



## Montgomery County Republican Party of Texas (MCRPTX)

### Policy for Use 2022 - 2024 Regarding Republican Organizations and Elected Officials

#### Digital Media Use Agreement

Includes requests for emails to be sent to our email list via [info@mctxgop.org](mailto:info@mctxgop.org), [mctxgop.org](http://mctxgop.org) website posts, and posts to our social media accounts.

#### I. Website and Social Media

- a. MCRPTX website, [MCTXGOP.ORG](http://MCTXGOP.ORG), may at the discretion of the CEC, include the name and a link to an organization's website on the MCRPTX website, [mctxgop.org](http://mctxgop.org).
- b. Organizations are required to complete and submit the form requesting to be listed on the Party's web page(s) and are required to agree with and support the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) Values statement and [MCTXGOP.ORG](http://MCTXGOP.ORG) Mission (Vision) Statement.
- c. Organizations listed are required to support Republican elected officials and issues as described by the MCRPTX and the RPT.
- d. Organizations may advocate for and/or support a candidate of their choice during the Primary season **as long as** the organization does not use unethical, dishonest, or deceptive practices to mislead voters to support or vote for one Republican candidate over another, i.e., leading the voter to believe that the voter guide or endorsement represents the support or endorsement of the Republican Party of Texas or the MCRPTX. Approved organizations will be noted as those that endorse Primary candidates vs. those that do not endorse during the Primary. If an organization is determined to use deceptive practices it will not be given access to any MCRPTX assets, including but not limited to the website, calendar, email, and/or social media.
- e. Organizations may be removed at any time at the discretion of the MCRPTX CEC from the website listing if it is determined that the organization violates this agreement. The organization will be notified of the decision and will be given the

opportunity to appeal the decision, however, at that point the decision of the CEC is final and may not be appealed.

## **II. Calendar**

- a. Officially recognized organizations may request their events be listed on the MCRPTX web-based calendar.
- b. Requests must be submitted using the form on the website at least **5** days prior to the requested listing date.

## **III. Email**

- a. Recognized organizations may request to have an event announced via an email to the MCRPTX email list.
- b. Requests must be submitted to the Communication Committee via the web page portal at least **7** days prior to requested release date.
- c. Message must be in a compatible format with the party's email.
- d. Message may not be contrary to MCRPTX rules and guidelines as described in Section I.
- e. Fees/charges
  - i. Recognized organizations may request no more than **2** (two) events per six-month period at no charge.
  - ii. Organizations requesting additional emails in a six-month period will be charged a fee of **\$50.00** per event email.
  - iii. Fees/charges may be waived only with the approval of the CEC during a regularly scheduled CEC meeting.
- f. Your content will be added to our next scheduled email. If we do not already have an email scheduled, we will send your information in its own email. Depending on the number of requests at any given time, an organization's request may be combined with another organization's request into one email. They will be listed in no specific order.

## **Email Use by Candidates and/or Elected Officials**

### **I. During Primary Season – Filing period through Run-off election**

- a) Candidate requirements
  - i) Candidate must be a Republican in good standing with the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) and the MCRPTX.
  - ii) Candidate must have successfully completed the filing process.
  - iii) Candidate must have declared the office for which he/she is running.
  - iv) Candidate must have declared a Treasurer for TEC filing purposes.

- v) Candidate must provide and maintain current contact information to the Secretary and the Treasurer of the MCRPTX CEC, i.e., mailing address, phone number, email address.
- b) Email submission request
  - i) Requests must be submitted to the Communication Committee via the website portal at least **7** days prior to release date.
  - ii) Request must be submitted with the complete message to be disseminated via email.
  - iii) Message must be in a compatible format with party's email.
  - iv) Message may not be contrary to MCRPTX values, purpose, By-laws, or Mission (Vision) Statement.
- c) Email Use Agreement
  - i) Candidates may submit no more than **1** campaign related email per calendar month for dissemination via MCRPTX email during primary season.
  - ii) Candidates may use this service at no charge to the candidate.
  - iii) MCRPTX will not accept requests for use beyond this agreement.
  - iv) Candidate requests will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis; however, **candidate requests are secondary to MCRPTX use.** If a candidate's email is delayed, the candidate will be notified, and the email will be sent at the next available date.
  - v) MCRPTX reserves the right to refuse to honor a candidate's request for use if it is found the content violates Republican Party of Texas and/or MCRPTX values, purpose, By-laws, or Mission (Vision) Statement. Such determination is at the discretion of the Steering Committee; however, the Steering Committee's decision may be appealed to the CEC whose decision is final.
- d) Content requirements
  - i) Email must include the candidate's name and office he/she is seeking.
  - ii) Email must adhere to all state and federal laws, rules, and regulations governing campaigns.
  - iii) Email must adhere to all RPT and MCRPTX messaging content as described in the bylaws of each body, i.e., candidate may not endorse one Republican over another Republican candidate, candidate may not verbally attack or abuse another candidate. This, however, does not exclude the candidate's ability to list or discuss another candidate's record, as long as it is true and verifiable.
  - iv) Candidates are expected to be respectful and honest in their communication with the voters.
  - v) Your content will be added to our next scheduled email. If we do not already have an email scheduled, we will send your information in its own email. Depending on the number of candidate requests, events and information may be combined into one email in no particular order.

## **II. During Election Season—Period following the Primary Run-off through final election run-off**

- a) Candidate requirements
  - i) Candidate must be the declared winner of the Republican Primary.
  - ii) All other requirements as outlined in Section Ia of this agreement are in effect.
- b) Email submission request
  - i) Same as Section Ib of this Agreement
- c) Content Requirements
  - i) See Section Id of this Agreement with the following change
    - (1) Candidates may submit no more than **2** campaign related email requests per month for dissemination via MCRPTX email during the election season.

### **Clarifications:**

1. Official website of MCRPTX is MCTXGOP.ORG