

Secretary

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528



Homeland  
Security

January 20, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL NON-CAREER DHS EMPLOYEES

FROM: Benjamine C. Huffman  
Acting Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Huffman", is written over the printed name and title.

SUBJECT: Restrictions on Political Activities of Non-Career Employees

A November 21, 2007 DHS memorandum issued by Secretary Michael Chertoff imposes “additional restrictions on political activities” for non-career DHS employees. These restrictions go beyond what is required by statute or regulation and were issued “[a]s a matter of DHS policy.”

Effective immediately, the November 21, 2007 memorandum, Restrictions on Political Activities of Non-Career Employees, is rescinded. I have full faith in Congress and the rulemaking process to set appropriate limitations on political activities. Any additional restrictions, as a matter of DHS policy, are not appropriate, especially in light of the important civic and First Amendment issues at stake. All DHS staff will be held to the same professional standards and security protocols as those required by other national security agencies. It is essential that our staff maintain integrity, accountability, and operational security to ensure the safety and success of our mission.