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September 14, 2026

Via Email

Joshua Bendor, Solicitor General
Alexander Samuels, Principal Deputy Solicitor General
Arizona Attorney General's Office
2005 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
joshua.bendor@azag.gov
alexander.samuels@azag.gov

Re: Request for Quo Warranto Action – Senator Janae Shamp

Dear Mr. Bendor and Mr. Samuels:

We represent concerned Arizona voters Jim Ashurst and Bob Walling. They request that the Attorney General investigate and bring a quo warranto action against Arizona State Senator Janae Shamp because compelling evidence establishes that she likely is unlawfully holding and exercising a public office.

Senator Shamp was elected to represent Legislative District (“LD”) 29, but the available evidence shows that she likely resides outside LD 29. Although she claims to reside in Surprise, which lies within LD 29, the available evidence reveals that she likely resides in Wickenburg, which lies within LD 30. If so, the office that she was elected to hold became vacant by operation of law.

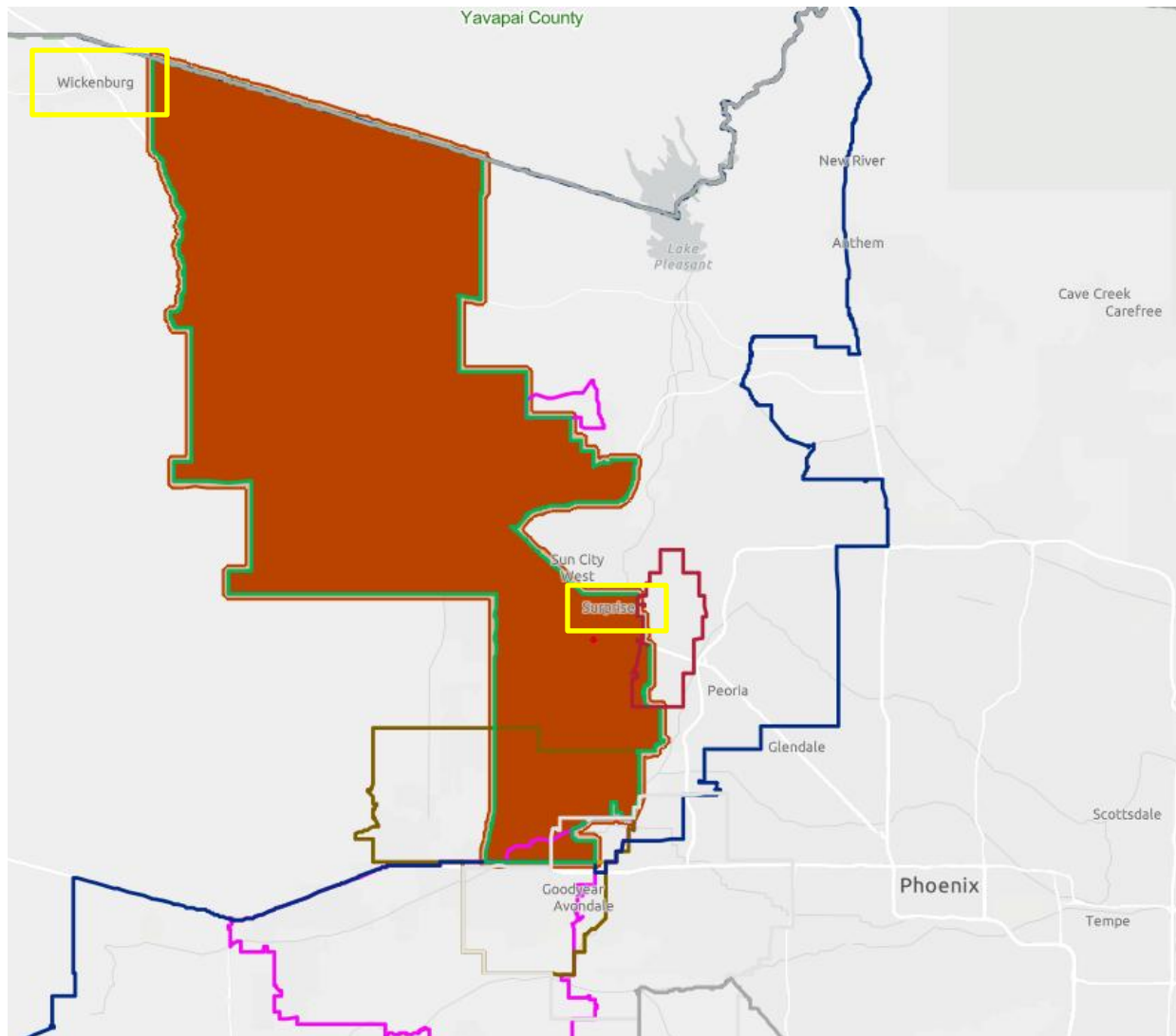
Still, Senator Shamp continues to hold the office and exercise its powers. But if she resides in Wickenburg, she has no right to do so. LD 29 constituents deserve a Senator who resides in the LD. The Attorney General should thus investigate and bring a quo warranto action and seek to exclude Senator Shamp from office.

