

Bond Case Briefs

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COUNTY CHARTER AMENDMENT - MISSOURI

Pepper v. St. Charles County, Missouri

Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, Division Five - January 24, 2017 - S.W.3d - 2017 WL 362607

Cities and taxpayers brought action against county and county director of elections, challenging validity of amendment to county charter prohibiting use of “red-light cameras” throughout county and contesting election that resulted in the amendment’s approval.

After taxpayers who supported the amendment intervened as defendants, the Circuit Court, granted defendants’ motion for summary judgment, and plaintiffs appealed.

The Court of Appeals held that:

- Statutes concerning cities’ authority over traffic regulations and city streets did not limit county’s authority to prohibit red-light cameras;
- Amendment did not violate any statewide public policy;
- Amendment satisfied all requirements for exercise of countywide legislative power under state constitution;
- County did not exceed its own authority under county charter;
- Amendment did not impermissibly interfere with judiciary’s powers; and
- Ballot proposition satisfied constitutional requirements.