

Town of Essex Policy Regarding Nominations for Elected Office

As may be aware, each year, nomination papers become available for elected offices of the Town of Essex. It has come to our attention that persons may attempt to circulate such papers for signatures in Town buildings. Pursuant to the General Laws of the Commonwealth, and particularly G.L. c.268A, public employees may not engage in political activities (including the circulation or signing of nomination papers) during the hours in which they are working. Public resources, including paid staff time, facilities, supplies and equipment, and the tax dollars that fund such resources, are to be used for governmental purposes only.

For these reasons, during the hours in which they are working, Town employees may not sign nomination papers or circulate nomination papers for signatures. Further, even if an employee is in a Town building prior to or after working hours, or on a coffee or lunch break, an employee may not circulate or sign nomination papers in the non-public areas of said Town building (i.e., behind counters, or in other spaces not open generally to the public). Similarly, employees may not allow other persons circulating nomination papers to access non-public areas of any Town building.

Of course, the prohibitions outlined herein would not prohibit a municipal employee from engaging in political activity before or after the employee’s working hours or while the employee is on an official break.

If you should have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact Town Administrator Brendhan Zubricki at (978) 768-6531. Thank you.

EMPLOYEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

I have read and understand this policy. If questions arise in the future, I will consult my supervisor and/or the Town Administrator before taking action regarding the topics covered herein.

Printed Name

Date

Signature