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Direct Phone (206) 447-8934 Direct Facsimile (206) 749-1902 E-Mail AHEARNE@FOSTER.COM

August 31, 2011

## **COURT FILING**

Office of the Clerk James R. Browning Courthouse U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit P.O. Box 193939 San Francisco, CA 94119-3939

> Re: Washington State Republican Party, et al. v. Washington State Grange, et al.

Case Nos. 11-35122, 11-35124, and 11-35125 (consolidated)

Dear Office of the Clerk:

Appellee Washington State Grange has received the State Appellees' letter of today advising the Court of the State's counsel's unavailable dates.

Appellee Washington State Grange submits this letter to respectfully advise the Court, before oral argument is scheduled, that the Grange's counsel has a longstanding commitment to be out of the State during the week of September 12 – September 16. While the undersigned counsel recognizes that two-week notice is not the norm for this Court's scheduling of oral argument, the undersigned counsel did not want to be remiss in failing to advise the Court of his situation.

Sincerely,

s/ Thomas F. Ahearne Thomas F. Ahearne WSBA No. 14844 Counsel for Defendant/Appellee

Washington State Grange

TFA/do

cc: Parties of Record (via ECF)