

45th District Democrats of Washington

Conflict of Interest Policy

April 26, 2021

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance in identifying and handling potential and actual Conflicts of Interest involving the 45th District Democrats of Washington.

POLICY

Whenever an Executive Officer of the 45th District Democrats has a Conflict of Interest in any matter coming before the Body, the Executive Board shall ensure that:

- A. The Interest of such Officer is fully disclosed to the Membership.
- B. No Officer with such Interest may vote or lobby on the matter or be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at the meeting in which such matter is voted upon.
- C. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure and abstention.
- D. Deliberate failure to disclose such interest to the Executive Board shall constitute a violation of the Code of Conduct of the 45th District Democrats. When an Executive Officer becomes aware of the Conflict of Interest, the Chair shall be informed and refer the matter to the Code of Conduct Committee for investigation and to recommend a response.

DEFINITIONS

Executive Officer: A member of the 45th District Democrats Executive Board, including Committee Chairs.

Interest: A stake, share or involvement in an undertaking, a legal concern, title, or right in property, or a relationship (familial, friendship, or business).

Matter: Business or policy decisions under discussion by the 45th District Democrats, such as the endorsement of a candidate, a resolution concerning an issue, or a change in platform or values.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. I own a part interest in a construction company that has submitted an RFP for building construction with a local School District. I am also on the Endorsements Committee of the 45th District Democrats, and they will be endorsing for 4 School Board positions in that School District this year. If my firm is the successful bidder, my profits will be significant to my financial position.

A. You must immediately make the 45th District Democrats Executive Board and its Endorsements Committee Chair aware of your company's RFP. During the Endorsements Committee's deliberations period, you may not vote or lobby for the endorsement of any candidate running for these positions.

Q. I just landed a great job as part of the leadership team of one of our great 45th LD municipalities! All personnel in this jurisdiction are encouraged to freely engage in politics, and this is an election year for municipalities. I can't wait to apply all I have learned as a 45th Executive Officer toward electing great people for my employer's Board of Directors!

A. Congratulations on the position! You now have a Conflict of Interest. While employees in certain industries are encouraged to give feedback regarding prospective candidates who will eventually supervise them, the voting and taxpaying public is generally opposed to this practice, thus the 45th District Democrats have rules that are different from your employer. Please report to the 45th District Democrats Executive Board your new position, and you will be given instructions. If you are represented by a Union, you may freely join their campaign events and efforts.