



## STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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**GARY O. BARTLETT**  
Executive Director

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June 29, 2005

Mr. Dennis E. Boyles  
Pender County Board of Elections  
P.O. Box 1232  
Burgaw, NC 28425

Dear Mr. Boyles:

After consulting with the State Board's General Counsel Don Wright, Bob Joyce of the Institute of Government, and Special Deputy Attorney General Susan Nichols, it is my understanding that they have reached a consensus that the provisions of the Charter of the Town of Topsail Beach control. In their opinion, the appointed replacement for the Mayor's office will fill the unexpired term, thus there is no vacancy to be filled at this time. Given that consensus, there does not appear to be a need to go through the steps necessary to obtain an official opinion from the Attorney General's office. Please have Mr. Stroud contact me if he has any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary O. Bartlett".

Gary O. Bartlett  
Executive Director

cc: Susan N. Nichols  
Robert P. Joyce  
Don Wright