



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003-4733



CAMPAIGN POSTER REGULATIONS

(Taken from Title 24 (Public Space and Safety), Chapter 1 (Occupation and Use of Public Space) of the D.C. Municipal Regulations)

108 SIGNS, POSTERS, AND PLACARDS

- 108.1 No person shall affix a sign, advertisement, or poster to any public lamppost or appurtenances of a lamppost, except as provided in accordance with this section.
- 108.2 [REPEALED.]
- 108.3 No poster or placard shall be publicly displayed or exhibited if it is lewd, indecent, or vulgar, or if it pictorially represents the commission of or the attempt to commit any crime.
- 108.4 Any sign, advertisement, or poster that does not relate to the sale of goods or services may be affixed on public lampposts or appurtenances of a lamppost, subject to the restrictions set forth in this section.
- 108.5 A sign, advertisement, or poster shall be affixed for no more than one hundred eighty (180) days.
- 108.6 A sign, advertisement, or poster related to a specific event shall be removed no later than thirty (30) days following the event to which it is related. This subsection does not extend the time limit in subsection 108.5.
- 108.7 Each sign, advertisement, or poster shall contain the date upon which it was initially affixed to a lamppost.
- 108.8 Each sign, advertisement, or poster shall be affixed securely to avoid being torn or disengaged by normal weather conditions.
- 108.9 Signs, advertisements, and posters shall not be affixed by adhesives that prevent their complete removal from the fixture, or that do damage to the fixture.
- 108.10 No more than three (3) versions or copies of each sign, advertisement, or poster shall be affixed on one (1) side of a street within one (1) block.
- 108.11 Within twenty-four (24) hours of posting each sign, advertisement, or poster, two (2) copies of the material shall be filed with an agent of the District of Columbia so designated by the Mayor*. The filing shall include the name,

* Note: At this time, no designated agent has been appointed.

address, and telephone number of the originator of the sign, advertisement, or poster, and if the sign is for an event, the date of the event.

- 108.12 For purposes of this section, a "public lamppost" is any public post erected for the purpose of supporting electric wires.
- 108.13 For purposes of this section, the term "event" refers to an occurrence, happening, activity or series of activities, specific to an identifiable time and place, if referenced on the poster itself or reasonably determined from all circumstances by the inspector.
- 108.14 It shall be unlawful to display material on any tree or in any tree box space on public space except where such a display is necessary to serve a government function, such as Emergency No Parking or Reserved Parking signs.
- 108.15 Notwithstanding subsection 108.14, no government-issued temporary road work signs may be displayed on any tree or in any tree box space on public space.
- 108.16 Any sign displayed on a tree in accordance with § 108.14 shall be affixed in a manner that does not puncture, strip, or otherwise harm the bark of the tree. Nailing, stapling, tacking, pasting, or similarly affixing a sign to a tree on public space is prohibited. The use of flagging ribbon or tape is permissible.

(Taken from Title 1 (Government Organizations), Chapter 10 (Election), Subchapter 1 (Regulation of Elections) of the D.C. Code)

D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.14(b-1)

- (1) A person who, before the date that is 4 days after an election, referendum, initiative, or recall, intentionally removes, defaces, damages, or destroys any lawfully placed billboard, poster, sign, or other material relating to any candidate for election for any office or to a referendum, initiative, or recall, shall be subject to imposition of civil fines, penalties, and fees for a civil infraction pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 2 [§ 2-1801.01 et seq.].
- (2) A person who violates paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be fined not more than \$100.
- (3) This subsection shall not apply to:
- (A) The candidate for election;
 - (B) A sponsor of a referendum, initiative, or recall;
 - (C) The owner of the material;
 - (D) The owner of the premises where the material is located;
 - (E) Persons authorized and acting on behalf of the owner of the material or the premises; or
 - (F) Any person charged with enforcement of any law of the District of Columbia acting within the scope of the person's authority.