

## **Prohibited Political Activities**

It's election time again and HRM would like to remind employees of the various restrictions on political activity.

### **Restrictions on Classified Employees**

For **classified** Civil Service employees, we want to remind you that the State of Louisiana's constitution prohibits classified employees from engaging in prohibited political activities, as outlined in Civil Service Rule 14.1(e), quoted below:

#### **14.1 Prohibited Activities.**

(e) No employee in the classified service and no member of the Commission shall

1. Participate or engage in political activity.
2. Be a candidate for nomination or election to public office, except to seek election as the Classified State employee serving on the State Civil Service Commission.
3. Be a member of any national, state, or local committee of a political party or faction.
4. Take active part in the management of the affairs of a political party, faction, candidate, or any political campaign, except to exercise his right as a citizen to express his opinion privately, to serve as a commissioner or official watcher at the polls, and to cast his vote as he desires.
5. Take active part in an effort to recall from office an elected public official, or seek, solicit or attempt to coerce any person including any employee in the classified service and any member of the Commission into participating in any such effort or signing a recall petition except that nothing contained herein shall prevent an employee in the classified service or member of the Commission from signing a recall petition.

It is important to understand that these **restrictions apply to ALL elections, local, state and federal**. For additional information including frequently asked questions and answers, please see [General Circular 1501](http://www.dscs.state.la.us/progasst/gencirc/GENCIR02/001501.htm), (<http://www.dscs.state.la.us/progasst/gencirc/GENCIR02/001501.htm>) issued September 19, 2002.

### **Restrictions on Academic and Unclassified Employees**

Academic and unclassified employees should refer to AgCenter policy <<http://www.lsuagcenter.com/Inst/Admin/policies/ps-43-Pol-Ofc.pdf>> PS-43, "Holding a Political Office or Appointment." Aside from the restrictions in PS-43, academic and unclassified employees should use good judgment and remember that depending on their position and the circumstances, political activity can affect relations with clientele which in turn can affect the employee's ability to be effective in his/her position. Employees may not use state resources (supplies, personnel, time, etc.) for political activity.