

EGGERS, EGGERS, EGGERS, AND EGGERS, PLLC

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

P.O. BOX 248

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA 28607

STACY C. EGGERS, JR.
STACY C. EGGERS, III (1948-1990)
STACY C. EGGERS, IV
KIMBERLY M. EGGERS
AUSTIN F. EGGERS
CHRISTOPHER C. BARNES
JONATHAN D. GREEN

PHONE (828) 264-3601
FAX (828) 262-5229
737 WEST KING STREET

June 23, 2017

Andrew Seidel, Esq.
Freedom From Religion Foundation
Post Office Box 750
Madison, WI 53701
Via Email: aseidel@ffrf.org

Re: Use of Space at the Ashe County Sheriff's Office
Ashe County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Seidel:

Thank you for your prompt correspondence regarding this matter. I am sure you understand the need to balance the respective interests of all parties in this matter, such that the rights of all citizens are preserved, and I am optimistic we will be able to agree to an appropriate balance of these interests. I also appreciate your concern that uniformed deputies would speak at the event or take part in Ms. Lotz event. I can assure you that no uniformed officer or deputy will be speaking or participating in the event. Mr. Buchanan may give a brief introduction of Ms. Lotz, but it would be without introduction of himself and without use of a title or uniform.

The only presence of any uniformed officer would be consistent with their normal routine of patrol and other law enforcement duties. To the extent a crowd may be present, officers may be nearby to address any public safety issues. This would be consistent with any event held in the county, whether secular, religious, or otherwise, and the sheriff's office would offer the same courtesy to any group wishing to use the parking lot for a gathering.

Similarly, no employees of the Ashe County Sheriff's Office are required to attend the event. I cannot guarantee that any off duty employees will not attend of their own volition, but only that Mr. Buchanan has not required anyone to attend the event. With this being said, I feel comfortable that I can agree with your ultimate conclusion that no one with the Ashe County Sheriff's office will be attending or participating in the event in their official capacity or on government time.

It is my hope that this will resolve the concerns which have been raised, and if I may assist you in the coordination of your event or if you encounter any difficulties in your communications with Mr. Buchanan's office, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacy C. Eggers, IV". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S".

Stacy C. Eggers, IV

Cc: Terry Buchanan
John Kilby, Esq.