



NEWS FROM CITY HALL

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CODES AND ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO THE PERMITTING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL EVENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF SANFORD

During the October 11, 2014 Celebrate Sanford festivities held at Fort Mellon Park, Sanford Police received a complaint regarding City Commissioner Mark McCarty handing out campaign literature to those attending the event. Sanford police officers asked Commissioner McCarty to leave the park. Upon further review, it was determined that Commissioner McCarty was within his legal rights in presenting campaign literature to and interacting with those at the park. At that time, Commissioner McCarty was allowed to return to the park.

While the City of Sanford may grant individuals or organizations a special events permit for an activity in the park, such permit does not amount to the rental of public property. As such, event organizers may not interfere with the rights of persons, such as Commissioner McCarty, to engage in free speech activities during their event.

The City of Sanford is in the process of reviewing and revising its codes and ordinances relative to the permitting and implementation of special events within the City.

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