# The Texas A&M University System Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

## **Agency Rules**

# 07.03.01.N1 Political Campaign Events in Facilities Under the Control of The Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

Approved: July 22, 2008 Revised: September 30, 2013 Reviewed: May 29, 2019 Revised: April 8, 2021

Next Scheduled Review: April 8, 2026

# **Rule Summary**

This rule is required by Texas A&M University System Regulation, 07.03.01, Political Campaign Events in Facilities Under the Control of The Texas A&M University System. As a member of state supported institutions of higher education, The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) and its members, to include the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), are required to remain neutral in partisan political activities. Individual employees, students, and participants 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.

#### Rule

#### 1. ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS

TEEX will not 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 TEEX, its employees, participants, from expressing agreement with actions, policies or other official acts of officeholders.

#### 2. DISCRIMINATION BASED ON POLITICAL VIEWPOINT

TEEX will not discriminate against any organization or individual on the basis of political affiliation or doctrine, nor will TEEX adopt any rules or procedures that favor any political organization or doctrine over any other.

#### 3. USE OF FACILITIES

TEEX facilities may be used for political events by members of the A&M System upon approval of the Agency Director. Political events in TEEX facilities, by entities not affiliated with the A&M System are prohibited.

#### 4. CURRENT OFFICEHOLDERS

When a holder of a political office visits a TEEX facility, the officeholder will be afforded all due respect and courtesies to which the office entitles. However, the officeholder may not engage in any partisan



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political activities, including campaigning for self or on behalf of others, unless such activities comply with this rule. If the nature of an officeholder's visit is not clear prior to arrival, those coordinating the visit for TEEX must use their best efforts to determine in advance if the officeholder will be engaging in any partisan activities during the visit.

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

TEEX prohibits the use of its name, symbols, insignias, or other identifying marks in any political endorsements, campaigns, elections, or political activities.

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

Texas Gov't Code, Chapter 556

System Policy 07.03, Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities

<u>System Regulation 07.03.01, Political Campaign Events in Facilities Under the Control of The Texas A&M</u> <u>University System</u>

#### **Contact Office**

TEEX Ethics and Compliance (979) 458-6807