NC POLICY WATCH

A TIMELINE OF GERRYMANDERING IN NORTH CAROLINA



June 17, 2011

Republican lawmakers announce new legislative district maps.



North Carolina residents sue the **state**, leaders of the **legislative redistricting committee** and the **State Board of Elections**,

accusing Republican lawmakers of packing African-American voters into nine Senate districts and 19 House districts.



Three-judge panel issues official order and judgment. The order states which districts are unconstitutional and orders North Carolina to redraw new House and Senate district plans. It also enjoins the state from conducting any elections for legislative offices after Nov. 8, 2016, until a new redistricting plan is in place.



Three-judge panel finds that 28 state House and Senate districts were racially gerrymandered and order that new maps be drawn that comply with the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act.



Three-judge panel issues order mandating that North Carolina hold a special election in the fall of 2017; the General Assembly was ordered to draw its new districts by 5 p.m. March 15 and file the new maps with the court within seven days of passage.



Defendants notify the court and parties to the case of plans to appeal the decision to the **U.S. Supreme Court.**



Defendants notify court and parties to the case of plans to appeal the order mandating special elections to the **U.S. Supreme Court.**



The **U.S. Supreme Court** agrees to halt the remedial special elections while it considers the appeals.



The **U.S. Supreme Court** affirms that the 28 districts in question were racially gerrymandered; separately, it struck down the lower court's order for special elections and sent it back for further proceedings.

***Note: There is a waiting period of 25 days before the lower court can take the case over again.



The plaintiffs ask the **U.S. Supreme Court** to expedite the waiting period so the lower court can begin working right away.



Three-judge panel tells parties it plans to act promptly once it gains jurisdiction of the case.



Defendants file separate responses to the **U.S. Supreme Court**; legislative defendants oppose the request to expedite; the state agrees to the request; and the State Board of Elections takes no position.



The **U.S. Supreme Court** denies the request to expedite the waiting period.



U.S. Supreme Court officially transfers jurisdiction over case to the **three-judge panel**. The panel will oversee the redrawing of unconstitutional maps and decide whether there will be special elections before Nov. 2018.