

- Former Executive Director of the NC State Board of Elections (2003 - 2013)
- Former aide to Congressman Martin Lancaster (Democrat)
- Former volunteer for Governor and Senate candidate Jim Hunt (Democrat)

George Gilbert

- Former Director of the Guilford County Board of Elections
- Legislative Assistant for Senator John Culver (Dem-IA) from 1976-1980
- Legislative Assistant for Senator Chris Dodd (Dem-CT) from 1981-1982
- Formerly worked for the Congressional Research Service in the Library of Congress

Alma Adams

- Democratic State Representative (HD 58-Guilford), 21 years
- Board Member for NC NAACP* and involved in Moral Monday movement
- Formerly on Greensboro City School Council
- Has contributed \$9,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Dan Blue

- Democratic State Senator (SD 14-Wake), 6 years
- Democratic Minority Leader
- Former Democratic State Representative, 25 years
- Democratic Speaker of the House 1991-1995 (first African-American to hold this position in NC)
- Former President, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)
- Has contributed \$95000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Angela R. Bryant

- Democratic State Senator (SD 4-Halifax), 2 years
- Former Democratic State Representative, 6 years
- Founder and consultant, VISIONS, INC
- Founder, Land Loss Prevention Project at NCCU School of Law
- Has contributed \$15,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Rick Glazier

- Democratic State Representative (HD 44-Cumberland), 11 years
- Cumberland County School Board, 1996-2002
- Member, NC Advocates for Justice Foundation* (formerly NC Academy of Trial Lawyers)
- House District 44 Rep, 2002, 2012
- House District 45 Rep, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010
- Has contributed \$29,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Kenneth Leigh Goodman

- Democratic State Representative (HD 66-Hoke), 4 years
- Has contributed \$11,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Larry D. Hall

- Democratic State Representative, Minority Leader (HD 29-Durham), 9 years
- Former First VP & served on executive committee of the Durham branch of the NAACP*
- Recipient of NC Justice Center's* Defender of Justice Award in 2012
- Has contributed \$16,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Mary Price Taylor Harrison

- Democratic State Representative (HD 57-Guilford), 10 years
- Has contributed \$69,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Eleanor G. Kinnaird

- Former Democratic State Senator (SD 23-Orange), 17 years
- Former Mayor of Carrboro, four terms
- Has contributed \$5,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Grier Martin

- Democratic State Representative (HD 34-Wake), 9 years
- Chose not to run in 2012, after redistricting. Appointed to fill the District 34 seat after Rep. Ross resigned, 2013.
- Has contributed \$41,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Floyd McKissick Jr.

- Democratic State Senator-Deputy Minority Leader (SD 20-Durham), 6 years
- Chairman, NC Legislative Black Caucus, 2011-2013
- Has contributed \$3,500+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Henry M. (Mickey) Michaux, Jr.

- Democratic State Representative (HD 31-Durham), 35 years
- Former Assistant District Attorney and US Attorney
- Has contributed \$9,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Earline Parmon

- Democratic State Senator (SD 32-Forsyth), 2 years
- Served 10 years in the NC State House of Representatives
- Lifelong member of NAACP*
- Former Forsyth County Commissioner

Josh Stein

- Democratic State Senator-Minority Whip (SD 16-Wake), 6 years
- Former campaign manager and legal counsel for John Edwards U.S. Senate Campaign
- Has contributed \$84,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Shelly Willingham

- Former Democratic State Representative for NCGA, 2001-02
- Former member of the Edgecombe County Board of Elections, 2009-Feb 2014
- Former member of Nash-Rocky Mount School Board of Education from 1981-1983
- Former member of Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners 1992-94
- Former Democratic member of Edgecombe County Board of Elections
- Has contributed \$13,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

William J. Barber II

- President of the NC NAACP*
- Greenleaf Christian Church Disciples of Christ
- Former Board Member, NC Justice Center*
- Former Executive Director of the North Carolina Human Relations Commission
- Chairman and Founding Member of Rebuilding Broken Places Community Development Corporation

Kay Gordon Brandon

- Plaintiff in the 2011 lawsuit brought by the NAACP, League of Women Voters, Democracy NC and A. Philip Randolph Institute against the redistricted legislative and redistricted maps.
- Member of the NAACP*

- Member of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club (NANBPW) since the 1980s
- Member of Concerned Citizens of Northeast Greensboro (CCNEG)
- Founder and current Vice Chair Citizens for Economic and Environmental Justice (CEEJ)
- Co-founder Greensboro Voter Alliance (GVA)
- Worked on Democrat Harvey Gantt's US Senate campaign in the 1990s
- Has contributed \$3,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Sarah Bufkin

