

EL DORADO COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Article XX. Political Policy Statement

Political Policy & Actions Position Statement

EDCFSC bylaws direct us to not take any direct action to influence the election of a candidate for public office. Our bylaws do not directly prohibit us from taking a position on a particular subject, but we take the position and advise to not get associated with a divisive issue that could produce repercussions for the EDCFSC or your community council. An example of such an issue would be a tax measure or other issue where controversy was likely and resident support split.

Bylaw Section 3.02 Influencing Legislation: *No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of lobbying or propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except as provided in the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(h); the corporation shall not participate nor intervene in (including publishing or distributing statement(s)) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.*

In the event the issue is not a candidate for office, but other legislative measures, there are other issues to consider as well. We directly reference responsibilities of Directors and Community Councils to Article III of the Bylaws which individuals and councils have agreed by membership and where actions detrimental to the EDCFSC are addressed;

Section 3.01 Code of Ethics: *The EDCFSC is dedicated to its mission statement. Board members, agents, contractors and volunteers are dedicated to mutually assisting in the pursuit of this mission.*

(b) These individuals will never misrepresent their employment, intentions or professional affiliations.

(c) These individuals will refrain from even the appearance of impropriety detrimental to the EDCFSC.

(d) These individuals will use their best efforts to support the integrity and competence of the EDCFSC.

Section 3.06 Self-Dealing *The Corporation shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 4941 (d) or in corresponding provisions of any later adopted Federal tax law.*

As any actions /communications that you or your council would take would be with the approval of your Board of Directors, you are also responsible for the commitment of board members in the Board Member Agreement;

5. To oversee that the EDCFSC operates within legal and ethical guidelines.

6. To promote the interests of the EDCFSC and to enhance its standing in the community wherever possible.

9. To adhere to a code of conduct such that the EDCFSC would never be harmed by association.

Certificate Regarding Lobbying

Some grants require a Certification Regarding Lobbying where we as the fiscal sponsor must declare that no funds (grant, federal or other) are spent to influence or attempt to influence the awarding of any federal contract or cooperative agreement under potential of civil penalty. EDCFSC has elected to avoid any such situation by clearly avoiding all actions, situations and circumstances that could lead to an accusation of impropriety.

In general, it is the perspective of the EDCFSC to in all situations, avoid being Politically Labelled. When a position is to be taken that reflects on the EDCFSC, a Board poll shall be conducted in order to form a

majority consensus prior to announcing any official position. Unapproved use / representation of the EDCFSC name is strictly prohibited.

In the event of unusual circumstances, need clarifications or have questions, you are directed to inquire with the current EDCFSC Chairperson and / or Executive Board.