

Colorado Democratic Party Jurisdictional Neutrality

1. General Requirement

All party officials shall remain neutral in primary races in their jurisdiction(s) and/or in elections where they are involved in the planning and/or conduct of the elections that determine the eventual winners, including Assemblies, Conventions and vacancy committees. Party officers may not use their party title in any endorsements or actions that could be interpreted as an endorsement.

2. Definition

Neutrality in races contested by more than one Democrat is defined as making no endorsements, financial contributions, volunteering or employment on behalf of any candidate once there is more than one candidate contesting a race. Support for candidates prior to a contested race is *not* considered a violation of neutrality after the fact of a contested race, but may not continue once a contested race exists. In this spirit of neutrality, officials and volunteers should also make an effort to treat all Democrats equally when granting time to speak, or when mentioning them in speeches, including invitations to physical or virtual events, and social media postings.

3. Requirements by Jurisdiction

3.1 Statewide Party Officials

Officials, including State Party and Initiative Officers, shall maintain strict neutrality as defined above in all races contested by more than one Democrat Statewide, including all races for elected positions in or representing Colorado, and races for President.

3.2 Congressional Party Officials

For Congressional District Officials, this requires strict neutrality as defined above in all races contested by more than one Democrat within the Congressional District, including all races for elected positions in or representing their District, Statewide Offices, Senators, and President of the United States.

3.3 County Party Officials

County Officials shall maintain strict neutrality as defined above in all races contested within their county by more than one Democrat, including all races for elected positions in or representing that county, and races for statewide offices (State Board of Education, CU Regent, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Lieutenant Governor, Governor) and national races (Congress, Senate, and President).

3.4. Colorado House, Senate, or Judicial District Party Officials

Colorado House, Senate, and Judicial District Officials shall maintain strict neutrality in all races contested by more than one Democrat within the House, Senate District or Judicial District, including all races for elected positions in or representing their District.

3.5. Executive and Central Committee Members

All Executive and Central Committee members at all levels of the Party, shall support the nominee of the Party, with the exception that financial support not be required under the prohibition against assessments.

3.6. Precinct Committee People (Precinct Organizers)

Precinct Committee People (Precinct Organizers) are NOT bound by this neutrality policy, save that they may not make endorsements on behalf of any candidate using their title as a Precinct Committee Person (Precinct Organizer).

3.7 Volunteers

Volunteers who assist in the planning or conduct of elections must maintain strict neutrality as defined above in keeping with the jurisdiction from the moment they volunteer until the moment their volunteer activity is concluded. Volunteers may not engage in campaigning for any candidate while volunteering to plan or conduct elections and may not wear t-shirts or stickers, or wave signs for any one candidate. It is the responsibility of the appropriate party officials to inform volunteers of this requirement before an individual agrees to volunteer. Failure to do so violates neutrality on the part of the responsible party officials. In other circumstances, volunteers are free to support or endorse their preferred candidates.

4. Violations

Violations of this neutrality policy may be addressed using the Controversy Process set forth in CDP Rules (5.1)