



SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

AUG 02 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION C

SUBJECT: Political Activities During the 2024 Election Cycle

- References: (a) DoDD 1344.10, *Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces*, 19 February 2008; DAFI 51-508, *Political Activities, Free Speech and Freedom of Assembly*, 24 March 2023
(b) The Hatch Act of 1939, 5 U.S.C. §§ 7321–7326; “Hatch Act Reminder,” SAF/GC Memo, 5 December 2023
(c) “Political Activities,” DepSecDef Memo, 15 February 2024

The history, tradition, and policy of the Department of the Air Force (DAF) requires all of its personnel to uphold the highest standards of nonpartisanship in the execution of our duties. Any perception that anyone in the DAF is acting with a partisan agenda undermines the very foundation of our democracy and our oath to support and defend the Constitution.

As the 2024 election season is already underway, it is imperative that all employees review and understand the guidance for political activities by uniformed Airmen, Guardians, and civilian employees at References (a) – (c). The Deputy Secretary of Defense also emphasized this in her message at Reference (c). This will maintain the DAF’s nonpartisan stance while honoring the individual rights of all DAF personnel to participate in the political process. My expectation is that all personnel will comply with these requirements, but in particular, no one will: wear their uniform at political events; use their authority or position to attempt to influence how others vote; or engage in political activities in the workplace, on government time, or while utilizing government equipment. These restrictions are not exhaustive, and your servicing legal offices are available to answer any questions or conduct more in-depth training on political activities.

I encourage all DAF personnel to exercise their rights as citizens to vote. At the same time, everyone should avoid any inference or appearance that their personal political activities imply DAF sponsorship, approval, or endorsement of a political candidate or, campaign. Doing so will preserve the hard-earned trust and confidence of the American people and our elected officials in our ability to execute our vital mission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Kendall", is positioned above the printed name.

Frank Kendall

cc:
AF/CC
SF/CSO