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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Petition for Referendum on Coyotes Agreement with Glendale is Invalid

GlendaleFirst! has completed its in-depth investigation of the Petition for Referendum R-13-01 and concludes that while the required 6956 signatures are not due (according to the Glendale City Clerk) until later this week, all signatures collected thus far are invalid. The petition paperwork the political committee "Ken Jones", chaired by Mr. Ken Jones (also acting as Treasurer) filed with the City of Glendale is invalid due to a significant error with the committee filing.

This is Mr. Jones' third attempt to gather signatures to invalidate the Glendale City Councils majority vote on an arena management agreement.

Darrin Lacey, Glendale resident and Treasurer of Glendale First! stated, "While we applaud the democratic process that allows such referendum attempts, we feel it is clear, by their refusal to support any of the three referendum attempts, the voters of Glendale have presented a mandate supporting an arena management agreement that includes the Coyotes hockey team as an anchor tenant for the city owned arena."

Glendale First! volunteers in the field have also noticed multiple errors on petition sheets. Due to the flaws, all signatures on those sheets would be deemed invalid.

Regardless of the validity of any individual petition sheets, the entire referendum effort is fatally flawed.

The most egregious error with Mr. Jones' committee registration is the committee name ("Ken Jones") has not been modified to reflect either the Referendum serial number or the position the committee has on the referendum. This is in direct violation of Arizona election law ARS 16-902.01(D), which directs the committee name must be modified before circulating petitions. Mr. Jones should have modified his committee to "Ken Jones in support of R-13-01", or something to that effect, before circulating a single petition sheet. He did not, so any signatures gathered under the current committee are invalid according to Arizona State law.

The official handbook published by Arizona Secretary of State and provided to each person requesting a referendum packet from the Glendale City Clerk's office, clearly states on page six, that a committee must change their name to include the petition serial number. This section is listed in bold print and has an icon finger pointing to the bolded print.

Mr. Lacey said, "Ironically, this is one of the same errors Mr. Jones made in his first failed referendum attempt in June 2012. Mr. Jones did not make that same mistake later that year in his second referendum attempt. So, it is clear that Mr. Jones was aware of and was willing to comply with the committee name change requirement."

Glendale First! therefore concludes that, because of the above flaw in the documentation and registration of Petition for Referendum R-13-01, all signatures in support of the petition for referendum would be rejected outright upon discovery of the fatal flaw. Should Mr. Jones correct his committee registration, he would then be

faced with the task of circulating correctly formatted petitions to gather the required 6956 valid signatures in less than a week.

Glendale First! Chairman George Fallar said, “GlendaleFirst! has an army of dedicated volunteers working on education and signature suppression over the past fourteen months. It has truly been a privilege to engage the community alongside so many passionate and dedicated men and women.”

Glendale First!

Glendale First! in opposition to R-13-01, is a grassroots political action committee on file with the city of Glendale, Arizona. The committee is chaired by George Fallar, with Darrin Lacey as Treasurer. Glendale First! has dedicated its volunteers and efforts in a number of political efforts in the city of Glendale AZ over the past fourteen months including; opposing failed referendum petitions R-12-01 and R-12-02, opposing I-12-01 which became Prop 457, which was defeated in at the polls by a 2 to 1 margin, and of course in opposition to this latest effort with R-13-01. We are a diverse group of people; moms and dads, college students, professionals, and blue collar workers. What brings us together is a vision of a future Glendale with a developed and thriving Westgate sports and entertainment district, and an arena with a Stanley Cup Champion Arizona Coyotes.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with call 480-502-3489, or send an email to bvwyatt@GlendaleFirst.org