

CHAMPIONS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT

District Policies

DP-013

Facility Use During Elections

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To establish a clear policy on protected public electioneering that is consistent with the following statutes:
 - A. Title 6, Chapter 61, Texas Election Code (Conduct of Elections) and
 - B. Title 6, Subtitle H, Chapter 393 of the Texas Transportation Code (Outdoor Signs on Public Rights-of-Way)
- 1.2 To ensure clear communication of the policy to the public by way of District Commissioners, Employees, and legal counsel.

2.0 GUIDELINE

- 2.1 The Harris County ESD #29 (the District) fire station may be used as a State of Texas Polling Place. During such use, all state laws including but not limited to Title 6, Chapter 61 of the Texas Election Code (Conduct of Elections) and Title 6, Subtitle H, Chapter 393 of the Texas Transportation Code (Outdoor Signs on Public Rights-of-Way), shall be followed.
- 2.2 A 100' distance marker shall be placed 100' from the center of the main front entry doors of the fire station on the north side of the facility. This 100' point coincides with the curb line of Champion Forest Dr.
 - A. This distance marker effectively prohibits the use of the grassy area on the north side of District property, which includes the grassy area near the marquis sign and mailbox, for the purpose of electioneering or placement of political signs.
 - B. In addition and in accordance with Sec 393.002 of the Texas Transportation Code Title 6, Subtitle H, Chapter 393, any area located within the public rights-of-way of Champion Forest Dr. is also prohibited from placement of signage.
- 2.3 Due to the restrictions of state law, electioneering, including political signs, or any other sign, are restricted to the southwest side of District property located near the EMS station. This area is outside of the 100' radius as provided by Title 6, Chapter 61, Sec 61.003 of the Texas Election Code. In addition, Title 6, Chapter 393, Subtitle H of the Texas Transportation Code (Outdoor Signs on Public Rights-of-Way) still applies to this area of District property. The District will provide a public rights-of-way marker in this area to alleviate confusion of improper sign placement.
- 2.4 As provided for in Title 6, Chapter 61, Sec 61.003 (a-1), the District shall reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of electioneering to be limited to:
 - A. Forty-eight (48) hours prior to early voting taking place to twenty-four (24) hours after the regular Election Day.
 - B. All electioneering, including the placement of political signs on District property outside of the times outlined above is prohibited.
- 2.5 Violations/Violators of this policy and/or State Laws listed herein will be reported to the Election Judge or Harris County Pct. 4 Constable's Office for enforcement action.

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