



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION IV-A CALABARZON  
GATE 2, KARANGALAN VILLAGE  
1900 CAINTA, RIZAL



11 March 2022

**Regional Memorandum**

**REITERATING THE POLICIES ON ELECTIONEERING AND PARTISAN  
POLITICAL ACTIVITIES**

To **Schools Division Superintendents  
School Heads (Public Schools)  
All Others Concerned**

1. Attached are important guidelines and policies relative to electioneering and partisan political activities, as follows:
  - a. DepEd Order No. 048 s. 2018 entitled "Prohibition on Electioneering and Partisan Political Activity"
  - b. DepEd Memorandum No. 031, s. 2019 which enumerates the activities that constitute electioneering and partisan political activity during the campaign period
  - c. DepEd Order No. 57, s. 2005 entitled "On the Participation of Students in Partisan Political Activities"
2. Compliance with the above guidelines and policies is hereby enjoined.
3. Widest and immediate dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

  
**FRANCIS CESAR B. BRINGAS**  
Regional Director  


asd/agtp



**"EXCELLENCE is a CULTURE and QUALITY is a COMMITMENT"**

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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

14 MAR 2019

DepEd MEMORANDUM  
No. **031**, s. 2019

**ACTIVITIES THAT CONSTITUTE ELECTIONEERING AND PARTISAN  
POLITICAL ACTIVITY DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE MAY 13, 2019 NATIONAL  
AND LOCAL ELECTIONS**

To: Undersecretaries  
Assistant Secretaries  
Bureau and Service Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education has issued DepEd Order (DO) No. 048, s. 2018 on November 13, 2018 entitled **Prohibition on Electioneering and Partisan Political Activity**, which reminds all its officials, teaching and non-teaching personnel of the constitutional and statutory prohibitions not to engage in any electioneering and partisan political campaign and/or activities.
2. The prohibition against electioneering and partisan political activities aims to ensure that government workers will remain focused on the affairs of the government, do away with the spoils (patronage) system, and shield public servants from the vagaries of politics.
3. The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) has issued COMELEC Resolution No. 10488 entitled **Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9006** otherwise known as the Fair Elections Act, which provides for the holding of free, orderly, honest, peaceful, and credible elections through fair election practices.
4. This COMELEC resolution has set the Campaign Period for Senators and Party list candidates from **February 12, 2019 to May 11, 2019**; and campaign period for congressmen and local officials from **March 29, 2019 to May 11, 2019**.
5. In the light of the Campaign Period for the 2019 National and Local Elections, DepEd expressly reiterates the prohibition not to engage in any act that is designed to promote the election or defeat of a particular candidate or party to public office, in accordance with the 1987 Philippine Constitution, existing laws, rules and regulations, and jurisprudence.
6. The graduation ceremonies of public elementary and secondary schools scheduled on March-April 2019 coincide with the Campaign Period for both the national and local candidates/parties. In order to avoid the appearance of impropriety and protect DepEd officials and employees from possible administrative and criminal liabilities, all heads of public elementary and secondary schools are hereby advised not to invite national and local candidates and political parties to their respective graduation ceremonies.



7. Political neutrality shall be observed at all times and everyone is enjoined to make a unified stand that the schools are neutral zones. Thus, all requests addressed to DepEd officials and employees for them to participate in consultative assemblies and/or meetings, shall not be allowed. This also covers requests for the use of Public Schools as venues for the said meetings and/or consultations.

8. Noncompliance with this directive shall be dealt with in accordance with DO 49, s. 2006 entitled **Revised Rules of Procedure of the Department of Education in Administrative Cases**, the Revised Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service (RRACCS), the Omnibus Election Code, Republic Act No. 6713 entitled **Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees**.

9. This Memorandum is without prejudice to other circulars, advisories, or resolutions that may hereinafter be adopted by the Civil Service Commission, COMELEC and/or other concerned agencies.

10. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



**LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**

Secretary

References:

DepEd Order: (Nos. 048, s. 2018 and 49, s. 2006)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS AND OFFICES  
ELECTIONS  
EMPLOYEES  
OFFICIALS  
TEACHERS

POLICY  
PROHIBITIONS  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
SCHOOLS



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education



**Tanggapan ng Kalihim**  
Office of the Secretary


September 14, 2005

DepED ORDER  
No. 57, s. 2005

**ON THE PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS IN PARTISAN  
POLITICAL ACTIVITIES**

To: Regional Directors  
Schools Division/ City Superintendents  
Private Elementary and Secondary Schools Principals

1. School administrators and teachers from both the public and private schools are called to be steadfast in the performance of their duty to deliver quality education to their students.
2. As educators, we must protect education from the destructive partisan politics and stay away from partisan political activities that disrupt classes or endanger the safety of students and teachers.
3. This is not to curtail the exercise of the freedom of expression. Academic discussion of current national issues is encouraged as long as it is done within the confines of the classroom.
4. Partisan political rallies are not the proper means for objectively learning the issues as these activities expose elementary and high school students to unnecessary danger and risk.
5. School administrators are therefore urged to avoid the participation of elementary and high school students in partisan political activities during class hours so as not to disrupt classes.
6. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Order is enjoined.
7. For strict compliance.

  
FE A. HIDALGO  
Officer-in-Charge  
Undersecretary

References: DECS Order:: Nos. 73, s. 2000 and 7, s. 2001  
Allotment: 1-D.O. 50-97  
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

✓ OFFICIALS  
✓ STUDENTS  
✓ TEACHERS





Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

13 NOV 2018

DepEd ORDER  
No. 048 s. 2018

**PROHIBITION ON ELECTIONEERING AND PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY**

To: Undersecretaries  
Assistant Secretaries  
Regional Secretary, ARMM  
Bureau and Service Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) issues a reminder to all its officials, teaching and nonteaching personnel on the constitutional prohibition against electioneering and conduct of partisan political activity. Article IX-B, Section 2(b), paragraph 4 of the 1987 Constitution states that **no officer of employee in the civil service shall engage, directly or indirectly, in any electioneering or partisan political campaign.**

2. The Omnibus Election Code, as amended, prohibits government officials and employees from engaging in any electioneering and partisan political activity and considers the commission thereof as an election offense punishable by law. The same prohibition is found in Book V, Title I, Chapter 7, Section 55 of the Executive Order No. 292, or the **Administrative Code of 1987.**

3. An advisory on Electioneering and Partisan Political Activity issued through Civil Service Commission (CSC) Resolution No. 1600298 dated March 29, 2016 reiterates that the prohibition aims to ensure that government workers will remain focused on the affairs of the government, to do away with the spoils system, and to shield public servants from the vagaries of politics. Enclosed is a copy of the said CSC Resolution.

4. In accordance with existing rules and regulations promulgated by the CSC, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), and jurisprudence, the following are regarded as partisan political activities, which refer to acts designed to promote the election or defeat of a particular candidate or party to public office:

- a. Forming organizations, associations, clubs, committees, or other groups of persons for the purpose of soliciting votes and/or undertaking any campaign for or against a candidate/party;
- b. Holding political caucuses, conferences, meetings, rallies, parades, or other similar assemblies for the purpose of soliciting votes and/or undertaking any campaign for or against a candidate/party;
- c. Making speeches, announcements, or commentaries, or holding interviews for or against the election of any candidate or party for public office;

- d. Publishing, displaying, or distributing campaign literature, or materials designed to support or oppose the election of any candidate or party;
- e. Directly or indirectly soliciting votes, pledges, or support for or against a candidate or party;
- f. Being a delegate to any political convention, or a member of any political committee or directorate, or an officer of any political club or other similar political organizations;
- g. Receiving any contributions for political purposes, either directly or indirectly;
- h. Becoming publicly identified with the success or failure of any candidate/s or party/ies;
- i. Wearing of t-shirts or pins, caps or any other similar election paraphernalia bearing the names of the candidates or political party except as authorized by the Commission on Elections;
- j. Being a watcher for a political party or candidate during the election;
- k. Consistent presence in political rallies, caucuses of, and continuous companionship with certain political candidates and/or political party in said political activities, causing the employee to be closely identified with such candidate and/or political party;
- l. Giving personal, financial or other monetary contributions, supplies, equipment and materials for the benefit of a candidate and/or political party;
- m. Utilizing government resources such as personnel, including job order or contract of service hirees, time, and properties for political purposes;
- n. Distributing handbills/leaflets;
- o. Attendance at political meetings and caucuses; and
- p. Distribution of letters indicating intention to run for public office.

5. All DepEd officials (including third level officials), teaching and nonteaching personnel, are prohibited from engaging in any electioneering or partisan political activity, subject to the exclusion under paragraphs 12 and 14 of the attachment to the enclosed CSC Resolution.

6. DepEd officials are prohibited from using their position of authority to influence teaching and/or nonteaching personnel under their supervision or jurisdiction to support any preferred candidate or political party.

