

# Upping the Ante in Houston: Subpoenaed Pastor Says City Committed Fraud

Charlie Butts (OneNewsNow.com) Wednesday, October 22, 2014

**A pastor subpoenaed by the City of Houston for any anti-homosexual sermons and other related communications is not just voicing outrage – he's claiming fraud by city government.**

Led by lesbian Mayor Annise Parker, Houston's city council passed an anti-discrimination bill providing special rights for homosexuals and transgendered. Many Houston citizens opposed the ordinance and after its passage they gathered more than 50,000 signatures within 30 days to put the issue on the ballot.

The citizen-led petition drive included area pastors, including Steve Riggle of Grace Community Church, who is one of five pastors subpoenaed as part of a lawsuit filed against Parker and the City of Houston. Riggle, speaking to Tony Perkins of "Washington Watch," said there was fraud involved in the rejection of thousands of signatures.

"For example," he says, "my own daughter's petition was denied and the reason was she didn't sign her petition. All you have to do is look at the bottom and she did sign her petition in the exact place, notarized as exactly it ought to be. And there are thousands like this."

*The Houston Chronicle* has reported that City Attorney David Feldman [inserted himself into the signature-counting process](#), and eventually disqualified the petition drive, after claiming he reviewed their legality. The same story said City Secretary Anna Russell had already verified enough signatures to trigger a referendum. Feldman disqualifying the petition drive triggered the citizen-led lawsuit, which in turn triggered ...

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