



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: THE VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WINS A COURT CASE ENSURING BALLOT ACCESS FOR THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY AND NOT THE CONSTITUTION PARTY OF VIRGINIA AND THE GREEN PARTY BUT RISKS SPREADING THE CORONAVIRUS ACROSS THE STATE

On July 15th, 2020, Judge John Gibney makes a decision that almost assures the Libertarian Party of Virginia will be on the ballot as the Judge lowered the signature requirement for President to about the number of signatures the Libertarian Party of Virginia already collected. This also ensured the Constitution Party of Virginia and the Green Party would not achieve the 50% reduction in signatures, 2,500 signatures statewide and 100 signatures in every Congressional District, without risking the health of their supporters and is a recipe for spreading the CORONAVIRUS all across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Governor Ralph Northam has no problem with placing restrictions on INDIVIDUALS that violate their CONSTITUTIONAL Rights, under the guise of protecting the Health of Virginians, yet supports a BAD LAW that places the health of Virginians at Risk. In the Court Order there is no mention of the risk to those circulating the Nominating Petitions, those signing the petition, and the rest of the public.

John Bloom, Chairman of the Constitution Party of Virginia voted in Newport News for City Council in May and a poll worker gave him a pen to use to fill out the ballot and was told to keep it so as not to risk transferring the Coronavirus from others using the pen. It was at that time; Mr. Bloom realized that obtaining signatures with a pen and a CLIPBOARD, which has significantly more surface area than a pen would make obtaining signatures even more of a risk to petitioners and signers, even though the Judge was informed that the 6 foot Social Distancing is in most cases, unless two people have a 3' arm span. In addition the Judge also knew that Mr. Bloom (diabetes) and others in the Green Party are high risk for contracting the Coronavirus and dying if infected by it.

In 2016, Mr. Bloom ran for State Senate and collected over 350 signatures in a month to qualify for the Virginia Ballot. The Republicans were not intending to have a candidate to run against Democrat Monte Mason for State Senate, as they required a \$1,000 filing fee. After Mr. Bloom qualified for the ballot, the Republicans didn't issue a call, which would have required a weeks notice, which they did not have. They selected Thomas Holston to run on the Republican line without a single signature. Mr. Bloom complained to the Virginia State Board of Elections for violating the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Then there are Republicans that missed the State Filing Deadlines and set Nominating Conventions after the filing deadline, because the State Board of Elections make exceptions for Republicans and Democrats.

If the Governor can issue a "Stay at Home" order he can certainly avoid spreading the Coronavirus across Virginia, by simply requiring the State Board of Elections to waive the signature requirements for ballot access this one year. The words of Sir Edmund Burke ring so true today and this law, "BAD LAWS Are the WORST sort of TYRANNY." If the choice is between Liberty or possible death, Mr. Bloom repeats the words of Virginian Patrick Henry, "I know not what others may do, but as for myself, Give me Liberty or Give me Death!"

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