

Cumberland County Board of Elections

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Secretary

October 26, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County Board of Elections Reminds Voters Electronic Devices Prohibited in Polling Places

Cumberland County, PA- The Cumberland County Board of Elections is reminding voters that the use of electronic devices is prohibited in Cumberland County Polling Places. A regulation passed by the Board of Elections in 2007 prohibits devices including, but not limited to “cell phones, portable computers, cameras, two-way radios, blue tooth devices, blackberry devices and any other electric or electronic device which permits the user to receive, cause, facilitate, create, display or permit any audio or visual signal or message.”

Despite what is reported in the national media on how states and courts across our nation address this issue, in Cumberland County, the Board of Elections has determined that this regulation is important to maintain the privacy of voters in exercising their voting rights. Improper use of electronic devices may violate Pennsylvania Election Code and while detection of these violations would be difficult, they can be harmful to the voting process. By prohibiting the use of electronic devices, the potential for Code violations to occur is reduced and the integrity of the voting process remains.

The Cumberland County Board of Elections also reminds voters that November 1, 2016 is the deadline to request an absentee ballot, with absentee ballots due by November 4, 2016. The 2016 General Election will take place on November 8, 2016. For information on polling places and voter services in Cumberland County visit <https://www.ccpa.net/elections>.

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**REGULATION PROHIBITING
THE USE OF ELECTRIC OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN POLLING PLACES**

WHEREAS, section 2642(f) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, (Code), 25 P.S. § 2642(f), empowers the Board of Elections to adopt rules and regulations as it may deem necessary for the guidance of the election officers and electors; and

WHEREAS, section 3058 of the Code, 25 P.S. § 3058, prohibits voters from receiving any assistance in voting except under certain described circumstances; and

WHEREAS, section 3060 of the Code, 25 P.S. § 3060, generally prohibits electioneering, soliciting of votes, etc., by any person within a polling place; and

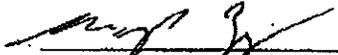
WHEREAS, the Board of Elections has determined that the improper use of electric and electronic devices by voters when in a polling place may violate the Code and that detection of violations under these circumstances would be difficult, yet harmful to the voting process.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board hereby determines:

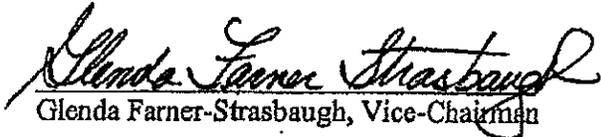
1. For the purpose of this Regulation electric and electronic devices shall include, but not be limited, to cell phones, portable computers, cameras, two-way radios, blue tooth devices, blackberry devices, and any other electric or electronic device which permits the user to receive, cause, facilitate, create, display or permit any audio or visual signal or message.
2. No person other than election officials shall be permitted to use any electric or electronic device in a polling place during any election from 7:00 a.m. until after the last voting device has been closed.
3. This Regulation shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by the Board.

ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF MAY, 2007

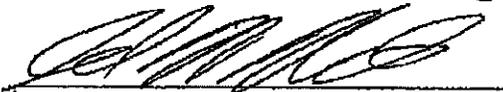
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