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County Employee Participation in Political Activities	3/28/94		1	2
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1.0 Purpose

To establish ethical standards in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 124.57 and Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) 123-1-46-02, with regards to County Employee Participation in Political Activities.

2.0 Scope

This policy pertains to all county offices who operate under the guidelines of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code.

3.0 Distribution

To all County Departments

4.0 Definitions

Political activity refers to the process in which one supports or shows a preference on an issue or individual.

Classified employee refers to employees who are protected by civil service laws.

Unclassified employee refers to employees who are not protected by civil service laws.

5.0 Policy

Delaware County employees permissible participation in political activity varies depending upon the classification of the employee. Generally, **unclassified** employees may participate in political activity with few restrictions while **classified** employees have stricter limitations on their participation. A County employee may verify their classification status by contacting their supervisor or personnel coordinator.

The following are general guidelines regarding County employee participation in political activities. These guidelines are not intended to be exhaustive in scope but rather to provide general guidance on political participation by County employees.

Unclassified Employees are prohibited from:

- Participating in any political activity on County time.

- Soliciting political contributions from any County employee.

Classified Employees are prohibited from:

- Participating in partisan political activity on County time.
- Participating in or declaring to be a candidate in a partisan election.
- Soliciting political contributions from any County employee.
- Receiving or collecting money for a partisan campaign.
- Selling political party fundraising tickets.
- Holding office, elected or appointed, in political party or within a partisan candidate's campaign organization.
- Participation in a political action committee or political caucuses which supports partisan activity.
- Circulating nominating petitions.
- Distributing political material.

Classified Employees are allowed to:

- Register to Vote and Vote.
- Voluntarily Contribute to political campaigns.
- Attend political rallies on personal time.
- Sign nominating petitions.
- Express written and oral opinions.
- Display political materials at home or own personal vehicle.
- Wear political badges or buttons (except while working).

All Delaware County employees are strictly **prohibited** from using County time, facilities or resources for political purposes. Unclassified employees who wish to participate in political activity during normal business hours must utilize administrative leave without pay, vacation or personal leave. No compensatory leave or any other type of leave, except as listed above, may be used to participate in political activity.

All County employees under the supervision and control of the Commissioners Office, directly or indirectly, are **prohibited** from soliciting other County employees for any political contributions.

No Delaware County Officer or employee will expend public funds for any type of political activity.