

# Campaign Signs and Campaign Boundaries

## Campaign Signs

The Williamson County Election Commission has no authority over the regulation of campaign signs with exception of the 100 foot campaign-free zone outside the entrance of a polling place (T.C.A. § 2-7-111). However, zoning ordinances and restrictions pertaining to political signs exist in the county as well as in the municipalities within Williamson County.

### Williamson County

- 1) Williamson County Sign Ordinance Section 8170 (D), Temporary Signs:  
No temporary signs of any type, other than non-commercial messages placed on behalf of a governmental entity, shall be located within or project into, any public road right-of-way within the unincorporated County (includes political signs).  
Political signs may be located on private property (with owner's permission) but are limited to a maximum of five (5) signs per parcel with a total square footage not to exceed 30 square feet and with no sign larger than 16 square feet.
  
- 2) Williamson County Commission Resolution 5-06-12 prohibits political signs from being placed on county property (except properties under the jurisdiction of the County Board of Education).  
(See County Attorney's Memorandum regarding County Commission Resolution 5-06-12 in this manual.)

### Municipalities

Please contact the respective municipal departments below for applicable zoning ordinances pertaining to political signs.

City of Brentwood Codes Compliance-615-371-2204

City of Fairview Codes Compliance-615-799-1585

City of Franklin Codes Compliance-615-794-7012

Town of Nolensville Codes Compliance-615-776-3633

Town of Spring Hill Codes Compliance-931-486-2252 (ext. 212)

Town of Thompson's Station Codes Compliance-615-794-4333

## **Campaign Boundaries (T.C.A. § 2-2-117)**

On Election Day and during early voting, there is a one hundred (100) foot campaign-free zone outside the entrance to the polling place. The boundary is measured from the entrances of the polling place; however, it may not exceed the property line of the polling place. Campaigning, distribution of campaign materials, or the wearing of articles of clothing of a political nature that are in support or in opposition to a candidate or issue (caps, t-shirts, hats, or buttons) are not allowed in this area as well.

The officer of elections at the Election Day polling place or any member of the staff of the election commission at an early voting site is responsible for the enforcement of this provision of the statute.

## **Removal of Campaign Materials (T.C.A. § 2-1-116)**

After the conclusion of a primary, general, or special election, candidates in such election shall be responsible for the removal of any signs, posters, or placards advocating their candidacy which has been placed on publicly owned property. The removal of such materials shall be accomplished within a reasonable period of time following the election, not to exceed three (3) weeks.

County Commission Resolution 5-06-12 (adopted July 12, 2006)

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Rogers Anderson, County Mayor

FROM: Jeff Moseley, County Attorney

DATE: October 18, 2006

This office has been requested to clarify the scope of the prohibition of signs on county property. Pursuant to resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Williamson County, signs are not permitted on county property. This includes signs for the purposes of political campaigns. Individuals may display political signs on personal vehicles parked on county property incident to conducting county business. County business means the conducting of personal business with a county official or office on the premises. This would include the act of voting, but would not include campaigning. In short, once the individual has voted then the vehicle and signs on the vehicle must be removed. If you have any further questions please free to contact us.