Wright, Don

From:

Wright, Don

Sent: To: Cc: Thursday, September 13, 2012 4:00 PM 'betsy@harborwholesaleandpromotions.com' Bartlett, Gary; Johnie.McLean@ncsbe.gov

Subject:

RE: Urgent - Registering Online in NC -

Attachments:

VWD 053.PNG; VWD 054.PNG

Dear Ms. Meads,

We have checked this website and found that the voter registration application that would be generated using the Gottoregister.com website is a form that is signed by the applicant using a remote pen that is controlled by the user on the device's screen, and a voter registration form with a "wet" signature is sent directly to a county board of elections for processing. This is not online voter registration. Online voter registration involves a web user entering their voter registration information into a web application and then having that data uploaded or fed into a state's statewide voter registration database system. With online voter registration, the applicant does not have to sign a paper application and a paper application with a wet signature is never delivered to the election official. Applicants utilizing the Gottoregister.com site have the option of printing their voter registration application themselves for signing and personal delivery to their county board of elections, or they can sign a paper application remotely and have their signed form delivered to their appropriate election official by a third party. Essentially, this is a web-based voter registration drive. State and federal law permit groups or organizations to offer voter registration forms to individuals and these groups or organizations can then accept the forms and deliver them to election officials by the voter registration deadline. For further clarification, please see the attachments which show screenshots taken from the gottoregister.com website.

We have not found that there is anything unlawful in the use of a printed voter registration form that is signed remotely by the applicant and is subsequently delivered to a board of elections by non-electronic means. There is a "wet" signature on the application that was generated using a pen that is remotely controlled by the voter registration applicant. Electronic remote signing is commonly used in commercial transactions, governmental documents, and other transactions. Further, county election officials carefully review all voter registration forms that are submitted to them for processing. The applicant's ID information will be validated through the DMV, and if ID information is not provided or does not validate, the applicant will need to show ID the first time he or she presents to vote.

This legal opinion of the lawfulness of remote signing was reached by myself several months ago and was reviewed at that time by the North Carolina Attorney's General Office which concurred in it. If you have a legal opinion tendered to you to the contrary, please forward it to us.

Sincerely,

Don Wright General Counsel

From: Betsy Meads [mailto:betsymeads@roadrunner.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 7:41 AM

To: Wright, Don

Cc: Bartlett, Gary; Johnie.McLean@ncsbe.gov Subject: Urgent - Registering Online in NC -

Electronic Registrations in NC - The President has an APP for THAT!