



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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To: Scout Executives

From: Stephen Medlicott
Marketing & Communications Division Director

Subject: Policy on Scout Participation in Political Events

Since we are in a presidential election year, it is a good time to restate the BSA's long-standing policy regarding the participation of Scouts in political rallies and other political events.

Uniformed unit members and leaders may participate in flag ceremonies at political events and may lead the Pledge of Allegiance; however, they should retire after the ceremony and not remain on the speakers' platform or in a conspicuous location where television viewers could construe their presence as an endorsement or symbol of support. In addition, photos of candidates or Scouts in uniform or BSA marks and logos are not allowed in political campaign materials of any kind.

Volunteers and professionals must be alert to situations that would imply that the BSA favors one candidate over another. Strict observance of our long-standing policy against the active participation of uniformed Scouts and leaders in political events is mandatory.

Please notify your chartered organizations and unit leaders of this policy. Questions on the interpretation of this policy may be referred to David K. Park, national legal counsel, or the Marketing & Communications Division at 972-580-2263.

cc: Office of the Chief Scout Executive
Regional directors
Group directors
Area directors
Division directors