

SC Lt. Governor Office in Aging
1301 Gervais St. Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201

11/08/2014

Dear Lt. Governor,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my father, Roy David Wingard of Lexington, South Carolina. My father, who is 86 years old, went to vote in person in early voting on Monday, November 3rd. He came fully prepared with his driver's license and voter registration card. He has lived and voted in Lexington County his entire life and has never missed a voting opportunity. When he presented his license and voter registration card he was told there was a problem because a "Roy Wingard" not a Roy David Wingard had voted early in Darlington, SC. He sat and waited over an hour while phone calls were exchanged to determine his eligibility to vote. We would like to emphasize that the poll workers in Lexington were very sympathetic and helpful but the voting system is apparently broken as it took over an hour to figure out what to do. Clearly, the system is flawed.

We do not understand why a driver's license and a voter registration card for a life long resident was not sufficient to vote. We also wonder whether people with more common names like "Bill Davis" or "John Smith" had the same experience. And we wonder why Lexington polling officials would think that a "Roy Wingard" from Darlington would vote in Lexington, SC at 8:30 am.

Dad is a Lexington farmer and veteran. While

this may not be an issue for the elderly, it clearly imposes a more severe burden on the elderly people who are forced to wait.

We would like for you to look into this and see if a fix is available and for you to push for such a fix.

Thank you for your consideration —

Wendy Wingard-Gay

P.S. I am glad that my mother who died three weeks ago was not alive to experience this with my father. She would have been livid with Lexington County poll workers and the first person to defend my father —

cc. Rep. Joe Wilson
Senator Lindsey Graham
Gov. Nikki Haley