EXHIBIT A
November 24, 2014

Kevin J. Hamilton
Perkins Coie
1201 Third Avenue
Suite 4900
Seattle, WA 98101-3099

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

We are in receipt of your letter dated Friday, November 21, 2014, which requests action by the Secretary of State’s Office ("Office") regarding the Pima County and Cochise County Certifications.

Specifically, your letter requests that the Office review the declarations enclosed in your letter, direct the county boards to investigate, count ballots, and amend the certification. In the alternative, you have asked the Office to investigate the matter directly as part of the state canvassing and certification process.

We received your correspondence at 3:47 p.m. on Friday, November 21, 2014 and are taking the time to appropriately review the 200 pages of material. This morning we became aware of a lawsuit filed on this matter although we were given less than one business day to respond to your letter before the lawsuit was filed.

In response to your specific requests, the Office cannot direct or require any county to count ballots and amend a county certification. The county boards act independently of the state and there is no statutory authority for the Office to overturn a county action.

Your letter requests that we conduct an independent investigation as part of our state requirements. Pursuant to A.R.S. §16-648, the Secretary of State must conduct the statewide canvass on the fourth Monday following a general election, which is December 1, 2014. The statute further delineates that a delay of the canvass is allowed only if an official county canvass has not been received by December 1, 2014. All fifteen counties have provided their official canvasses to the Office and Arizona law does not provide the Office with any discretion to postpone the canvass to conduct an investigation.
Ken Bennett  
Secretary of State  
State of Arizona

The Office will continue to review the original material sent on November 21, 2014 and any legal filings in this matter and respond accordingly.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ken Bennett  
Secretary of State

cc: Michele Forney  
    Eric Spencer