

From:
To:
Date:
Subject:

1. Sheftall, King, and Walls have stated that the delegation has chosen not to reappoint them to their seats, is this statement true?

The governor's office requested additional information from the Delegation about the nomination of these three individuals on March 14, 2015. To date, we have not received a direct response for our request for further information.

2. Has the Jasper delegation made their recommendations for the Jasper Election Commission to Gov. Haley's office? Has Haley's office confirmed those recommendations?

The Delegation has recommended 9 members to the governor's office. Five have been confirmed at this time.

3. Sheftall, King, and Walls say the delegation did not reappoint certified commissioners, but did reappoint uncertified commissioners. Who are the Jasper Election commissioners that have completed necessary training?

Per the Election Commission, the following is the status of training:

- Joe Arzillo – Missing one class to complete his initial certification.
- Rodney Catterton – Missing two general electives
- Warren Johnson – Missing one core class, two middle electives and one general elective
- Lillian King – Compliant and up-to-date
- Donald Sheftall – Compliant and up-to-date
- Carl Tyler – Compliant and up-to-date
- Patricia Walls – Compliant and up-to-date
- Pamela Williams – Has only taken one election elective

4. In the letter, Sheftall, King, and Walls say that the delegation will have the public to believe the certified commissioners "were not reappointed because the Governor chose not to reappoint them." But "Nothing could be further from the truth. The Governor makes appointments based upon the desire of the delegation." How does the appointment process actually work?

For local appointments, the local legislative delegation nominates an individual to the Governor's office for appointment. Our office runs a series of standard checks including requiring an application and having SLED run a background and credit check. If anything unusual arises in the background check, credit check, or application, our office notifies the Delegation and asks for further guidance. We cannot proceed until the Delegation either tells us to move forward with the appointment or withdraws the nomination. The Governor has ministerial authority in local appointments.

5. In the letter, Sheftall, King, and Walls state that it's the law that if a member does not fulfill the training and certification program within 18 months of their appointment, then the Governor must remove that member from the board unless given an extension. They said that Commissioners Arzillo, Williams, Johnson, and Catterton have served for almost two years and still are not certified. My questions are: Is the law stated above accurate, and if it is accurate, why are these commissioners still allowed to serve on the commission?

Section 7-5-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws requires each board member to complete a training and certification program conducted by the S.C. State Election Commission within eighteen months of his or her initial appointment. This program requires appointees to complete three core courses, two voter

registration/election electives, and two additional electives. Members must also complete one additional training course per year in order to remain certified. Pursuant to Section 7-5-10(B)(3) and 7-5-35(B)(3) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, an individuals who fails to meet these requirements must be removed from the board "unless the Governor grants the member an extension to complete the training and certification program based upon exceptional circumstances."

6. If there are vacancies in the election commission, when can we expect to see new appointments to the commission?

The Governor's office makes appointments after receiving a nomination from the Legislative Delegation. The Delegation must submit a complete nomination packet which includes a nomination letter and a completed, notarized application. When they choose to submit a nomination packet is a matter of Delegation business.

7. How many election commissioners currently serve in Jasper County?

The Governor has made 5 appointments to the Board of Voter Registration and Elections for Jasper County

8. Are these terms 2-year terms or 4-year terms?

Pursuant to Section 7-5-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, the first four appointees to the new board are appointed to 2 year terms, the remaining between 1 and 5 members are appointed for 4 year terms. At the expiration of the initial terms, all appointments are 4 year terms.