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For Immediate Release

Blake Ashby to run as Better Party candidate in MO 1st Congressional District Joins Senate Candidate Jared Young as he delivers signatures to Secretary of State

Jefferson City, Mo., April 19, 2024 —The Better Party officially submitted its application for party recognition today, with 25,000 petition signatures from registered Missouri voters delivered to the Missouri Secretary of State.

Better Party U.S. Senate candidate Jared Young noted "We're happy to have it behind us so we can now focus all of our effort and resources on getting our message out to the Missouri voters who are longing for something truly different. This gives hope to the 43% of Missouri voters that claim no affiliation with either of the major parties — voters who want a candidate willing to shed party loyalty in order to do what's best for our country."

The Better Party opens a way to field moderate, quality candidates in Missouri in this election, and in future elections as well. The documents submitted to the Secretary of State today include ballot access for Young and for one other candidate – Blake Ashby – who will be running for the U.S. House of Representatives in District 1 on the November ballot.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to be a part of launching the Better Party, and for the opportunity to run to represent the people of Missouri's 1st Congressional District" said Ashby. "We need to remember that more connects us than separates us. We need to step back from the extremism and anger that's taken over the two major parties and find common ground."

The submitted signatures will be verified by staff at the Office of the Secretary of State. Once verified, Young and Ashby will be available as moderate, common-sense options for the November 5th election.

About Blake Ashby

Ashby, a former Councilperson of Ferguson Missouri, is a successful entrepreneur and consultant with a long track record of volunteering and deep roots in the district. While on Council, he pushed for consensus and common ground, with most votes being unanimous. He truly believes that more connects us than separates us. Recognizing the importance of Young's mission to change politics and return us to a more reasoned, effective conversation, he committed to running in the 1st District to push back against the hyper-partisanship and vitriol which is harming our country.

For more information about Blake Ashby, visit blakeashby.org or find him on Facebook.

About Jared Young

Young is an independent candidate for the U.S. Senate. He is a devoted family man, former CEO, and Harvard-educated attorney with international experience who has stepped up to provide a



voter-centered approach to politics. He believes that hyperpolarized partisan politics are getting in the way of progress on our country's biggest problems – like immigration and our nation's financial situation. Politicians who swear their allegiance to their party in exchange for money and power are not prioritizing the needs of those they represent. He will be loyal to Missourians and will collaborate with others who prioritize progress over party.

For more information about Jared Young, visit www.votejaredyoung.com or find him on Facebook, Instagram, or YouTube.

About the Better Party

The Better Party was created in Missouri to provide reasonable ballot access for independent political candidates at all levels of government. The Party will make it easier for independent candidates in the state to get on the ballot. As a result, Missouri voters will have more options when selecting who will represent them in government. The Better Party candidates are expected to be less extreme in their politics and policies, better representing the majority of Missouri voters.

Information on the Better Party can be found on their website (www.betterpartymo.com) or on Facebook.