



Community and Workplace Culture Committee

Ethics Education: Political Activities

Item 6a

October 13, 2025

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Subject

Ethics Education: Political Activities

Purpose

To briefly review with the Committee Metropolitan's rules on political activities (Administrative Code Section 7123).

Political Activities

Background

Limited restrictions on the political activities of Metropolitan officials help maintain the public trust and ensure that Metropolitan remains non-partisan and non-political in its service to the public.

Political activities:

- Activities supporting or opposing any partisan political candidate, party, committee, etc.
- Examples: Soliciting or accepting political campaign contributions, creating and distributing political communications, etc.

Summary of Rules on Political Activities

The following are prohibited at Metropolitan:

- Soliciting/receiving political contributions at a Metropolitan facility or property.
- Using Metropolitan's seal, letterhead, or other indicator of Metropolitan's identity in a solicitation for political contributions.
- Using Metropolitan assets, property, equipment, staff, vehicles, or other resources for political activities.

Additional rules for employees:

- Engaging in political activities during work hours is prohibited.
- Employees must disclose their election to public office to Ethics Officer and General Manager.

Related State Laws

- California Government Code section 84308 (Levine Act) (also incorporated into Metropolitan's Administrative Code)
- California Government Code section 8314(a)
- Pending Senate Bill

Key Tips and Takeaways

- Political activities of Metropolitan officials are not prohibited; some limits are placed on time, place, and manner.
- Separate political activities from official government position and duties.
- Rules help ensure that Metropolitan remains non-partisan and non-political in its service to the public.
- Metropolitan resources, identity, property, and staff time may not be used for personal or political purposes.
- Political contributions may not be solicited or made on Metropolitan property or in Metropolitan buildings/facilities.
- Contact the Ethics Office for advice on specific situations.



Questions?

