



EDWARD FITZGERALD
Cuyahoga County Executive

Executive Order No. EO2013-0002

Enforcement of Prohibition on Use of County Resources for Political Activity and Instructions for County Employees Running for Office

WHEREAS, a fundamental principle that inspired the creation of the new charter government of the County of Cuyahoga was and continues to be, the importance of maintaining transparency in our government and ensuring that taxpayers receive efficient and effective service from all County employees during hours of operation; and,

WHEREAS, classified employees are prohibited by State and County law from engaging in partisan political elections or holding partisan political office, and the Ohio Supreme Court has ruled that unclassified employees do not have a constitutional right to seek partisan elected office while holding public employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edward FitzGerald, County Executive of the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Charter of Cuyahoga County and the laws of the State of Ohio, do hereby order and direct that:

SECTION 1. No employees may use any County resources for purposes of furthering any partisan or non-partisan political campaign efforts, and no employees may engage in political campaigning, solicitation of political campaign contributions, campaign volunteering, or any other such political activity while they are clocked on County time.

SECTION 2. County employees in the classified civil service may not run for, campaign, solicit, or hold a partisan political position and work for the County. A classified County employee must resign immediately upon engaging in the aforementioned activities regarding partisan political office.

SECTION 3. All unclassified employees running for a partisan elected office shall be required to take an unpaid leave of absence for a minimum of 60 days prior to any election. Unclassified employees may not hold any elected or appointed partisan political office while employed by the County, and must resign immediately upon holding a partisan office.

SECTION 4. This Executive Order shall go into immediate effect upon my signature, and shall remain in force until rescinded by me or any of my successors.

I signed this Executive Order on May 28th, 2013, in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.


Edward FitzGerald, County Executive

Approved,


Majeed G. Makhoul, Director of Law