



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

OLD BETHPAGE, NY

Libertarian Party evicted from fair

Libertarian Party evicted from Long Island Fair after having been issued permit

Agents of the Nassau County government forced the staff at the booth jointly sponsored by the Suffolk and Nassau County Libertarian Parties at the Long Island Fair at the Old Bethpage Village Restoration grounds yesterday to cease operations and leave the fairgrounds, despite the fact that a permit had been issued in the name of the Suffolk County Libertarian Party a week earlier.

Operators were told that the permit should have not been issued because “No politics are allowed at the fair.” However, despite booth operators’ insistence that they were willing to operate within those bounds and to restrict messaging to generic 18th century political philosophy, which the IRS has independently determined to be non-political under IRS Code §501(c)(3), and which comports with the period celebrated and reenacted by the Old Bethpage Village Restoration living museum, agents forced them to leave anyway.

Blay Tarnoff, Chair of the Nassau County Libertarian Party, and who was present when the eviction took place, expressed his dismay. “This is another example of the hostility we face from those in power who seek to protect it. We were there to remind people of the issues of the day during the period of the American Revolution which this fair celebrates, philosophy and themes which libertarian theory still echoes to this day. That did not seem to pose a problem until it became apparent that the message of freedom and liberty might compete with major party pro-government anti-liberty messaging. At that point, we were told to leave.”

Agents had visited the booth earlier in the day to make sure that no political messaging was taking place. However, they came back a second time hours later to demand that operators remove the booth and vacate the fair, even though they had determined operators to be in compliance earlier, and the booth had not changed in the interim.

“We will continue to bring the message of freedom and liberty to the people of Nassau and Suffolk, come hell, high water, or bloated government bureaucrats,” continued Mr. Tarnoff. “We will not be deterred.”

NASSAU COUNTY LIBERTARIAN PARTY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

For information about the Nassau County Libertarian Party, see <nassaulibertarian.org>

For links to the candidates' websites and social media, see <nassaulibertarian.org>

For information on the policies and positions of the Libertarian Party, see <lp.org>

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