



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

RICHMOND

**MARCUS B. SIMON**  
**Post Office Box 958**  
**Falls Church, Virginia 22040**

FIFTY-THIRD DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS (CHAIR)  
COURTS OF JUSTICE  
GENERAL LAWS  
RULES

November 18, 2021

The Hon. Mark R. Herring  
Attorney General of Virginia  
202 North Ninth Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Attorney General Herring,

As a former member of the Virginia Redistricting Commission and a sitting member of the House of Delegates, I'm requesting a formal opinion regarding current Commission members and their ability to speak to the media.

With the Commission's only remaining role to be on stand-by to draw any court-ordered remedial maps in the distant future, the Commission members are not actively involved in the current phase of the redistricting process. However, it is not clear what the members' parameters are for speaking to the media or in general settings regarding the Commissions' previous work.

Specifically, does Va. Code § 30-392.G or any other provision of law act to prohibit members of the commission from granting interviews to members of the media verbally or in writing, or prevent them from writing guest columns, letters to the editor or op-eds regarding their experiences as commissioners.

Your formal opinion on this matter is requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcus B. Simon".

Marcus B. Simon

CC:

Amigo Wade, Director of Legislative Services  
Mackenzie K. Babichenko, Co-Chair, Virginia Redistricting Commission  
Greta J. Harris, Co-Chair, Virginia Redistricting Commission