Citizens File Criminal Complaint against Secretary Brian Kemp

ATLANTA GA – Georgia citizens submitted a series of criminal complaints this morning against Secretary of State (SOS) Brian Kemp regarding the legality of his conduct in managing the office since 2012. A group of citizens filed five separate complaints with the Public Integrity Unit of the Fulton County District Attorney (DA) office. The citizens requested the DA unit to investigate their claims and help in requesting a Grand Jury to determine if Kemp’s conduct violated Georgia law.

The complaints are consolidated into a petition augmented by fact statements, references and supporting exhibits. The petition, submitted by VoterGA co-founder Garland Favorito, entails ten legal citations and two dozen potential violations of Georgia law, most occurring in 2017. It states that the county has jurisdiction as the location of the principal office where SOS duties are performed.

The five complaints in the petition against Brian Kemp allege that:

- He used the Georgia SOS web site to promote his gubernatorial campaign,
- He illegally changed mandated ballot language in a SPLOST referendum,
- He personally threatened an elector,
- He violated his oath of office to uphold Georgia laws multiple times, and
- He is criminally negligent in exposing and destroying Georgia election data

The criminal negligence allegations cite many findings from a recent VoterGA audit covering never before published information about exposures and destruction of election data that occurred in the Center for Election Systems at Kennesaw State University. The petition asserts a repeated lack of oversight by Brian Kemp in that:

- He allowed critical elections data to be exposed on a public web server,
- He did not conduct a breach assessment after discovering data was exposed,
- He failed to maintain proper backups of the election data,
- He allowed the data to be destroyed without a backup,
- He failed to comply with SOS data retention policies,
- He failed to follow standard SOS election investigative procedures,
- He produced an implausible SOS investigative report concluding that it was “standard procedure” to destroy elections data without a backup, a breach assessment or compliance with SOS data retention policies.

Fulton County is likely to require several weeks to review the allegations.