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## STATE OF KANSAS

### NEWS RELEASE

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### KOBACH WINS ELECTION LAW APPEAL ON BEHALF OF KANSAS

TOPEKA (September 18, 2012) – Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach today prevailed in defending Kansas election law in federal court. Kobach personally argued the case with the assistance of Ryan Kriegshauser, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and Legal Counsel.

Today the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit issued its decision in the case *Constitution Party of Kansas, et al. v. Kobach* (Case No. 11-3152). The court held that Kansas statutes related to minor party affiliation are constitutional. Additionally, the Tenth Circuit decided to “clarify the constitutional import” of *Baer v. Meyer*, a case from 1984 that set the threshold of voter support necessary to be tracked in voter registration lists.

Had the state not prevailed in this case, an immense administrative burden would have been placed on the secretary of state’s office. Instead, the state is spared having to track an untold number of political parties.

“I am pleased that the Tenth Circuit agreed that the law was on our side in this case,” Kobach said. “This is a good decision that will allow my office to continue to efficiently administer Kansas elections.”

By handling this case within the agency, Secretary Kobach saved state resources and ultimately obtained a judgment in favor of the State of Kansas. Secretary Kobach brings appellate experience to the Secretary of State’s Office. He has argued cases in the third, fifth, eighth, ninth, and tenth circuits. Secretary Kobach also represented the State of Kansas in the Kansas redistricting case, *Essex, et al. v. Kobach, et al.*