Background

Senator Shamp serves in the Arizona State Senate, representing LD 29. [Janae Shamp](#), Ballotpedia (last visited Sept. 14, 2026). She took office in January 2023, and her current term ends in January 2027. *Id.*

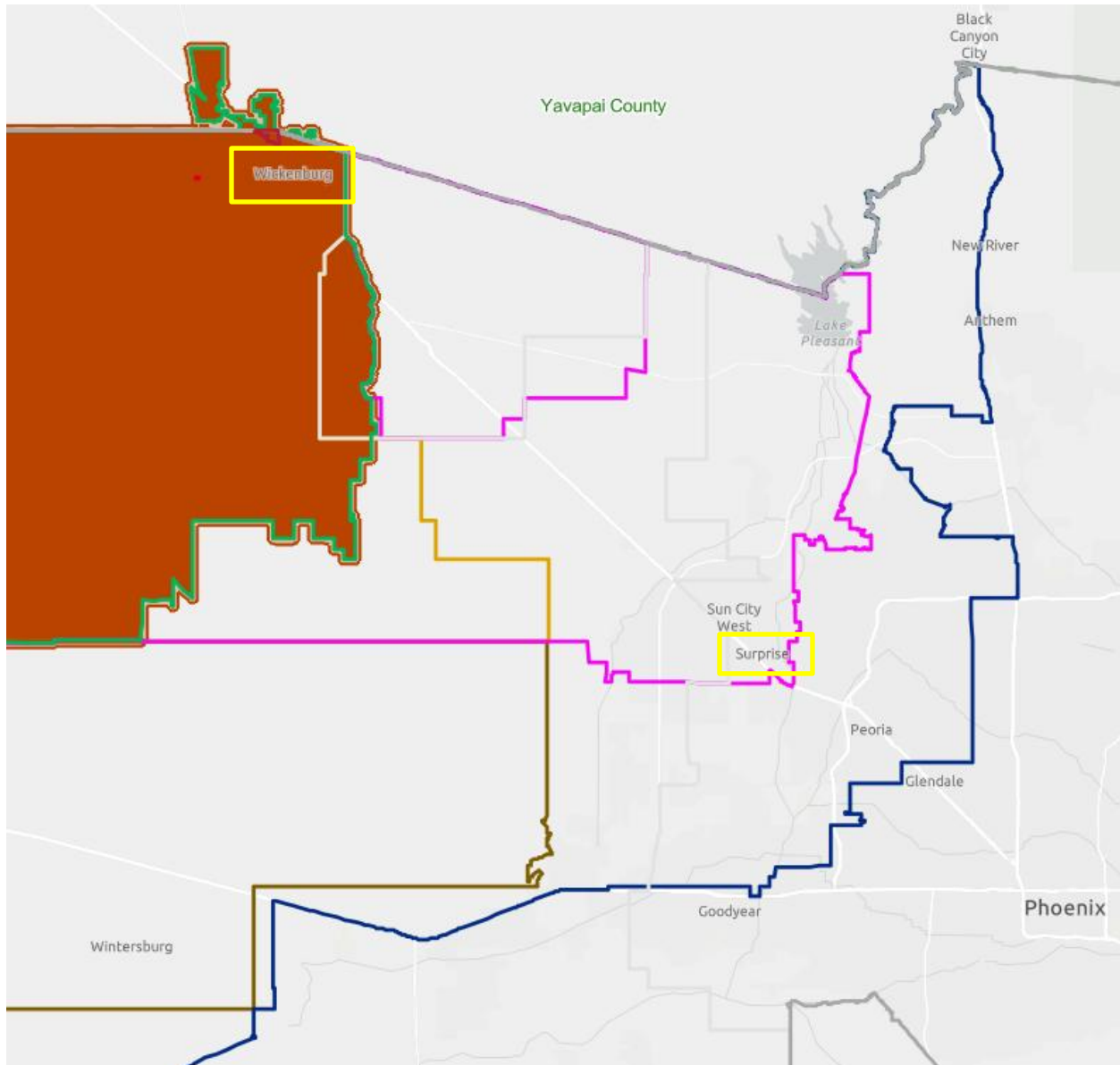
LD 29 lies west and north of Phoenix and includes, among other places, Surprise. It does not, however, include Wickenburg, which lies within LD 30.