7. Any of the abovementioned prohibited act/s committed by DepEd official/personnel shall be dealt with in accordance with the DepEd Order No. 49, s. of 2006 (Revised Rules of Procedure of the Department of Education in Administrative Cases), the Revised Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service, the Omnibus Election Code.

8. This Order is without prejudice to other circulars, advisories, or resolutions that may hereinafter be adopted by the CSC, COMELEC, and/or other relevant agencies.

9. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed.

  
**LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**  
 Secretary



Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

N o n e

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS AND OFFICES  
ELECTIONS  
EMPLOYEES  
OFFICIALS  
TEACHERS  
POLICY  
RULES AND REGULATIONS



Re: **ADVISORY ON ELECTIONEERING  
AND PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY**

X-----X

Number: **1600298**

Promulgated: **29 MAR 2016**

### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that “no officer or employee in the civil service shall engage, directly or indirectly, in any electioneering or partisan political activity”;

**WHEREAS**, this constitutional injunction against electioneering and conduct of partisan political activity by civil servants is implemented by Executive Order No. 292 (or the Administrative Code of 1987), particularly Section 55, Chapter 7, Title I, Book V thereof, which provides:

*“Section 55. Political Activity. - No officer or employee in the Civil Service including members of the Armed Forces, shall engage directly or indirectly in any partisan political activity or take part in any election except to vote nor shall he use his official authority or influence to coerce the political activity of any other person or body. Nothing herein provided shall be understood to prevent any officer or employee from expressing his views on current political problems or issues, or from mentioning the names of candidates for public office whom he supports: Provided, That public officers and employees holding political offices may take part in political and electoral activities but it shall be unlawful for them to solicit contributions from their subordinates or subject them to any of the acts involving subordinates prohibited in the Election Code.”*

**WHEREAS**, the same prohibition is found in Republic Act No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991. Similarly, the Omnibus Election Code, as amended, echoes the ban against any electioneering and partisan political activity of government officials and employees, and considers the commission thereof as an election offense punishable by law;

**WHEREAS**, this prohibitory norm aims (1) to ensure that civil servants shall remain focused on the efficient administration of the affairs of the government; (2) to do away with the spoils system which is anathema to the meritocracy principle that is at the heart of the Philippine civil service system; and (3) to shield officers and employees from the vagaries of politics;

**Certified True Copy:**

**SEYMOUR R. PAJARES**  
Chief Personnel Specialist

*In a R.A.C.E. to Serve: Responsive, Accessible, Courteous and Efficient*



WHEREFORE, due to numerous inquiries about the governing rules and regulations concerning the ban on electioneering and partisan political activity in the wake of the forthcoming electoral exercise, and in keeping with the constitutional mandate to ensure a civil service insulated from political partisanship, the Civil Service Commission hereby resolves to adopt the attached "Joint COMELEC-CSC Advisory on Electioneering and Partisan Political Activity."

The Commission further resolves to cause the publication of said Joint Circular in a newspaper of general circulation to ensure its broadest dissemination.

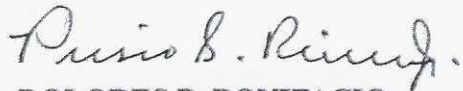
Quezon City.

  
ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA  
Chairperson


  
ROBERT S. MARTINEZ  
Commissioner

  
NIEVES L. OSORIO  
Commissioner

Attested by:

  
DOLORES B. BONIFACIO  
Director IV  
Commission Secretariat and Liaison Office

Certified True Copy:

  
SEYMOUR R. PAJARES  
Chief Personnel Specialist  
Commission Secretariat & Liaison Office



**COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS  
and  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

Joint Circular No. 001, Series of 2016

**TO :** All Officers and Employees of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, including Any of Its Agencies, Subdivisions, and Instrumentalities

**SUBJECT :** JOINT COMELEC-CSC ADVISORY ON ELECTIONEERING & PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

**DATE :** 29 MAR 2016

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**POLICY STATEMENT**

1. The Commission on Elections, an independent constitutional commission tasked to enforce and administer all laws and regulations relative to the conduct of Philippine elections, and the Civil Service Commission, an independent constitutional commission that serves as the central personnel agency of the Philippine Government, aim to accomplish the following:
- a) To ensure that members of the civil service and the armed forces shall remain focused on the efficient discharge of their duties and functions;
  - b) To do away with the "spoils system" which is anathema to the principles of meritocracy at the heart of the Philippine civil service system and military service; and
  - c) To shield officers and employees of the civil service and the armed forces from the vagaries of politics.

