

**From:** [Jonathan Mehta Stein](#)  
**To:** [Fresno County 2021 Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** Offering redistricting expertise from California Common Cause  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 6:44:45 PM

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Good evening,

My name is Jonathan Mehta Stein; I am the Executive Director at California Common Cause.

California Common Cause is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization dedicated to building a more open, more honest, more participatory, and more inclusive democracy. We have worked on redistricting issues for decades and were one of the primary proponents of the Voters First Act, the 2008 ballot measure that created California's statewide Citizens Redistricting Commission. In this redistricting cycle, we have supported and consulted with dozens of local jurisdictions, providing technical assistance of various kinds to city and county staff, redistricting commissions, and community groups. We have made presentations to redistricting commissions in the City of San Jose, City of Long Beach, San Diego County, Los Angeles County, and elsewhere. In January 2021, we gave a well-attended, three-hour [redistricting training](#) meant for city and county staff. We host a [website](#) with a wide range of trainings, tools, materials, and resources on local redistricting.

In the interest of transparency, I wanted to write to the full commission to share that I recently had the opportunity to meet with Commissioner Hugo Morales and email with Commissioner Patience Milrod. We discussed the state law's requirements around process and public outreach for a county redistricting process and how the Fresno County Commission can maximize participation and access for the public.

I want to make myself available to any and all commissioners who wish to discuss redistricting and how to optimize the commission's process.

I would also be happy to present to the Fresno County redistricting commission on a variety of topics -- Redistricting 101, community outreach and education best practices, communities of interest, and local redistricting law in California -- as I have elsewhere. Of course, I recognize that the county has a demographer firm and likely outside counsel that specialize in redistricting. They are well-qualified to give most or all of these presentations.

Best wishes and good luck with your important work ahead.

Jonathan Mehta Stein

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