

GEORGETOWN LAW

STUDENT ORGANIZATION POLICY ON PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Georgetown University Law Center encourages and supports the free exchange of ideas and political viewpoints. As a non-profit institution of higher education whose activities are regulated in part by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, however, Georgetown University and the Law Center must generally avoid engaging in partisan political campaign activity and must restrict the use of University resources in support of such activity.

The following rules govern the use of Law Center facilities and resources for partisan political activity.

Students, Staff and Faculty

Students, staff and faculty are encouraged to participate in the political process and are free to express their individual and collective political views. When doing so, individuals should make clear that the views they express are their own, and should not suggest or imply that they are speaking for or in the name of Georgetown University or Georgetown University Law Center. Individuals may not use the Georgetown name, insignia or seal on material that is used or intended for partisan political campaign purposes.

If University affiliated student organizations engage in activities that support or oppose particular candidates for election to public office, they should do so in a way that does not state or imply endorsement of their views by the University. Student organizations generally may not use University resources to engage in partisan political campaign activities (with the limited exceptions set forth in the *Use of Georgetown University Law Center Facilities and Resources* section below) and must obtain advance approval from the Office of student Life (and the Office of Federal Relations) for any such activities that occur on University premises.

Student organizations that wish to engage in lobbying in connection with or support of a particular cause may do so in some instances, but only with advance consultation with and approval from the Office of Federal Relations. Student organizations interested in such cause-related activities may contact the Office of Federal Relations at 202-687-3455 or by e-mail to ssf2@georgetown.edu. Of course, individual students are always free to advocate on areas of personal interest before Congress or any other governmental entity without involving the University provided that University resources are not utilized in that regard.

Candidate Speakers and Campaigning

Candidates for public office may appear on campus for a speech or an educational or informational talk to the Law Center community, but such appearances must be sponsored by a recognized Law Center organization and approved by the University. When the University allows one candidate to appear on campus, it generally must offer other candidates in the same election a substantially similar opportunity to appear. Student organizations should make clear to speakers who are candidates for political office that they may not engage in activities such as fundraising,

solicitation, or rallies while on campus. Student organizations must secure approval for such events from the Office of Student Life at least two weeks in advance.

Candidate campaigning and solicitation, including transmission of campaign materials over the internet, leaflet distribution, and display of posters, is not allowed anywhere on Law Center property or using University servers or equipment.

Use of Georgetown University Law Center Facilities and Resources

Law Center students, organizations and departments generally may use Law Center facilities and resources for activities relating to their missions, including politically oriented activities. Politically oriented student organizations may book a table in the Chapel Area on the first floor of McDonough Hall, but must post a sign that clearly indicates that use of the table does not imply endorsement of any particular political viewpoint from the Georgetown University Law Center. All uses of Law Center properties are subject to university policies regarding time, place, and manner.

Students, student organizations and departments may use campus communications to announce political forums and discussions that are sponsored by officially constituted campus groups, but may not use University-supported resources, including space on campus, Georgetown's phone system, computer networks or servers, or postal service, for partisan political campaign activity. Using Law Center resources or the Georgetown name to fund or support a political campaign or political action group or committee is strictly prohibited, as is the use of the University's tax-exempt number for purchase of anything associated with partisan political campaign activity. Law Center facilities and services may not be used by or on behalf of an outside organization or outside individual whose purpose is to further the cause of a particular political party or candidate.

Nonpartisan Political Activities

The University encourages nonpartisan political activities, such as properly organized voter registration activities, voter education programs and candidate debates, that do not evidence a preference for or opposition to a political party or to candidates who have taken a particular position and which provide an equal forum for opposing parties and candidates. In order to ensure that all legal and university requirements are followed, advance approval for these events must be obtained from (and all materials must be reviewed by) the Office of Student Life.