

UPT GOP PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEADER RAY WILSON ISSUES A STATEMENT ON THE HISTORIC DECISION FROM THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS THROWING OUT THE UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP DISTRICT MAP

Upper Providence Township, PA — Today, the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas ruled in favor of the bipartisan petitioners who sued Upper Providence Township for gerrymandering the 5 voting districts of UPT. Today's decision is a landmark, historic decision - it is the first successful challenge of a municipal redistricting in the history of Delaware County.

In Court, the petitioners argued that by gerrymandering the Township and stacking the deck in favor of Democrats, the Democratic Council violated the Pennsylvania Constitution. Furthermore, petitioners noted that the Council violated UPT's own Home Rule Charter by not even considering whether or not they complied with it. Petitioners also pointed out the many deceptions and partisan games played by the Township and Council in 2022 and 2023, including misleading residents about County involvement, punishing petitioners with political retribution, and lying about voting precinct expansion to disregard public feedback.

Councilmembers Akarsoy, Else, Rexing and Peterson, rather than considering genuine public feedback to limit disruption and partisan impact, misled citizens and the Court of Common Pleas, and rammed through a partisan gerrymander to cement their control of UPT. Their actions are shameful, and today's landmark decision should speak volumes to the purely partisan motivations of these councilmembers. They put their party and personal interests ahead of the citizens of UPT at every step of this process - there is no way around it.

The Upper Providence Township GOP applauds the tireless effort of the petitioners who poured hours of their personal lives into fighting for what they saw as an injustice. We congratulate you on achieving this victory and thank you for your efforts.