- Current Media Coordinator at the NC NAACP*
- Morehead-Cain Scholar (UNC Chapel Hill - 2013)
- The Huffington Post - Politics Intern
- The Boston Consulting Group - Summer Associate
- Center for American Progress Action Fund - Intern

Bessie Carrington

- Member of League of Women Voters* (LWVNC)
 - Current Chair of the Durham Unit of the Orange/Durham/Chatham County League, (ODC League)
 - Webmaster for LWVNC.org
 - Former newsletter editor and Treasurer and Membership Chair for the League
- Has contributed \$45,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Carolyn Coleman

- Former State Director of the NAACP-NC*
- Assistant to Governor James Hunt for eight years
- Serves as Secretary to the NAACP* National Board of Directors
- Vice President of the North Carolina State NAACP*
- Has contributed \$3,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Masac Dorlouis

- Statewide Campus Organizer for Common Cause NC*
- Former SGA President at St. Augustine's College – GOTV Effort with Common Cause*

Armenta Eaton

- Member of the NC NAACP*
- Moral Monday arrestee on May 6, 2013
- Franklin County Democratic Party 1st Vice Chairman
- Concerned Women for Justice in Franklin County – Former President and Treasurer
- Former Office Manager and Field Organizer and Property Manager for the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice
- Has contributed 5,000+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Rosa Nell Eaton

- Precinct Judge in Franklin County from 1973-2013
- Member of Franklin County Democratic Party
- Member of the Concerned Women for Justice in Franklin County (Former President, Secretary, and Treasurer)
- Democratic Women of Franklin County
- Franklin County Senior Democrats (13th Congressional District Executive Committee)
- Member of the Franklin County Branch of the NC NAACP*
- Has contributed \$2,500+ to Democratic/liberal candidates and political organizations

Marilyn Harris

- Former board member (Democrat), Halifax County Board of Elections, 2009-2013
- Halifax Black Caucus - Chair

Nicole Little

- Housing Authority of Winston-Salem - Program Coordinator
- Former Winston-Salem Urban League caseworker
- Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice - Volunteer
- Formerly with College Democrats

Renee Michaux

- Deputy Director at Unifour One* (Formerly UnifourOneStop Collaborative)
- Former Director of Programs at the Q Foundation
- Former Vocational Rehabilitation Program Employment Specialist Manager - Goodwill Industries

Melvin Montford

- Current Executive Director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI)*
- Former Vice President of International Woodworkers of America, US
- Former representative for the Machinist Union

Maria Teresa Unger Palmer

- Member of Town Council of Chapel Hill NC
- Vice Chair of the Weaver Dairy Precinct of the Orange County Democratic Party
- NC NAACP* Member
- NC Council of Churches* Member
- American Association of University Women (AAUW) member
- League of Women Voters of NC*
- Former Director of the Multicultural Student Center for NC A&T University
- Former Faculty Advisor for the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

Bob Phillips

- Current Executive Director and lobbyist, Common Cause*
- Former Press Secretary for Democratic Lt. Governor Dennis Wicker
- Former WPTF news reporter

Octavia Rainey

- Plaintiff in the 2011 lawsuit brought by the NAACP*, League of Women Voters*, Democracy NC* and A. Philip Randolph Institute against the redistricted legislative and redistricted maps
- North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus (NCBLC)
- Former AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer
- Former Director of Education and Outreach for the Community Reinvestment Association of NC*

Hugh Stohler

- Volunteer with Democracy NC*
- Plaintiff in the 2011 lawsuit brought by the NAACP*, League of Women Voters*, Democracy NC* and A. Philip Randolph Institute against the redistricted legislative and redistricted maps
- Precinct Officer (Democratic Party) 01-14 in Wake County
- United Nations Elections Officer
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to oversee Elections in Bosnia and Kosovo

Jacqueline Taylor

- Former Director of the Halifax County Board of Elections, 2000-2009
- Concerned Citizens of Tillery - member
- Halifax Black Caucus - member

Goldie Wells

- Plaintiff in the 2011 lawsuit brought by the NAACP*, League of Women Voters*, Democracy NC* and A. Philip Randolph Institute* against the redistricted legislative and redistricted maps
- Founder of Coalition of Economic and Environmental Justice (CEEJ)
- Founder Greensboro Voters Alliance (GVA)
- Served on Greensboro City Council 2 terms – 2005-2009

*The left-wing Blueprint North Carolina “eviscerate network” distributed a memo in February 2013 outlining a “collective statewide strategy” to attack Republicans and conservatives in North Carolina. The memo called for “[c]rippling their leaders (McCrory, Tillis, Berger etc.)” and using tactics to “eviscerate the leadership and weaken their ability to govern.” The network is made up of more than 60 groups, including the NAACP, the League of Women Voters and A. Phillip Randolph Institute. [Click here for a list of groups in the Blueprint NC network.](#)