Rule Statement

As a state-supported institution of higher education, Tarleton State University is required to remain neutral in partisan political activities. Individual faculty, staff, and students enjoy all constitutional rights and privileges concerning freedom of speech and participation in political events, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions. This rule is required by and supplements System Regulation 07.03.01, *Political Campaign Events in Facilities Under the Control of The Texas A&M University System*, and is established to provide guidance specific to the use of facilities under the control of Tarleton State University (Tarleton or university) for political campaign activities and events.

Rule

1. **ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS**

   1.1 In accordance with state law and System Regulation 07.03.01, Tarleton 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.

2. **USE OF FACILITIES**

   2.1 Any individual, university organization, or political party desiring to use facilities under the control of Tarleton for campaign or related political events must make a formal request to the Office of the President or designee. The use of Tarleton facilities may require a rental fee.

   2.2 Applications for use of facilities under this rule by student, faculty, or staff organizations that have been officially recognized and/or approved by the university will be processed as specified in Tarleton SAP 51.99.99.T0.01, *Facility Use Fee*. These groups are eligible to request the use of facilities.

   2.3 Requests from non-institutionally affiliated entities will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. In review of such requests, Tarleton will not discriminate against any non-
institutionally affiliated entity based on political affiliation or doctrine, including favor
of any political organization or doctrine over any other.

2.4 Should facilities under the control of Tarleton be approved for use by political
candidates or parties, a sign with the words that follow must be displayed near the
event.

“State law requires Tarleton State University to remain neutral in
partisan political activities. The use of facilities under the control of
Tarleton by candidates and political organizations does not imply or
indicate support for any candidate or political party.”

3. USE OF SYMBOLS, INSIGNIA, OR MARKS

3.1 Tarleton prohibits the use of any of its symbols, insignias, or other identifying marks in
association with any activity that involves the endorsement, support, or promotion of
political candidates or partisan political activities. This prohibition also includes any
university sponsored or recognized organizations that officially represent the
institution. University sponsored or recognized organizations will be determined by the
Vice President for Student Affairs.

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Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Tex. Edu. Code § 51.9315

Tex. Gov’t Code Ch. 556

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

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

Tarleton SAP 51.99.99.T0.01, Facility Use Fee

This rule supersedes:

Rule 33.01.01.T1 Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of Tarleton State
University

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Contact Office

President’s Office
254.968.9921