



New Mexico State Personnel Board

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TO: Cabinet Secretaries and Agency Heads

FROM: Eugene Moser,  Director

DATE: March 9, 2011

SUBJECT: Political Activities and State Equipment Use

State employees are reminded of the State's policies regarding political activities and State equipment use. As stated in the State Personnel Rules and Regulations (**Prohibited Political Activities, 1.7.6.10 NMAC**) State Employees are prohibited from:

- Using official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the results of an election or a nomination for office or for any political purpose;
- Directly or indirectly coercing, attempting to coerce, commanding, or advising a state or local officer or employee to pay, lend, or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency, or person for a political purpose;
- Threatening to deny promotions or pay increases to any employee who does not vote for certain candidates, requiring employees to contribute a percentage their pay to a political fund, influencing subordinate employees to buy tickets to political fund-raising dinners and similar events, advising employees to take part in political activity, and manners of a similar nature;
- Engaging in political activity while on duty; or
- Being an officer of a political organization.

In addition to the prohibited activity stated above, all State employees are required to comply with the **Governmental Conduct Act § 10-16-1, et. seq. NMSA 1978**. Specifically, the Act states that State employees shall not use the powers and resources of public office to obtain personal benefits or pursue private interests that are incompatible with the public interest. **§ 10-16-3, NMSA 1978**.

Information Technology, 1.12 NMAC and **Executive Order 2003-030** Executive Branch Information Technology Resources Policy states that, all state employees are prohibited from using state equipment such as computers and/or state e-mail system for any political activity.
