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Sign Ordinance – City of Central – Political Signs

Dear Political Candidate:

This letter is to inform you of the regulations regarding political signs within the City of Central. We ask that you adhere to the following rules:

In a Commercial / Business Zoned Area:

16.3 (G) Political Signs

A political sign may be erected only on private property with the consent of the owner and located at least five (5) feet behind the public right of way. The sign may be installed no more than one hundred-eighty (180) days prior to the date of the election and shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election. A political sign permitted under Section 16.3 may not exceed twenty (20) square feet in area and may not exceed a height of six (6) feet. Signs not removed within the seven (7) days may be removed by the Sign Official at a cost of \$25 per sign.

In a Residential / Rural Zoned Area:

16.6 (11). Political signs in residential areas are limited in size and structure to a height of four (4) feet and total sign face area not to exceed eighteen (18) square feet. Such signs shall be permitted only on private property with the consent of the owner and located no less than five (5) feet behind the public right of way. Such signs shall be permitted for no longer than one hundred-eighty (180) days prior to the date of the election. Signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election. Signs not removed within the seven (7) days may be removed by the Sign Official at a cost of \$25 per sign.

All political candidates who wish to display signs within the city limits of Central are required to pay a one-time \$25 sign registration fee to display an unlimited number of political signs. Our permit office is located at 22801 Greenwell Springs Rd, Ste 3 (at the corner of Hooper Rd. and Greenwell Springs Rd.).

Any political candidate who wishes to display signs outside of the city limits of Central should contact the City-Parish Department of Public Works at 389-3090 to obtain their permitting procedures and fees.

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Additionally, signs are prohibited in the following locations:

Signs on public property, neutral grounds, and rights-of-way, other than those erected at the direction of and with the permission of a public authority having jurisdiction. Any such sign shall be considered “litter” and may be removed by any person and disposed of immediately. No notice is required to be given to the owner of the sign before removal of the sign or issuance of a citation.

The tacking, painting, posting, or affixing of signs, posters or advertising devices of any kind on trees, fences, rocks, utility poles, regulation traffic signs, and other such structures is hereby prohibited.

Candidates of signs in violation of this section may be fined up to \$250 per day.

A common question that is asked is, “Where does the public right-of-way end on the side of the road?” There are a few safe ways to make sure your signs aren’t in the right of way on the side of the road:

- 1) If you see telephone poles, make sure your signs are not between the telephone poles and the roadway. Place your signs at least 5 feet behind the telephone poles.
- 2) If there is an open ditch, make sure your signs are not located between the ditch and the roadway. Place your signs at least 5 feet behind the ditch.
- 3) If the roadway has no ditch on the side, make sure your signs are at least 15 feet from the edge of the street and behind any telephone poles.

We wish you the best of luck in your campaign and thank you for your cooperation in keeping our city clean during the campaign season.

Yours truly,

David Barrow
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
City of Central