**PURPOSE**

2. This Joint Circular is issued to advise and remind all officers and employees of the Philippine Government, including any of its agencies, subdivisions, and instrumentalities, of the constitutional, statutory, and other regulatory prohibitions against engaging in any electioneering or partisan political activities.

*[Handwritten signature]*



## CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITIONS

3. Article IX(B), Section 2, Paragraph 4 of the 1987 Constitution provides that: "No officer or employee in the civil service shall engage, directly or indirectly, in any electioneering or partisan political campaign." (Emphases supplied)
4. Also, Article XVI, Section 5, Paragraph 3 of the 1987 Constitution provides that: "The armed forces shall be insulated from partisan politics. No member of the military shall engage, directly or indirectly, in any partisan political activity, except to vote." (Emphases supplied)

## STATUTORY PROHIBITIONS

5. Section 261(i) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 881, otherwise known as the Omnibus Election Code, penalizes as election offenses the electioneering and partisan political activities committed by members of the civil service and the military:

*"Intervention of public officers and employees. - Any officer or employee in the civil service, except those holding political offices; any officer, employee, or member of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, or any police force, special forces, home defense forces, barangay self-defense units and all other para-military units that now exist or which may hereafter be organized who, directly or indirectly, intervenes in any election campaign or engages in any partisan political activity, except to vote or to preserve public order, if he is a peace officer." (Emphases supplied)*

6. Book V, Title I(A), Chapter 8, Section 55 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, reiterates the said prohibition:

*"Political Activity. - No officer or employee in the Civil Service including members of the Armed Forces, shall engage directly or indirectly in any partisan political activity or take part in any election except to vote nor shall he use his official authority or influence to coerce the political activity of any other person or body. Nothing herein provided shall be understood to prevent any officer or employee from expressing his views on current political problems or issues, or from mentioning the names of candidates for public office whom he supports: Provided, That public officers and employees holding political offices may take part in political and electoral activities but it shall be unlawful for them to solicit contributions from their subordinates or subject them to any of the acts involving subordinates prohibited in the Election Code." (Emphases supplied)*

*Kusaka*

7. Section 93 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, also reiterates the prohibition:

*"Partisan Political Activity. – No local official or employee in the career civil service shall engage **directly or indirectly** in any partisan political activity or take part in any election, initiative, referendum, plebiscite, or recall, except to vote, nor shall he use his official authority or influence to cause the performance of any political activity by any person or body. He may, however, express his views on current issues, or mention the names of certain candidates for public office whom he supports. Elective local officials may take part in partisan political and electoral activities, but it shall be unlawful for them to solicit contributions from their subordinates or subject these subordinates to any of the prohibited acts under the Omnibus Election Code."* (Emphases supplied)

#### COVERED ACTIVITIES

8. In accordance with Section 1, Paragraph 4 of COMELEC Resolution No. 10049 (promulgated 01 February 2016),<sup>1</sup> an "election campaign" or "partisan political activity" refers to any act designed to promote the election or defeat of a particular candidate/s or party/ies to public office, which includes any of the following:
- a) Forming organizations, associations, clubs, committees, or other groups of persons for the purpose of soliciting votes and/or undertaking any campaign for or against a candidate/party;
  - b) Holding political caucuses, conferences, meetings, rallies, parades, or other similar assemblies for the purpose of soliciting votes and/or undertaking any campaign for or against a candidate/party;
  - c) Making speeches, announcements, or commentaries, or holding interviews for or against the election of any candidate or party for public office;
  - d) Publishing, displaying, or distributing campaign literature, or materials designed to support or oppose the election of any candidate or party;
  - e) Directly or indirectly soliciting votes, pledges, or support for or against any candidate or party;
9. CSC Memorandum Circular No. 30 (s. 2009),<sup>2</sup> citing CSC Memorandum Circular No. 40 (s. 1998),<sup>3</sup> adds the following acts to the abovementioned enumeration:

<sup>1</sup> Entitled: "Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9006, otherwise known as the Fair Elections Act, in connection with the 09 May 2016 National and Local Elections."

<sup>2</sup> Entitled: "Reminder to All Government Officials and Employees Holding Non-Political Offices/Positions of the Prohibitions from Engaging Directly or Indirectly in Any Partisan Political Activity."