LD 29



[Election Maps](#), Maricopa County Elections Department (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

LD 30



[Election Maps](#), Maricopa County Elections Department (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

Senator Shamp's Residency

Senator Shamp claims to reside in Surprise, but compelling evidence establishes that she likely resides in Wickenburg.

Two addresses are relevant here: (1) [REDACTED] (“Surprise Property”); and (2) [REDACTED] (“Wickenburg Property”). The evidence shows that Senator Shamp likely resides at the Wickenburg Property, not the Surprise Property.

The Wickenburg Property indicates that Senator Shamp likely resides there. A metal sign outside the Property reads “Shamp’s Hideout” and “Skip & Janae.”



[Wickenburg Property](#), Google Street View (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

The sign is consistent with Senator Shamp's other connections to the Wickenburg Property. She owns a 2019 Ford F-150 truck and a 2005 Elite MFG trailer—both registered to the Wickenburg Property.



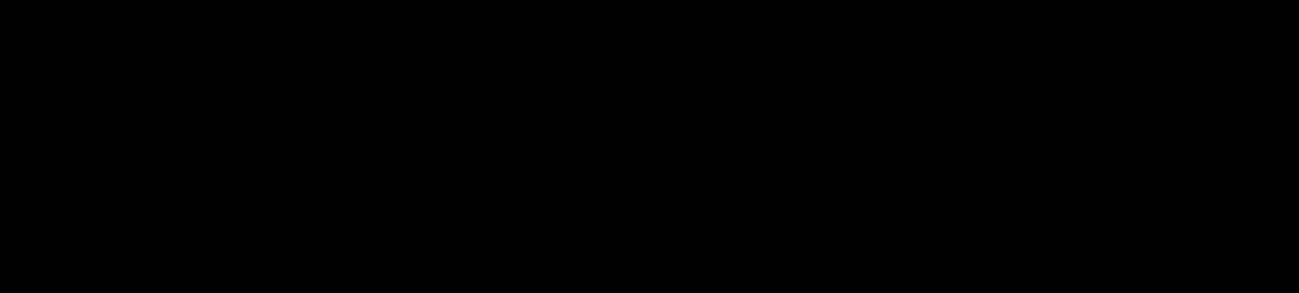
[**Exhibit A** (Ford F150 Registration); **Exhibit B** (Elite MFG Trailer Registration)]

And Senator Shamp's candidate committee, Vote Shamp, listed a Wickenburg post office box in its campaign-finance reports.

State of Arizona	
	
Campaign Finance Report	
Vote Shamp Committee #: 100615 Jurisdiction: Arizona Secretary of State	
Treasurer: Khalaf, Youssef PO Box 2310, Wickenburg, AZ 85358 Phone: (602) 570-2071 Email: voteforshamp@gmail.com Candidate Name: Shamp, Janae Office Sought: State Senator - District No. 29	

[**Exhibit C** (Amended 2023 Cumulative Report); **Exhibit D** (2024 Quarter 1 Report)]

Although Senator Shamp's MVD records list the Surprise Property as her active physical address, they also list the Wickenburg Property as her active mailing address and former physical address. [**Exhibit E** (J. Shamp MVD Records)] Senator Shamp's voter registration record reflects the same thing.

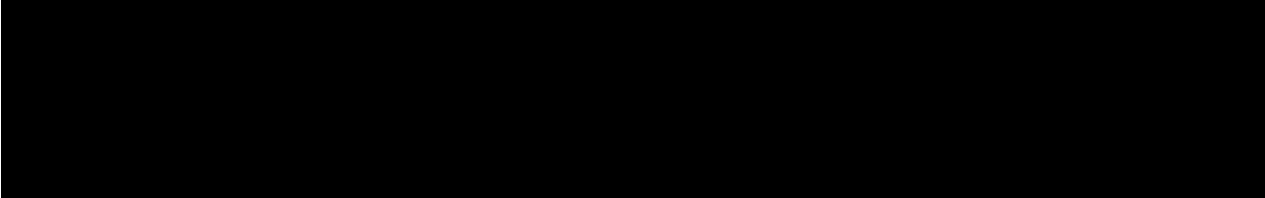


[Voter Information Portal](#), Arizona Secretary of State (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

