



# FACT

FOUNDATION FOR  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
AND CIVIC TRUST

July 15, 2019

Notary Division  
Maryland Office of the Secretary of State  
16 Francis St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401

***Re: Additional Evidence***

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Foundation for Accountability and Civic Trust (FACT) submitted a letter to your office dated July 8, 2019, seeking an investigation related to the Foundation for Moral Law (FML), a non-profit organization founded by current Alabama Senate candidate, Roy Moore. Numerous documents publicly filed by FML appear to contain irregularities with their execution and notarization, all of which were purported to be notarized by the same Maryland notary, Shallon Nadeau Hartke. We write today to provide additional evidence, namely an admission by Moore that he did not appear before the notary that purportedly notarized his signature.

FACT's complaint outlines three separate categories of irregularities: (1) a document notarized without being signed at all, (2) a document signor misspelling her own name fourteen times in a single day indicating the signatures were not authentic, and (3) documents notarized do not appear to be authentic signatures based on radical stylistic differences compared to other previously signed public documents. In the third category of irregularities, Moore's signature is one of the signatures that appears on its face to be forged. Moore's signature was radically different in publicly filed documents prior to 2011 and in documents notarized by Hartke after 2011.

When questioned about the irregularities in the execution and notarization of documents, Roy Moore stated:

"I, listen **I have never met**, I think her name is Shana, she as far as I know she is very, is a homeschool mother, she does everything straight, and we certainly have not forged any names and I don't think she has either . . . ."<sup>1</sup>

**Moore's admission that he has never met the Maryland notary who purportedly notarized his signature clearly demonstrates Moore did not appear before Hartke and sign the documents.** This admission, in conjunction with the notarized document that did not contain

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<sup>1</sup> Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OjOnoSaEuk&feature=youtu.be>.

any signatures and the misspelled signatures, indicate a pattern of signatures forged within FML filings purportedly prepared and notarized by Hartke. A notary is a public officer, held to the same standards as other appointed and elected officials, and the legal system relies on the authenticity of notarized documents.<sup>2</sup> It is imperative your office immediately act by investigating and imposing appropriate consequences.

Respectfully submitted,



Kendra Arnold

Executive Director, Foundation for Accountability & Civic Trust

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<sup>2</sup> “A notary public is an officer of the State [and] . . . in the exercise of duties is held to the same high standards of public trust as other appointed and elected State officials.” Office of the Secretary of State, *Handbook for Maryland Notaries Public*, at 2 (Aug. 2018), available at <https://sos.maryland.gov/Documents/NotaryManual.pdf>.