

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



Revised [November 6, 2015](#)

Next Scheduled Review: November 6, 2020

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## Regulation Statement

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As a state-supported institution of higher education, The Texas A&M University System (system) and its members 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.

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## Reason for Regulation

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This regulation implements state law governing political activities on property under the control of the system.

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## Procedures and Responsibilities

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### 1. ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS

No member 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 members from expressing agreement with actions, policies or other official acts of officeholders.

### 2. 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.

### 3. USE OF FACILITIES

Each member chief executive officer allowing partisan political activities on its property shall develop a rule to be adopted by the member governing use of its 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 member rule may prohibit non-institutionally affiliated entities from using its facilities for political purposes.

#### 4. 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 the office entitles. However, the officeholder may not engage in any partisan political activities, including campaigning for self or on behalf of others, unless the officeholder complies with the member rule dealing with campaigning. If the nature of an officeholder's visit is not clear prior to arrival, the member should use its best efforts to determine in advance if the officeholder will be engaging in any partisan activities during the visit.

#### 5. USE OF SYSTEM SYMBOLS, INSIGNIA AND OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

Subject to Section 6, the use of any symbol, insignia or other identifiable mark of any member in association with any partisan political activity, including campaigns by political candidates, is prohibited.

#### 6. RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations of students, faculty or staff that have been recognized and approved in accordance with member processes may sponsor partisan political activities or events on system property and use any member symbol, insignia or other identifiable member mark, only in accordance with the member's rule adopted in accordance with Section 3.

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### **Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements**

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[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 556](#)

This regulation supersedes:

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

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### **Member Rule Requirements**

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A rule is required to supplement this regulation. See Section 3.

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### **Contact Office**

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