

# **Campaign Activity at the Polling Place**

## **(T.C.A. § 2-7-111)**

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### **1. WHERE DOES THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE END?**

- A. Generally - 100' from the entrances of the building in which the election is being held
- B. At the end of public property and at the beginning of private property over which the county election commission has no control

### **2. HOW MUST THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE BE DESIGNATED?**

- A. Signs marking the boundary line must be placed at the end of the required distance from the entrance of the building

### **3. WHAT ACTIVITY IS PROHIBITED IN THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE?**

- A. No campaign posters, signs or other campaign materials may be displayed
- B. No person may distribute campaign materials, or solicit votes for or against any person or political party or position on a question
- C. No person may solicit or collect for any cause
  - 1. Except - Shelby County
  - 2. Except - Normal activities that may occur at such polling place such as a church, school, grocery, etc.

### **4. WHAT ACTIVITY IS PERMITTED IN THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE?**

- A. An individual voter may bring a sample ballot or other campaign literature inside the boundary as long as the voter does not display the campaign literature to other voters.
- B. If the parking place of the polling place lies within the boundary, then a vehicle having campaign literature displayed on it may be parked within the boundary, only for as long as necessary for the occupant of the vehicle to vote. This does not include vans that transport multiple persons.

### **5. WHAT ACTIVITY IS PERMITTED OUTSIDE OF THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE?**

- A. Campaign workers may distribute campaign literature and other materials and may speak to voters regarding the candidates and issues.
- B. Candidate may be present and/or have signs in the area.
- C. Persons may solicit and collect for any legal cause.

**6. HOW DOES THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE APPLY TO COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION OFFICES LOCATED IN COURTHOUSES DURING EARLY VOTING?**

- A. Outside of the courthouse
  - 1. Signs marking the boundary line must be placed
- B. Inside the courthouse
  - 1. Incumbent candidates may not linger around the county election commission office any longer than necessary to vote
  - 2. Incumbent candidates may not be allowed to talk in the courthouse or in the campaign free zone to individuals who have come to vote
  - 3. Campaign literature must be removed

**7. WHO ENFORCES THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE?**

- A. Officer of elections at each polling location
- B. County election commission

**8. WHEN A VIOLATION OCCURS, TO WHAT EXTENT MAY THE COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION GO TO ENFORCE THE CAMPAIGN FREE ZONE?**

- A. Contact the police
- B. If deemed necessary, forward information to the district attorney for violation of *T.C.A. § 2-19-119*

**9. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PROPERTY OWNER DOES NOT WANT CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY ON ANY PART OF THE PROPERTY USED FOR THE POLLING PLACE?**

- A. The owner must be notified that the county election commission cannot prohibit campaign activity that occurs outside of the campaign free zone.
- B. If the owner refuses to allow campaign activity beyond the campaign free zone, the county election commission should relocate the polling place.