

# **EXHIBIT 5**

**Declaration of Kara Janssen**

I, Kara Janssen, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

1. I am a U.S. Citizen, over the age of 18, am competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the facts and information set forth in this declaration.
2. I am a resident of Glendale, Arizona, where I have lived my whole life.
3. I am a registered voter, residing in Arizona's Twenty Seventh Legislative District.
4. As a young woman, I struggled with drug addiction that ultimately led to incarceration for drug-related offenses. The first time I was incarcerated, I spent two years in prison, but I didn't accept that I had a problem. Because I was abusing prescription drugs, I didn't see myself as an addict. I relapsed within six months of being released and I was back in prison within the year, this time serving a three-year sentence. I decided then that I needed to make a change and got very involved in programs within prison to help me recover and prepare for successful re-entry. I found that the peer-led support programs were what helped me most. I continued to participate in similar programs even after I was released. Today, I am sober and have been home for seven years.
5. My experiences with the criminal system and incarceration inspired me to become an involved member of my community, who is outspoken about the issues and policies that matter to me. I saw that many people, like me, were incarcerated for things that came down to drug-addiction, mental illness, and/or poverty—problems of public health and policy, that incarceration does little to solve. So, following my release, I became involved in advocating for reforms to the criminal system. I joined the ACLU of Arizona's Smart Justice Initiative as a lead volunteer and later was hired as an organizer on that campaign. More recently, I founded my own non-profit, We Stand AZ, which helps individuals learn to share their own stories and experiences to advocate for change.
6. Last year, I had the opportunity to vote for the first time in my life. I had my voting rights restored approximately one year ago and was excited to cast my first ballot in November, voicing my opinion in a school budget override election. As someone who cares deeply about policies that impact my community, the right to vote is extremely important to me.
7. But the stigma and discrimination that come with having a criminal record make me very concerned about having my private voter information disclosed. I believe that many people like me with felony convictions who have worked to lawfully regained their civil rights would be deterred from registering to vote if they knew that their full, unredacted

voter file would be shared with federal officials for unclear reasons. My experience with the criminal system inspires me make my voice heard, including through voting. However, having a criminal record also makes speaking out feel much riskier. Having my private unredacted voter data shared would only heighten that sense of risk.

Executed on January 13, 2026, in Glendale, Arizona.



Kara Janssen