

## Endorsement, Fundraising, and Solicitation

Source	Ethics-related Issue
<p><b>USDA Employee Responsibilities and Conduct, Departmental Regulation 4070-735-001</b></p>	<p><b>Conduct and Responsibilities of Employees</b> - Canvassing for sales, or selling, any article (including, but not limited to, candy or other items for schools or charities; kitchenware or other home furnishings; paper products; cosmetics; or any other items whatsoever) in person, or by distributing or posting literature, advertising matter, or any other graphic matter, in or on Government-owned or leased property, or property occupied by the Department, is prohibited.</p>
<p><b>5 CFR § 2635.702(c)</b></p>	<p><b>Endorsements</b> - Employees may not use or permit the use of their Government position or title or any authority associated with their public office to endorse any product, service or enterprise.</p> <p><u>Exceptions</u> - Employee endorsements may be permitted when they are: (1) authorized by law; or (2) as a result of documentation of compliance with agency requirements or standards or as a result of recognition for achievement given under an agency program of recognition for accomplishment in support of the Agency's mission.</p>
<p><b>5 CFR § 2635.808</b></p> <p><b>5 CFR Part 950</b></p>	<p><b>Fundraising Activities</b> - Unless permitted by law, Federal employees may not engage in any form of fundraising activities. This includes, but is not limited to, conducting raffles, lotteries, bake sales, carnivals, athletic events, etc. Employees may engage in fundraising activities as a private citizen, provided they do not use their official title or position while participating in the activities. Unless permitted by law, fundraising activities may not be conducted in facilities or property administered or leased by the Government.</p> <p>Absent statute, Executive Order, regulation, or Office of Personnel Management (OPM) approval, you may not engage in official fundraising outside the <b>Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)</b>. No other fundraising drive may be conducted without the authority of the Director, Office of Personnel Management (OPM) through your personnel office.</p> <p><u>Exclusions</u> - Fundraising may be conducted outside the CFC in the following instances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Emergencies &amp; Disasters (with OPM approval);</li> <li>(2) Solicitation of Employees for the Benefit of Employees (through agency approved employee organizations); or</li> <li>(3) Child Care Centers located at Federal installations (without prior authorization from OPM).</li> </ul>
<p><b>REE P&amp;P 240.3, Physical Protection, Security, and Conduct while on REE Facilities</b></p>	<p><b>Conduct on Federal Property</b> - Soliciting money for charity, commercial or political soliciting, vending of all kinds, displaying or distributing commercial advertising, or collecting private debts on REE controlled property is prohibited. Exceptions are listed in the P&amp;P.</p>

March 2008