<sup>3</sup> Entitled: "Revised Omnibus Rules on Appointments and Other Personnel Actions."





- a) Being a delegate to any political convention, or a member of any political committee or directorate, or an officer of any political club or other similar political organizations;
- b) Receiving any contributions for political purposes, either directly or indirectly; and
- c) Becoming publicly identified with the success or failure of any candidate/s or party/ies.

10. CSC Memorandum Circular No. 09 (s. 1992),<sup>4</sup> includes the following prohibited acts:

- a) Wearing of t-shirts or pins, caps or any other similar election paraphernalia bearing the names of the candidates or political party except as authorized by the Commission on Elections;
- b) Being a watcher for a political party or candidate during the election;
- c) Consistent presence in political rallies, caucuses of, and continuous companionship with certain political candidates and/or political party in said political activities, causing the employee to be closely identified with such candidate and/or with political party;
- d) Giving personal, financial or other monetary contribution, supplies, equipment and materials for the benefit of a candidate and/or political party;
- e) Utilizing government resources such as personnel including job orders or contract of service hirees, time and properties for political purposes.

11. The following acts are illustrative examples provided by jurisprudence:

- a) Distributing handbills/leaflets;<sup>5</sup>
- b) Attendance at political meetings and caucuses;<sup>6</sup>
- c) Distribution of letters indicating intention to run for public office;<sup>7</sup>

#### EXCLUDED ACTIVITIES

12. The following acts are deemed excluded from the coverage of electioneering and partisan political activity:

- a) Casting one's vote;<sup>8</sup>
- b) Expressing one's views on current political problems or issues;<sup>9</sup>
- c) Mentioning the names of candidates or parties whom one supports;<sup>10</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Entitled: "Specific Acts Which Public Officers and Employees in the Career and Non-Career Service Not Holding Political Offices Can Do and Not Do Relative to the Prohibition Against Electioneering in Addition To Those Prescribed in M.C. 2 Series of 1992."

<sup>5</sup> People vs. De Venecia, G.R. No. L-20808, 31 July 1965.

<sup>6</sup> Trinidad vs. Valle, A.M. No. 2258-CFL, 20 July 1981.

<sup>7</sup> Vistan vs. Nicolas, A.M. No. MTJ-87-79, 13 September 1991.

<sup>8</sup> Quinto vs. Commission on Elections, G.R. No. 189698, 22 February 2010.

<sup>9</sup> Id.

<sup>10</sup> Id. See also People vs. De Venecia, supra.

- d) Letters (a) to (e) of Paragraph 8 of this Joint Circular, when performed for the purpose of enhancing the chances of aspirants for nomination for candidacy to public office by a political party or coalition;<sup>11</sup>
- e) Public expressions, opinions, or discussions of probable issues in a forthcoming election, or on attributes of or criticisms against probable candidates to be nominated in a forthcoming political party convention;<sup>12</sup>
- f) Social media functions such as "liking," commenting, "sharing," re-posting, or following a candidate's or party's account,<sup>13</sup> unless these are resorted to as a means to solicit support for or against a candidate or party during the campaign period.

#### COVERED PERSONS

13. The following are persons prohibited from engaging in any electioneering or partisan political activities:

- a) Members of the Civil Service in all branches, subdivisions, instrumentalities, and agencies of the Philippine Government, including government-owned-or-controlled corporations with original charters, and state universities and colleges, whether their appointments are permanent, temporary, contractual, or even casual;
- b) Career officers holding political offices in an acting or officer-in-charge (OIC) capacity; and
- c) Uniformed and active members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police.

An employee on leave of absence is still covered by the prohibition on electioneering or partisan political activities.

#### EXCLUDED PERSONS

14. The following are persons excluded from the coverage of the prohibition against engaging in any electioneering or partisan political activities, for as long as they do not solicit contributions from their subordinates or subject them to any of the acts prohibited in the Omnibus Election Code:<sup>14</sup>

- a) The President and Vice President;
- b) Members of the Cabinet;<sup>15</sup>
- c) Other elective public officials<sup>16</sup> except barangay officials;
- d) Personal and confidential staff of the abovementioned officials;

<sup>11</sup> Omnibus Election Code, Section 79. See also *Señeres vs. Commission on Elections*, G.R. No. 178678, 16 April 2009.

<sup>12</sup> Id.

<sup>13</sup> See *Disini vs. Secretary of Justice*, G.R. No. 203335, 11 February 2014.

<sup>14</sup> See CSC Memorandum Circular No. 2 (s. 1992).

