

WHITING FORENSIC HOSPITAL OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE MANUAL

SECTION II:	ORGANIZATION FOCUSED FUNCTIONS
CHAPTER 8:	Management of Human Resources
PROCEDURE 8.23:	Political Activity
Governing Body Approval:	April 29, 2018
REVISED:	

PURPOSE: This policy addresses the standards of participation in political activity for classified employees, which includes all Whiting Forensic Hospital (WFH) employees as well as employees on leaves of absence.

POLICY:

Connecticut General Statute Section 5-266a concerning political activities of classified state employees and Judicial Department employees states:

- a. No person employed in the classified state service may (1) use his/her official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with nomination for office; (2) directly or indirectly coerce, attempt to coerce, command, or advise a state or local officer or employee to pay, lend or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes.
- b. A person employed in said classified state service retains the right to vote as he/she chooses and to express his opinions on political subjects and candidates and shall be free to participate actively in political management and campaigns. Such activity may include, but shall not be limited to, membership and holding of office in a political party, organization or club; campaigning for a candidate in a partisan election by making speeches, writing on behalf of the candidate, or soliciting votes in support of or in opposition to a candidate and making contributions of time and money to political parties, committees, or other agencies engaged in political action. No classified employee shall engage in such activity while on duty or within any period of time during which such employee is expected to perform services for which he/she receives compensation from the state, and no such employee shall utilize state funds, supplies, vehicles, or facilities to secure support for or oppose any candidate, party, or issue in a

political partisan election. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, any person employed in the classified state service may be a candidate for a state or municipal office in any political partisan election except where prohibited by local charter or ordinance. No person seeking or holding municipal office or seeking state office in accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall engage in political activity or in the performance of such office while on state duty or within any period of time during which such person is expected to perform services for which such person receives compensation from the State. The State Ethics Commission shall establish by regulation definitions of conflict of interest which shall preclude persons in the classified state service from holding elective office.