



## Maricopa County Attorney

ALLISTER ADEL

May 3, 2021

### VIA EMAIL ONLY

Mr. Ken Bennett  
Senate Liaison  
[arizonaaudit@gmail.com](mailto:arizonaaudit@gmail.com)

Re: Maricopa County's Routers;  
Additional Passwords

Ken,

While the County was delivering the subpoenaed material to the Senate's custody on Thursday, April 22, 2021, MCAO was notified that delivering routers, or "virtual images" of routers, posed a significant security risk to law enforcement data utilized by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office as well as numerous federal agencies. We had previously believed that the risk would be eliminated by redacting the law enforcement data on the routers and not producing it. But we were informed that redaction did not eliminate the risk. We also learned that if criminal elements or others gained access to this data, it might compromise county and federal law enforcement efforts and put the lives of law enforcement personnel at risk.

For the past week, we have attempted to find a solution that would allow the County to provide virtual images of the routers as we had planned. But we have been unable to find a way to eliminate the significant risks to MCSO and its state and federal law enforcement partners. Additionally, we have learned that the risk is not limited to law enforcement. Providing routers or virtual images of routers puts sensitive, confidential data belonging to Maricopa County's citizens—including social security numbers and protected health information—at risk as well. As a result, the County cannot at this time provide the virtual images of routers. The County knows that the Senate would not want to do anything that would endanger the lives of law enforcement officers, their operations, or the protected health information and personal data of Maricopa County's citizens.

We are continuing to study this issue to gain more information, including (1) which law enforcement agencies are affected so they can provide their position directly to you, (2) what federal and state laws may be implicated by providing access to the images of routers, which in turn could compromise sensitive law-enforcement, medical, and other data, and (3) whether it is possible to safely produce router information related to the November 3, 2020 election without compromising the security that protects these criminal justice agencies and their data, as well as the protected and confidential data of Maricopa County's citizens. I will follow up with you about this when I know more.

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Additionally, you wrote me on April 30, 2021, asking that the County provide additional passwords, user names, and/or security keys utilized with the County's precinct based tabulators. The County has provided every password, user name, and security key in its custody or control, as commanded by the Senate's subpoenas, and does not have any others.

Respectfully,

ALLISTER ADEL  
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY



Joseph E. La Rue  
Deputy County Attorney

Cc: Maricopa County Sheriff Paul Penzone  
Kory Langhofer, Esq.  
*Attorney for Senate President Fann and  
Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Petersen*