



WASO

HR ADVISORY: 06-022
EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Issuance
EXPIRATION DATE: Until Superseded

SUBJECT: Display of political signage in and from park housing

POINT OF CONTACT: Peggy Moran-Gicker, Deputy Ethics Counselor, (202) 354-1981, peggy_moran-gicker@nps.gov

AUTHORITY: 43 CFR 20.202, Ethics program responsibilities

REFERENCE: 5 U.S.C. 7321-7326, Hatch Act, and 5 CFR 734.205, "Participation in political campaigns," Example 9, and November 25, 1997, advisory from the Office of Special Counsel on "Displaying Political Signs in Federal Housing," and the National Park Service regulations at 36 CFR 2.51, and 36 CFR 7.96(g) concerning expression of views on park lands, and 2001 NPS Management Policies, 8.6.3, "First Amendment Activities"

DELEGATION: Director, National Park Service as the Ethics Counselor and Ethics Program Manager as the Deputy Ethics Counselor

BACKGROUND: The Hatch Act generally permits most federal employees to actively participate in partisan political management and partisan political campaigns. Career Non-SES employees continue to be restricted from partisan political activity. Political activity means an activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for partisan political office, or partisan political group. NPS regulations also govern demonstration activities, which includes political signage.

PURPOSE: To clarify how the Office of Special Counsel and Park Service regulations and policy for displaying of political signs are to be applied when employees want to display political signs in and from park housing.

PROCEDURE: Employees may display political signs if it is consistent with the Hatch Act and Park Service regulations. If the activity is not prohibited by the Hatch Act, employees should then follow Park Service regulations covering expression of views on park lands. Employees are reminded that when exercising their First

