

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

The Texas Ethics Commission is authorized by the Government Code, §571.091, to issue advisory opinions in regard to the following statutes: the Government Code, Chapter 302; the Government Code, Chapter 305; the Government Code, Chapter 572; the Election Code, Title 15; the Penal Code, Chapter 36; and the Penal Code, Chapter 39. Requests for copies of the full text of opinions or questions on particular submissions should be addressed to the Office of the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070, (512) 463-5800.

Ethics Advisory Opinion

EAO-609: What activities may be conducted in a "generic get-out-the-vote" campaign as authorized by Section 253.171 of the Election Code? Must all campaign material list the name and office sought or held or a photograph of each judicial candidate? (AOR-710).

SUMMARY

Permissible activities during a "generic get-out-the-vote" campaign include certain voter registering activities, providing transportation to polling locations, and providing information about candidates that the party supported, as long as the services were provided equally to people who supported and opposed the requestor's supported candidates.

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Questions on particular submissions should be addressed to the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2070, (512) 463-5800.

Issued in Austin, Texas, on September 24, 2024.

TRD-202404625
James Tinley
General Counsel
Texas Ethics Commission
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EAO-610: Whether a lobbyist reports a publicly traded partnership as a corporation or non-corporate entity on the lobby registration form. (AOR-711).

SUMMARY

A publicly traded partnership is a partnership, not a corporation, and is therefore reported on the lobby registration as a non-corporate entity under Section 305.005(h) of the Government Code.

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James Tinley
General Counsel
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EAO-611: Would a statewide political party be able to use funds from corporations or labor organizations to pay a contractor's invoice when the contractor was hired to develop administrative tools and a hiring plan? (AOR-712).

SUMMARY

The political party may use funds from corporations or labor organizations to pay a contractor's invoice because the contractor provided normal administrative services.

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James Tinley
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EAO-612: Whether a judicial candidate needs to include on political advertising a disclosure regarding the candidate's acceptance or rejection of voluntary expenditure limits considering the voluntary expenditure limits have been repealed. (AOR-714).

SUMMARY

No. The law requiring a judicial candidate to disclose they have accepted or rejected the voluntary expenditure limits is no longer applicable because the expenditure limits have been repealed.

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James Tinley
General Counsel
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EAO-613: Whether Section 572.054(b) of the Government Code prohibits a former employee of a regulatory agency from receiving compensation for assisting cities and counties applying for and managing grants issued by the requestor's former state agency. (AOR-715).

SUMMARY

The Section 572.045(b) revolving door restriction does not apply to the requestor because the requestor will be providing services to only cities and counties.

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Questions on particular submissions should be addressed to the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2070, (512) 463-5800.

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