

STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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Robert "Buster" Robertson, Chairman
Durward Bennett, Secretary
Mike Pell, Member

Jason Perry, Director

Don Holland
Commander, American Legion Post 290
PO Box 432
King, NC 27021

Dear Mr. Holland,

Stephen Hewett has indicated to the Board of Elections office that he intends to file as a candidate for King City Council. Mr. Hewett has also informed the elections office that he is currently barred from the American Legion property in King by the local organization's membership.

Given that the American Legion is used as an Election Day polling place, Mr. Hewett must be allowed access to the premises in order to campaign on his (or anyone else's) behalf.

Per the North Carolina State Board of Elections, "The private group cannot forbid access to a polling site while in use as a polling site. When the location is under your control, oversight and permissions regarding premises access is a matter governed by statute and by the chief judge who is required to maintain order."

In addition to the ability of individuals to engage in election-related activities such as distributing campaign literature or otherwise soliciting votes, the display of political advertising must also be permitted.

The exception to this would be that campaigning cannot take place, and signage cannot be placed, inside the voting enclosure (where the voting process is taking place) or inside the buffer zone. The buffer zone is legally defined as being no more than 50 feet and no less than 25 feet from the front door to the voting enclosure.

Beyond this buffer zone, an individual must be able to campaign, and political signs and posters must be allowed to be placed. This is applicable to all elections.

I will follow up with you upon your receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Jason Perry