<sup>15</sup> *Santos vs. Yatco*, G.R. No. L-16133, 06 November 1959.

<sup>16</sup> *Quinto vs. Commission on Elections*, supra.

*Aurora*



- e) Members of the reserve corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.<sup>17</sup>

#### COVERED PERIOD

15. With reference to COMELEC Resolution No. 9981 (promulgated on 18 August 2015), as amended, the campaign periods vis-à-vis the 09 May 2016 National and Local Elections are as follows:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| For President, Vice President, Senators,<br>and Party-List Groups | 09 February 2016 to 07 May 2016 <sup>18</sup><br>(90 days before Election Day) |
| For District Representatives and Local<br>Elective Positions      | 25 March 2016 <sup>19</sup> to 07 May 2016<br>(45 days before Election Day)    |

16. Section 80 of the Omnibus Election Code, which has not yet been repealed,<sup>20</sup> provides that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person, whether or not a voter or candidate, or for any party, or association of persons, to engage in an election campaign or partisan political activity except during the campaign period: *Provided*, That political parties may hold political conventions or meetings to nominate their official candidates within thirty days before the commencement of the campaign period and forty-five days for Presidential and Vice-Presidential election." (Emphases and underscore supplied)
17. Further, the last paragraph of Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7166 provides that "[a]ny election campaign or partisan political activity for or against any candidate outside of the campaign period herein provided is prohibited and shall be considered as an election offense punishable under Section 263 and 264 of the Omnibus Election Code."

#### IMPOSABLE PENALTIES

18. Engaging directly or indirectly in partisan political activities by members of the Civil Service is a less grave offense punishable by suspension of one (1) month and one (1) day suspension to six (6) months for the first (1<sup>st</sup>) offense, and dismissal from the service for the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) offense, under Section 46(D) (10), Rule 10 of CSC Resolution No. 1101502 dated 8 November 2011, otherwise known as the Revised Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service.

<sup>17</sup> Cailles vs. Bonifacio, G.R. No. L-45937, 25 February 1938.

<sup>18</sup> Please note that Section 3 of COMELEC Resolution No. 10049 (promulgated 01 February 2016) prohibits all forms of campaigning on the day before Election Day and Election Day itself.

<sup>19</sup> Please note that Section 3 of COMELEC Resolution No. 10049 also prohibits all forms of campaigning on 25 March 2016, which is Good Friday.

<sup>20</sup> Penera vs. Commission on Elections, G.R. No. 181613, 11 September 2009. Here, the Supreme Court held that Section 13 of Republic Act No. 9369 did not repeal Section 80 of the Omnibus Election Code.

*[Signature]*


- a) Suspension for one (1) day or more shall be considered a gap in the continuity of service. During the period of suspension, respondent shall not be entitled to all monetary benefits, including leave credits.<sup>21</sup>
  - b) The penalty of suspension shall carry with it disqualification from promotion corresponding to the period of suspension.<sup>22</sup>
  - c) The penalty of dismissal shall result in the permanent separation of the respondent from the service, without prejudice to criminal or civil liability.<sup>23</sup>
  - d) The penalty of dismissal shall carry with it cancellation of eligibility, forfeiture of retirement benefits, perpetual disqualification from holding public office, and bar from taking civil service examinations.<sup>24</sup>
19. To reiterate, Section 261(i) of the Omnibus Election Code penalizes as election offenses the electioneering and partisan political activities committed by members of the civil service and the military. Section 264 provides that "[a]ny person found guilty of any election offense under this Code shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than one year but not more than six years and shall not be subject to probation. In addition, the guilty party shall be sentenced to suffer disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage."
20. Erring officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines may be disciplined before the appropriate courts-martial under Commonwealth Act No. 408, as amended, otherwise known as the Articles of War.

#### INTERNAL POLICIES

21. This Joint Circular is without prejudice to internal policies that have been adopted or may hereinafter be adopted by all covered agencies insofar as they are not inconsistent herewith.

#### EFFECTIVITY

22. This Joint Circular shall take effect immediately.

  
J. ANDRES D. BAUTISTA  
Chairperson  
Commission on Elections

  
ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA  
Chairperson  
Civil Service Commission

<sup>21</sup> Revised Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service, Rule 10, Section 51(c), Paragraph 2.  
<sup>22</sup> Id., Section 52(c).  
<sup>23</sup> Id., Section 51(a).  
<sup>24</sup> Id., Section 52(a).