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LAURENS COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

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SOP# A-160

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SUBJECT:       **POLITICAL ACTIVITY**  
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INDEX AS:      **CONDUCT POLITICAL ACTIVITY**  
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EFFECTIVE DATE:   04/25/2005       REVISED DATE:  
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I.    PURPOSE:    To establish a policy for political activity by members of the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center

II.   SCOPE:     This policy applies to all employees of the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center.

III.  PROCEDURES:

A.    Department employees may participate in the same political activity as any other individual as long as they do not represent themselves as an agent of the county in the process or do so while actively engaged in the duties and responsibilities of their assigned positions.

Strictly prohibited is:

1.    The use of any official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the results of an election or a nomination for office.
2.    The direct or indirect coercion, attempt to coerce, command or advise a state or local officer or employee to pay, lend or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization agency or person for political purpose.  
These prohibitions include:

Activities such as threatening to deny promotion to any employee who does not vote for certain candidates.

Requiring employees to contribute a percentage of their pay to a political fund.

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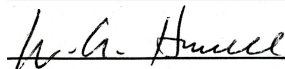
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Influencing subordinate employees to buy tickets to political fund-raising dinners and similar events. And matters of a similar nature.

3. Department employees are encouraged to exercise their individual rights and to participate in the fullest extent desired and legally possible.

B. Employees May:

1. Register and vote as they choose.
2. Assist in voter registration drives.
3. Express opinions about candidates and issues.
4. Contribute money to political organizations or attend political fund raising functions.
5. Attend political rallies and meetings.
6. Join political clubs or parties and hold office in same.
7. Sign nominating petitions.
8. Campaign for or against referendum questions.
9. Present themselves for candidates for public office.
10. Organize or manage political rallies or meetings in any club, organization or party.
11. Serve as poll officials, clerks or other workers in primary or election.



W. A. HARRELL  
SHERIFF

04/25/05

DATE