

Partisan Political Elections and The Hatch Act

Federal employees are prohibited from advocating for or against any partisan political candidate* or party:

1. Through the use of official titles and/or government resources
OR
2. Aboard a Federal installation OR
3. While on duty

*Once an individual takes affirmative steps towards seeking election or declares their candidacy for office, the restrictions in the Hatch Act immediately go into effect.

▶ Examples of prohibited activities:

- ▶ Wearing shirts, hats, pins, etc. promoting candidates for office, political parties, or campaign messages/slogans
- ▶ Using government email or other resources to distribute political materials advocating for or against a political party or candidate
- ▶ Use of official title to advocate for or against political causes, parties, or candidates, even off duty
- ▶ Soliciting votes for or against a political candidate or cause in the workplace
- ▶ Displaying materials advocating for or against political candidates or parties in the workplace

▶ Permissible activities:

- ▶ Display of personal photos with candidates in a personal workspace so long as the photo was not taken at a political event, was displayed before election season, and is not displayed for a partisan political purpose
- ▶ Display of official bio photos of candidates so long as they are unaltered and of reasonable size
- ▶ Personal vehicles with standard/reasonably sized bumper stickers are allowed aboard Federal installations

Always remember to CYA (call your attorney) with any questions...
Contact the LOGCOM Office of Counsel at 229-639-5449 (Albany), 760-577-6791 (Barstow),
904-696-5033 (BIC), or the OSJA at 229-639-5212