

Mike,

The law does address this. The challenges were made to a specific address. This address is 1704 Weeksville Road, Elizabeth City, NC 27909. Arvin Mullen, Director of Housing at ECSU, testified that the students could not reside in their dormitories on January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. In a permanent home you are not locked out by another party; unless you are evicted and even then you have a pre-determined amount of time to vacate the premises. Finally Dr. Anthony Brown testifies that "as a general practice students go home at Christmas".

The four prongs of residence are *(1) abandoning the first domicile, with the intent (2) of not returning to the first domicile, and (3) acquiring a new domicile, with (4) the intent of making the new domicile a permanent home.* Students living in the dormitories on the campus of ECSU cannot have the intent of making the dormitories a permanent home. Dr. Brown's testimony that the students go home at Christmas, indicates that the students have not abandoned the first domicile and they return to the first domicile when the campus is closed.

I am attaching a copy of the video where you can hear Dr. Brown and Mr. Mullen's testimony at the 23 minute mark. I am also attaching a link to Gary Bartlett, Director of the State Board of Elections addressing the House Committee on Elections on March 4, 2013. Go to the 35:35 minutes mark when Bartlett answers a question on out-of-state students voting in NC. He says:

**"because of court cases in the past which governs this, the student has a right to register in North Carolina.....however, if there is any evidence that show that they are not truly a resident because of other actions they do then they can be challenged and if they are shown not to be a true resident they they can be removed from the rolls."**

**Everyone has a right to register, including college students, as long as they meet the four prongs of residency. College students are not exempted from this law.**

In addition I am attaching information on case law provided in the law books given to elections personnel that addresses these issues.

Thank you for taking the time to inquire about your concerns as to the law . I will be most happy to answer any questions that you have on this subject and invite you to call Gary Bartlett or Don Wright, Executive Counsel to the Board of Elections for their input. I will even request that you forward a copy of my editorial to them to verify that what is written and the context that NC election law is addressed is correct. However, if they disagree, I would ask for any correction to the law be put in writing and included as a rebuttal to my editorial. I do not profess to be right all the time. As a previous board member, I can attest that while we receive no direction from the State Board, we get many questions from the voters of Pasquotank on students registering and voting. These challenges were based solely on the NC Statues and case law available to us.

Sincerely

Betsy Meads

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHtsut892wo>

Hearing Video Dr. Brown/Mr. Mullen 23 minutes mark.

<http://www.wral.com/news/state/nccapitol/video/12188003/#/vid12188003>

Gary Bartlett addressing House Elections Committee March 6, 2013 -35 minute mark