Jason Black Campaign   6/6/2022

Jason Spencer Black

State House District 2

It has been 2 weeks since the primary election and one week since counting provisional ballots. Now the District 2 State House race has been contested. In short, this means there are some concerns over mishandling of ballots in Lauderdale County or that there are concerns that support any irregularities. I am currently in the runoff with Ben Harrison.

A Ben Harrison supporter and donor to the tune of over $25,000 is the one who filed the contest. His name is Ralph Long, and he is the name connected with a Freedom PAC? I have nothing wrong with legitimate businesses, corporations, individuals from the community or Political Action Committees (PACs) donating to a campaign. Those PACs that represent a group of like-minded professionals that have an interest in good government are the PACs that I accepted from. Those I receive from are organizations located in Alabama or that engage in Alabama and have been established over many years. For example, State Farm Agents PAC, Credit Union PAC, Retired State Employees PAC, Farmers Insurance PAC, Teachers Association PAC, Nurse Anesthetist PAC, Radiologist PAC, and the Home Builders PAC to list a few.

Now, it is rumored that this "challenge" is over a few people receiving improper ballots. I am not provided with that exact information and the Party has forwarded all questions be answered by the candidates to the media? This all the info I really have. I whole heartedly believe elections should be fair and impartial. I believe that Alabama as a whole and our Secretary of State's Office is the best or near the best in the United States when handling elections. This past week I met Probate Judge Will Motlow from Lauderdale County and observed the provisional ballots being counted. The local Republican Party in Lauderdale County were the ones who opened and counted each ballot that the Board of Registrars accepted. Mathew Sorrell (Andrew Sorrell Campaigning for State Auditor brother} and Josh Dodd are members of the Lauderdale Executive Committee and were their representing the party.

I was able to witness the entire process and it was very professional. In the end I was able to increase votes from a margin of 5 to 14 after Limestone County ballots were totaled and Lauderdale ballots combined. That made it official that I was in the runoff election vs. Ben Harrison. Within only a brief time, however, there was the challenge or contest filed.

My biggest concerns are long shots, but honestly capable of happening. The first is throwing out a runoff result that will happen on June 21st. This will be discussed among other options at a meeting on June 25, 2022. This is 4 days after the runoff election is completed.

Another option would be to disqualify the May 24th election and require a new primary election. This would seem farfetched in my mind if I were not told by counsel that this was an option. Already this year there were people removed from the Republican Ballot prior to Primary. I know these were extenuating circumstances, but they did happen, and the same Committee will be the one listening to the challenge or contest of the District 2 State House race.

I also remember others being removed from the Republican ballot in recent years. I know there were reasons for this removal presented, but I still cannot help but feel exposed that the committee will base decisions on emotional actions. I am sure Kristi Valls, Jason White and Ladon Townsend had no idea it was going to happen to them, and they are all from Limestone County? My campaign has worked extremely hard to reach the runoff and my family has sacrificed very much on behalf of my pursuit of the State House seat. I am prepared to defend my campaign against any decision that would change the results that the voters of Limestone and Lauderdale County have chosen. I ask for your prayers and support during this stressful time. We are still fighting for each of you so you will have common sense representation in Montgomery.

Jason S Black