



Knox County Election Commission

Signage Guidance

ATTENTION CANDIDATES

Within 100 feet from the designated entrances and the building in which the polling place is located, the display of campaign posters, signs, or other campaign materials, distribution of campaign materials, and solicitation of votes for or against any person, political party, or position on a question are prohibited. No campaign posters, signs or other campaign literature may be displayed on or in any building in which a polling place is located. (T.C.A. 2-7-111)

During the hours in which the polls are open, candidates are not to enter a polling place unless they are there to cast their vote. (T.C.A. 2-7-103)

Early Voting

SIGNAGE RESTRICTIONS FOR MERIDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

At its Business Meeting on May 30, 2018, the Meridian Baptist Church Council passed the following resolution which the Knox County Election Commission wholeheartedly supports without reservation:

NO signs whatsoever will be allowed on church property or on the City of Knoxville (COK) easement directly in front of the church or on the COK easement in front of the church's parking lot. The church will, however, allow one (1) sign per candidate to be located on the COK easement by or on the strip of grass adjacent to the Exxon Station. Any and all signs located on church property, on the COK easement in front of the church, or on the COK easement in front of the church parking lot will be removed.

SIGNAGE GUIDELINES FOR DOWNTOWN WEST EARLY VOTING

Downtown West Partners, the Landlord for 1645 Downtown West Blvd., Unit 40, where Early Voting will be occurring for all elections conducted by the Knox County Election Commission, hereby takes the following action with respect to campaign/political signage, posters, placards, etc.:

Each candidate will be allowed to place up to two (2) signs on the Premises. Furthermore, any sign placed on the Premises may not exceed 18" x 24" in size. These signs may not be placed anywhere on the Premises other than in the mulch in the median of the main driveway leading to the Early Voting Site from Downtown West Blvd.

Additionally, the Rules and Regulations (Exhibit "C") of the Lease Agreement currently in effect between the Landlord and Knox County, Tennessee, provide, among other things, as follows: "The sidewalks and parking areas in the Premises shall not be obstructed or used for storage or for any purpose other than ingress or egress." **Consequently, candidates and/or their supporters WILL NOT be allowed to set up tents in the parking lot nor will candidates and/or their supporters be allowed to park campers and/or other recreational vehicles in the parking areas of the Premises while campaigning on or about the Premises.**

Those Rules and Regulations further provide that: **"Tenant will not knowingly or willingly allow invitees to create a nuisance on or near the Premises which may disturb the other tenants or occupants of the [Premises] or any invitees of said tenants or occupants."** Thus, candidates and/or their supporters may NOT play loud music including, without limitation, jingles or songs for or against any candidates in or near the parking lot of the Premises.

The Knox County Election Commission wholeheartedly supports without reservation the Landlord's action.

Election Day

Knox County Board of Education's policy on signage on school grounds:

POLITICAL SOLICITATION

Solicitation or advertising in any form by candidates for public office or political or issue oriented organizations is not permitted. Political literature shall not be distributed through the school to students, nor sent home to parents, nor placed in teachers' mail boxes, lounges, or on school premises. Political advertising in any form shall not be permitted on school facilities, on school grounds or in school publications.

The sole exceptions to this restriction are as follows:

- (1) For election days at those school facilities that are used as polling places, political signage may be placed on campuses that host polling places beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the day prior to an election. On election days at these locations, election officials will determine the placement of advertising and the permissibility of solicitation. All such materials must be removed by the candidates by 7:00 a.m. the day following the election.**

General Information

Knoxville City Code

City of Knoxville Section 13.3 item W: Temporary signs for political purposes; provided that each sign cannot exceed thirty-two square feet in area, cannot be displayed for more than thirty days prior to the start of the earliest voting period for the candidate or issue, and must be removed within five days following the end of the final voting period for the candidate or issue.

Exhibit 1
Section 3. Prohibited Signs.

The following signs are prohibited in all zone districts:

- (6) Signs within the public right-of-way, except publicly owned signs, such as wayfinding signs and regulatory signs, and those signs approved by the city engineer.**

Should you have any questions about signs in right-of-ways in the City of Knoxville, call 3-1-1.

Regulation of Political Signs from the Knox County Highway Department

The Knox County Highway Department has given permission for political signs (temporary) to be placed at, near or in the county right of way as per Knox County Zoning Regulation 3.90.02 (F). Please be advised that if signs are placed where they obstruct visibility in any manner, they will be removed. Should you have any question, call the Knox County Highway Department at 215-5800.

3.90.02 General Regulations: (H) The following signs may be erected without securing a building permit: 6. Temporary sign advertising a political candidate. Such signs shall not be over thirty-two square feet in size; shall not be displayed for more than thirty days and shall be removed within five days of the election.

3.90.05 Temporary Signs: B. No temporary sign shall be erected at the intersection of any street in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision, or be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device, or located in any required parking space. F. A portable sign shall not be considered or utilized as a temporary sign.