



Florida Department of Transportation

CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS
SECRETARY

November 23, 2009

Notice to candidates for election to offices in the State of Florida

We would like to remind you of State law regarding political campaign signs:

- (1) Signs placed on the State rights of way – Political campaign signs may not be placed in the right of way of any state or national highway (Chapter 479.11(8), Florida Statutes). Through a joint effort of the Florida Department of Transportation and the Florida Highway Patrol, a brochure explaining that the unauthorized use of the public rights of way is prohibited by Florida law and further outlining why the right of way is regulated and how to know the location of the right of way line is available through our office or from your local Supervisor of Election. We recommend this brochure be given to your campaign volunteers.
- (2) Signs placed on private property – Temporary political campaign signs may be placed on private property with the permission of the owner, and such signs do not require a permit under state law.

Please advise your campaign workers to ensure that signs are placed on private property. Signs placed on the State rights of way must be picked up by Department staff and placed in one of the Department's maintenance yards. We will make every effort to place a courtesy call to your campaign office advising of sign removal and the location of the maintenance yard where the signs have been stored, because we know your campaign signage is expensive.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact the Department's Outdoor Advertising Office in Tallahassee at (850) 414-4545. If you would like copies of the encroachment brochure, please e-mail your address and quantity needed to juanice.hagan@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

John L. Garner, Director
Office of Right of Way

KMT:jh

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