

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BALLOT LAW COMMISSION**

Case Number BLC 2015-1

Petition of David Scott et.al.

This case arises from a petition submitted by David Scott of Dover, New Hampshire, under the provisions of RSA 654:38, seeking a verification of the checklist in Wards 1-4 in Dover. The petition was supported by the requisite petitions by voters in those wards. Due notice was published and posted, according to statute, and a hearing on the petition was held in Dover City Hall on March 23, 2015.

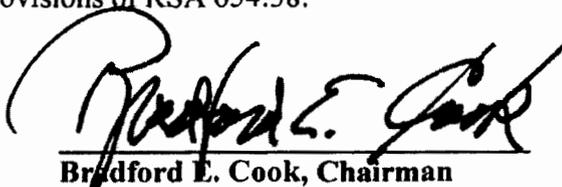
The statute in question allows, upon findings after an investigation, an order by the Ballot Law Commission that a verification of the checklist take place according to certain procedures outlined in the statute. At the hearing, a number of witnesses provided testimony. The sponsor of the petition, David Scott, produced evidence of the number of same day registrations in the wards in question, and the results of mailings to those who registered, with a number of letters returned for various reasons by the Post Office. The City described its procedures in verifying the checklist, removing names under various circumstances, and contended that its procedures complied with the law and procedures undertaken in other New Hampshire communities.

A large number of Dover citizens testified at the hearing, presenting additional facts or argument about the processes.

After hearing, the Ballot Law Commission considered the testimony presented, and concluded that the concerns presented really were about the provisions of law in New Hampshire about same day registration, and not about the processes employed in Dover. As the petitioner admitted, his presentation to the Ballot Law Commission was one of the ways to make his objections to current processes known, and he had proposals to submit to the state legislature on how the law could be improved.

The Commission voted unanimously to deny the remedy requested, and not order a verification of the checklist under the provisions of RSA 654:38.

So ordered.



Bradford E. Cook, Chairman

Michael Eaton

Sheila Francoeur

Beverly Hollingworth

Roger Wellington

March 30, 2015