

## SYSTEM REGULATION

### **33.01.01 Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of The Texas A&M University System**

August 25, 2000

*Supplements System Policy 33.01*

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

As a state-supported institution of higher education, The Texas A&M University System and all of its components are required to remain neutral in partisan political activities. Individual faculty, staff, and students continue to enjoy all constitutional rights and privileges concerning freedom of speech and participation in political events, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions.

#### 2. ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS

No TAMUS component may endorse, recommend, or otherwise indicate partisan political support for any candidate for an elected office, or for any current officeholder of such an office. This does not prohibit such components from expressing agreement with actions, policies, or other official acts of officeholders.

#### 3. DISCRIMINATION BASED ON POLITICAL VIEWPOINT

No rule may be adopted under this regulation that discriminates against any organization or individual on the basis of political affiliation or doctrine, including a rule that favors any political organization or doctrine over any other.

#### 4. USE OF FACILITIES

The Chief Executive Officer of each System component allowing partisan political activities on its property shall develop a rule to be adopted by the component governing use of its physical plant and other facilities. This includes, but is not limited to, campaign events by or for individuals or political parties. The rule must be reasonable in its application as to the time, place, and manner of political activities. The component rule may prohibit non-institutionally affiliated entities from using its facilities for political purposes.

5. CURRENT OFFICEHOLDERS

When a holder of a political office visits a facility under the control of the System, the officeholder shall be afforded all due respect and courtesies to which their office entitles them. However, they may not engage in any partisan political activities, including campaigning for themselves or on behalf of others, unless they comply with the component rule dealing with campaigning. If the nature of an officeholder's visit is not clear prior to arrival, the component should use its best efforts to determine in advance if the officeholder will be engaging in any partisan activities during the visit.

6. USE OF TAMUS SYMBOLS, INSIGNIA, AND OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

Subject to section 7 below, the use of any symbol, insignia, or other identifiable mark of any component of the System in association with any partisan political activity, including campaigns by political candidates, is prohibited.

7. RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations of students, faculty, or staff that have been recognized and approved in accordance with component processes may sponsor partisan political activities or events on System property in accordance with the component's rules and procedures.

HISTORY: New

CONTACT OFFICE: The Office of General Counsel

[Section 33 Rules](#)