



Dragon Legal Digest

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Political Activity Guidance

With election season upon us, your legal office wanted to remind you of some of the ROEs that Defense Department employees must remember to follow. **Additionally**, on July 27, 2016, Under SECAF Disbrow published a new Guidance on Political Activities, available on our website: <http://www.keesler.af.mil/Units/81stTrainingWing/KeeslerLegalOffice.aspx>. It is important to exercise your civic rights, but you must do so legally and ethically!

Active Duty Limitations (Including Social Media)

You **MAY**:

- Express your personal opinions on political candidates, make monetary contributions to campaigns or organizations, and attend events as a spectator when you're NOT in uniform.
- Express your personal opinions through social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, or a personal blog. If it's clear that you are a member of the military or DOD, indicate opinions are your own and do not reflect the opinion of the DOD.
- “Like” or “follow” a political party or candidate.

You **MAY NOT**:

- Engage in partisan political activities.
- Post/Make links to a political party, partisan candidate, etc. because it is the equivalent of distributing literature on behalf of those entities or individuals.
- Post/Comment on the Facebook pages or “tweet” at the Twitter accounts of a political party, partisan candidate, etc. because it is engaging in a partisan political activity through a medium sponsored or controlled by said entity.
- Suggest that others “like,” “friend,” or “follow” the political entity.
- Campaign for a partisan candidate, engage in partisan fundraising activities, serve as an officer of a partisan club, or speak before a partisan gathering.

BOTTOM LINE: You are not anonymous on social media. For example:

Marine discharged over online
Obama comments



Civilian Political Activity Limitations

Two Kinds of Employees: Further Restricted and Less Restricted — Which One Are You?

If you're a civilian working at Keesler you're likely a DOD Civilian Employee. This means that you're "less restricted" and have more freedom to express your political opinion in your civilian capacity.

You **MAY**: Volunteer with a political campaign or organization, including activities like making phone calls, organizing political rallies, or working for a political party.

You **MAY NOT**:

-Solicit or receive political contributions.

-Engage in political activity while on-duty or in a federal building, including sending or forwarding political emails, or posting political messages on Facebook, even if it's on your personal device.

If you think you're a further restricted employee (and you probably know who you are) you may call the legal office for an appointment, and we'll provide more guidance on what you can and can't do.

New! Legal Assistance By Appointment

-The Legal Office is moving to appointments only for legal assistance effective immediately. We will continue to have one-day a week for walk-in legal assistance for emergency situations only.

-Legal assistance appointments will be available on Mondays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Will appointments remain unchanged: Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Thursday, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

-To lessen impact on our customers, we will make additional appointments available for the next few weeks, Monday-Friday in the morning. Further, we will offer emergency walk-in legal assistance on Fridays, 0930-1100. Call the legal office in advance to see if you qualify for emergency assistance.

-Call any time during our normal business hours. Same day appointments will be scheduled as long as slots are available. Call your legal office today to schedule an appointment.

CONTACT US

Comm: 228-376-8601; DSN: 591-8601; Sablich Center (Bldg 701), 2d Floor, Suite 227



Don't forget to send us or bring in your ticket number!

For will worksheets or Powers of Attorney please visit our website below.

<https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>

Wills Appointments

Tues. (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.)

Thurs. (2 p.m. - 3 p.m.)

Legal Assistance Appointments

Mon. (1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

Wed. (9 a.m. - 11 a.m.)

Powers of Attorney & Notaries

WALK-INS

Mon-Fri (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)