“Skip,” the other apparent participant in “Shamp’s Hideout,” likely refers to Senator Shamp’s husband, Archie Shamp. [See **Exhibit F** (A. Shamp MVD Records) (including as “AKA Data” “Skip Shamp” and “Archie Skip Shamp”)] His MVD records list the Wickenburg Property as his active physical address. [*Id.*] They don’t mention the Surprise Property at all. Shamp Investments LLC owns the Wickenburg Property, and Mr. Shamp is the LLC’s sole member and manager. [Shamp Investments LLC](#), Arizona Business Center (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

Taken together, these facts establish that Senator Shamp likely resides at the Wickenburg Property. The only evidence that we’ve identified that supports her claimed residence is her decision to list the Surprise Property on her driver’s license and voter registration as her physical or residence address (though not her mailing address). In some cases, that evidence might be persuasive. But here, the available evidence suggests that a campaign supporter likely allowed Senator Shamp to use the Surprise Property as a physical or residence address without actually living there.

Lawrence “Lory” and Jo Ann Merritt own the Surprise Property.



[Lawrence Merritt](#), Maricopa County Assessor’s Office (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

Mr. Merritt twice contributed to Senator Shamp’s campaign committee, for a total of \$3,250. Vote Shamp’s campaign-finance reports identify Mr. Merritt’s residence as Greeley, Colorado, not the Surprise Property.

Lory Merritt						Details
Start Year: 2021 End Year: 2026						
Individual Amount Transactions						
Q []						Show 10 entries
						Page 1 of 1
	Date	Contributed To Name	Amount	Transaction Type	Received From Or Paid To	
	7/13/2022	Vote Shamp	\$3,000.00	Contribution from Individuals	Merritt, Lory	
	7/29/2021	Shamp for State Rep	\$250.00	Contribution from Individuals	Merritt, Lory	

Filer Id: 100615	Filer Name: Shamp for State Rep	Filed On Report: PDF
Transaction Date: 07/29/2021	Amount: \$250.00	Transaction Type: Contribution from Individuals
Memo: via Anedotvia Anedot		
Received From Or Paid To: Merritt, Lory		
Address: 14672 County Road 72, Greeley, CO 80631		
Occupation/Employer: Marketing, Self		

Filer Id: 100615	Filer Name: Vote Shamp	Filed On Report: PDF
Transaction Date: 07/13/2022	Amount: \$3,000.00	Transaction Type: Contribution from Individuals
Memo: via Anedotvia Anedot		
Received From Or Paid To: Merritt, Lory		
Address: 14672 County Road 72, Greeley, CO 80631		
Occupation/Employer: Marketing, Self		

[Lory Merritt](#), See The Money (last visited Sept. 14, 2026).

A private investigator recently visited the Surprise Property and inspected it from the street. He reported that the Property appeared unoccupied. There were no people, no vehicles, and no signs of activity visible.

Although Senator Shamp may self servingly declare that she resides at the Surprise Property, the available evidence suggests that she likely does not live there. These facts warrant an investigation and support a reasonable belief that the Surprise Property is not Senator Shamp's actual residence.

Analysis

An elective public office "shall be deemed vacant" when, if the office is from a legislative district, "the person holding the office ceas[es] to be a resident of the district . . . for which the person was elected." A.R.S. § 38-291(5).

Here, Senator Shamp was elected to serve LD 29, but as explained above, compelling evidence establishes that she likely resides in Wickenburg, outside LD 29. The office that she was elected to hold thus likely became vacant.

Senator Shamp nonetheless continues to hold the office and exercise its powers. LD 29 constituents deserve a Senator who resides in the LD. Arizona law requires the Attorney General to bring a quo warranto action when there is "reason to believe" that a public office is "being usurped, intruded into or unlawfully held or exercised." A.R.S. § 12-2041(B). The facts detailed above provide that reason. "If a defendant is adjudged guilty of usurping or intruding into or unlawfully holding an office, franchise or privilege, such defendant is guilty of a petty offense and shall be excluded from the office, franchise or privilege." A.R.S. § 12-2045. The Attorney General should thus bring this action and seek to exclude Senator Shamp from office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Austin Yost". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Austin" and the last name "Yost" clearly distinguishable.

Austin C. Yost
Kelleen Mull