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§ 734.203 Participation in nonpartisan activities.

An employee may:

(a) Express his or her opinion privately and publicly on political subjects;

(b) Be politically active in connection with a question which is not specifically identified with a political party, such as a constitutional amendment, referendum, approval of a municipal ordinance or any other question or issue of a similar character;

(c) Participate in the nonpartisan activities of a civic, community, social, labor, or professional organization, or of a similar organization; and

(d) Participate fully in public affairs, except as prohibited by other Federal law, in a manner which does not compromise his or her efficiency or integrity as an employee or the neutrality, efficiency, or integrity of the agency or instrumentality of the United States Government or the District of Columbia Government in which he or she is employed.

Example 1: An employee may participate, including holding office, in any nonpartisan group. Such participation may include fundraising as long as the fundraising is not in any way connected with any partisan political issue, group, or candidate, and as long as the fundraising complies with part 2635 of this title as well as any other directives that may apply, *e.g.*, the Federal Property Management Regulations in 41 CFR chapter 101.

Example 2: An employee, individually or collectively with other employees, may petition or provide information to Congress as provided in 5 U.S.C. 7211.

[59 FR 48769, Sept. 23, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 35100, July 5, 1996]

§ 734.204 Participation in political organizations.

An employee may:

(a) Be a member of a political party or other political group and participate in its activities;

(b) Serve as an officer of a political party or other political group, a member of a national, State, or local committee of a political party, an officer or member of a committee of a political group, or be a candidate for any of these positions;

(c) Attend and participate fully in the business of nominating caucuses of political parties;

(d) Organize or reorganize a political party organization or political group; and

(e) Participate in a political convention, rally, or other political gathering.

(f) Serve as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a political party convention.

Example 1: An employee of the Department of Education may serve as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a State or national party convention.

Example 2: A noncareer member of the Senior Executive Service, or other employee covered under this subpart, may serve as a vice-president of a political action committee, as long as the duties of the office do not involve personal solicitation, acceptance, or receipt of political contributions. Ministerial activities which precede or follow the official acceptance and receipt, such as handling, disbursing, or accounting for contributions are not covered under the definitions of *accept* and *receive* in § 734.101. Sections 734.208 and 734.303 describe in detail permitted and prohibited activities which are related to fundraising.

Example 3: An employee of the Federal Communications Commission may make motions or place a name in nomination at a nominating caucus.

Example 4: An employee of the Department of the Interior may serve as an officer of a candidate's campaign committee as long as he does not personally solicit, accept, or receive political contributions. Sections 734.208 and 734.303 of this part describe in detail permitted and prohibited activities which are related to fundraising.

[59 FR 48769, Sept. 23, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 35100, July 5, 1996]

§ 734.205 Participation in political campaigns.

Subject to the prohibitions in § 734.306, an employee may:

(a) Display pictures, signs, stickers, badges, or buttons associated with political parties, candidates for partisan political office, or partisan political groups, as long as these items are displayed in accordance with the provisions of § 734.306 of subpart C of this part;

(b) Initiate or circulate a nominating petition for a candidate for partisan political office;

(c) Canvass for votes in support of or in opposition to a partisan political candidate or a candidate for political party office;