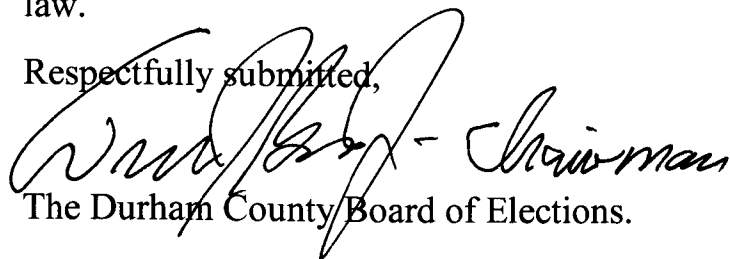


The Durham County Board of elections met on May 27, 2016 to consider the issues surrounding the March 15, 2016 election. During this meeting the Board took public comments. It is clear from the comments of the public that there is a great deal of anxiety, unrest and mistrust surrounding the results of the Democratic Primary for the Durham County Board of County Commissioners that took place on March 15, 2016. However, the Board of Elections is mindful of the fact that it no longer has jurisdiction over this matter and does not wish to interfere with the ongoing process of the State Board of Elections.

That having been said, the Durham County Board of Elections believes it is very important for the State Board of Elections to understand and acknowledge the level of public anxiety relating to this matter. The Durham County Board of Elections does not have enough information in its possession to make any recommendation on this matter at this time. However, we believe it would not be unreasonable for the State Board of Elections to consider ordering a new primary for the Durham County Board of Commissioners to address the public's concerns.

We respectfully encourage the State Board of Elections and its staff to bring its investigation into the March 15, 2016 election to a speedy conclusion, and to release the results of that investigation to the public, consistent with applicable law.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wade R. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "W".

The Durham County Board of Elections.