

Citizens Redistricting Commission

Voting Rights Act Counsel Interviews

1. What, in your view, will be the most significant and challenging issues arising from the new census data for the Commission to consider?
2. How would you suggest the Commission approach counting prisoners?
3. What do you think is the relevant population for purposes of Section 2 analysis?
4. Given your experience with redistricting, what are common mistakes made by other boards and commissions, and how can we avoid those pitfalls?
5. What is the attorney's role when working with the line drawing and other technical consultants to avoid creating any racially discriminatory effects or any intentional discrimination?
6. Yesterday you received an outline of the work we believe VRA counsel should perform. Please explain the budget you propose in light of the plan. How would you allocate your time among the necessary tasks, including attendance at Commission business and input meeting? Where can our staff and your firm work together to reduce costs? Describe generally the work product you will provide and how you arrive at its proposed cost.
7. The Voters First Act requires the final maps to be accompanied by a report that explains the basis for its decisions. What should be included in the report and how can it be used to support the Department of Justice pre-clearance requirements?
8. We are not presently hiring litigation counsel, but would like you to describe your experience and availability to handle any trial and appeal.
9. The public must have a high level of trust and confidence in the firm's ability to provide objective, nonpartisan advice to the Commission. How can you provide that assurance?