

**STATE OF OHIO
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
2825 West Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789**

AGOH-HRO-Z

8 April 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Political Activities Policy

1. Adjutant General's Department employees, regardless of their employment status, are public servants and must take appropriate precautions regarding their political activities. Employees engaging in prohibited activities are subject to discipline in accordance with the rules and regulations of the appropriate employment system.
2. State employees. State employees are to be mindful of the Governor's Political Activity Policy. Classified and unclassified employees must avoid engaging in election-related activity on state time, on state property or using state equipment. State employees may not engage in any election related activities which interfere with, or pose a conflict of interest with respect to, their state duties and responsibilities. The policy was updated effective 16 February 2010 (see enclosure 1).
3. Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) personnel. AGR personnel are reminded that because they are on active duty, they are subject to the full range of prohibitions on partisan political activity found in DoDD 1344.10, Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces. The military has a long tradition of being politically neutral, subject to civilian control and having no military influence on the political process. For further details, see the AGR handbook on the HRO webpage on TAGNET at <http://oh-tagnet/C11/C3/Employee%20Handbooks?default.aspx> (see enclosure 2).
4. Technician employees. Technician employees are encouraged to carry out their responsibilities as citizens but are reminded that they are subject to restrictions on political activity found in DoD 5500.7-R, the Joint Ethics Regulation. Technicians are expected to perform their official duties lawfully and comply with the highest ethical standards. Further details may be found in the Technician handbook on the HRO webpage on TAGNET at the address in para 2 above (see enclosure 3).
5. Violations involving prohibited political activities must be immediately brought to the attention of appropriate supervisory officials. Supervisors should contact the Human Resource Office for guidance pertaining to the imposition of discipline regarding these

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matters. The point of contact is 1LT Daryl Scott, Labor Relations Specialist, at (614) 336-7049, DSN 346-7049, or daryl.scott@us.army.mil.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

- 3 Encls
1. State Policy Memorandum,
16 February 2010
2. AGR Political Activities
3. Technician Political Activities



HOMER C. ROGERS, JR.
LTC, FA, OHARNG
Director of Human Resources

11-2 Political Activities

In the United States, there is a long tradition of the military being politically neutral, subject to civilian control and of no military influence on the political process. While AGR personnel are encouraged to carry out their responsibilities as citizens, by virtue of being full-time military there are a number of restrictions on the political activity they can become involved in. AGR personnel can:

<u>PERMITTED</u>	
MAY be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections	MAY register and vote as you choose
MAY assist in voter registration drives	MAY express opinions about candidates and issues
MAY contribute money to political organizations	MAY hold office in political clubs or parties
MAY attend and be active at political rallies and meetings	MAY join and be an active member of a political party or club
MAY sign nominating petitions	MAY campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
MAY make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections	MAY distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
MAY attend political fundraising functions	
<u>PROHIBITED</u>	
MAY NOT use official authority to interfere with an election	MAY NOT collect political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
MAY NOT knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency	MAY NOT engage in political activity while in uniform or while using a Government vehicle
MAY NOT solicit political contributions from the general public	MAY NOT be candidates for public office in partisan elections
MAY NOT engage in political activity while on duty	MAY NOT engage in political activity in any Government office

11. Political Activities

Technician personnel are encouraged to carry out their responsibilities as citizens, but must also be aware of restrictions on their political activities.

Permitted activities:

- MAY be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
- MAY assist in voter registration drives
- MAY register and vote as you choose
- MAY express opinions about candidates and issues
- MAY contribute money to political organizations
- MAY hold office in political clubs or parties
- MAY attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- MAY join and be an active member of a political party or club
- MAY sign nominating petitions
- MAY campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- MAY make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- MAY distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- MAY attend political fundraising functions

Prohibited activities:

- MAY NOT use official authority to interfere with an election
- MAY NOT collect political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
- MAY NOT knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency
- MAY NOT solicit political contributions from the general public
- MAY NOT be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- MAY NOT engage in political activity while on duty
- MAY NOT engage in political activity in any Government office
- MAY NOT engage in political activity while in uniform or while using a Government vehicle