

THE LAW OFFICES OF
LEFF LAW FIRM, L.L.P.

RANDALL B. WILLMAN
STEVEN E. BALLARD
MARK C. DANIELSON
TIMOTHY S. GRADY
THOMAS E. MAXWELL
PATRICK J. FORD

222 SOUTH LINN STREET
IOWA CITY, IOWA
52240-1601

TELEPHONE: (319) 338-7551
FACSIMILE: (319) 338-6902

ARTHUR O. LEFF (1906-1989)
PHILIP A. LEFF (Retired)
R. BRUCE HAUPERT (Of Counsel)
CHARLES T. TRAW (Retired)

Writer's email: ballard@lefflaw.com

ABIGAIL L. BROWN
PERSEPHONE A. EGLAINE

www.lefflaw.com

October 7, 2017

CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS RESIDENTS

Re: Placement of Campaign Signs

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Campaigning for the upcoming City Election has prompted inquiries about where campaign yard signs may be placed. The Iowa Legislature has squarely addressed this issue: campaign yard signs are permitted on private property with the consent of the property owner or tenant. Iowa Code § 68A.406 (2017)

Campaign yard signs are prohibited on property owned by the City of University Heights, including the public right-of-way. Rights-of-way comprise paved streets themselves but also include the area between the street and the adjoining homeowner's lot line. That additional area - the (usually) grass strip between the sidewalk and the street - is sometimes referred to as the "parking". Campaign yard signs may not be placed there.

The public right-of-way is not always limited to the parking area. In some parts of town, the right-of-way extends farther from the street, past the edge of the sidewalk. Residents are encouraged to confirm their property boundaries to ensure that campaign signs are not placed on City property. Approximate boundary lines may be viewed by inserting a particular address into the Johnson County Assessor's search page, then selecting the "map" tab at the top of the search results page. You may link to the county assessor's search page here: <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/Application.aspx?AppID=86&LayerID=841&PageTypeID=2&PageID=568>.

CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS RESIDENTS

Re: Placement of Campaign Signs

October 7, 2017

Page Two

Iowa law provides that if campaign yard signs are found upon City property, including the street rights-of-way, they are to be removed by the police department with the abutting property owner being responsible for the costs of removal.

Please email or call me if you have questions or wish to discuss this issue.

Very truly yours,

LEFF LAW FIRM, L.L.P.



Steven E. Ballard