

*District 3830
Executive Committee*

**To : ALL CLUBS, ALL ROTARIANS, ALL CANDIDATES
FOR RI ELECTIVE OFFICE, DISTRICT 3830
From : DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL
Subject : CAMPAIGNING, CANVASSING AND
ELECTIONEERING**

*Ed 'Boyet' Limon
District Governor*

02 February 2009

*Rene Aguirre
District Secretary*

*Fritz Ocampo
District Treasurer*

*Alex Yague
SAG – Operations*

*Ed Alvarez
SAG – Membership*

*Joji Tan
SAG- Service Projects
Club, International & Youth*

*Edna Sutter
SAG- Service Projects
Community & Vocational*

*PDG Tony Quila
Chairman – TRF*

*PDG Sonny Coloma
District Trainer
Rotary Academy*

*Sally Tongson
SAG & Exec Director
Rotary Academy & Awards*

*Chochit Tobias
SAG-Public Relations*

*Fred Sarabia
SAG – Ways & Means*

Colleagues in Rotary:

Early this year, the governor formally announced to the district Article 10.060.1 of the Bylaws of Rotary International. It is a singular article that directly governs Rotarian behavior during the DGN selection process, and it commands as follows:

In order that the best qualified Rotarians shall be selected for service in RI's elective offices, any effort to influence the selection process for an elective office in a positive or negative manner by campaigning, canvassing, electioneering or otherwise is prohibited. Rotarians shall not campaign, canvass, or electioneer for elective position in RI, or allow any such activity, either on their behalf or on behalf of another. No brochures, literature, letters, or other materials, including electronic media and communications, may be distributed or circulated by Rotarians or on their behalf to any clubs or members of clubs except as may be expressly authorized by the board. Where candidates become aware of any prohibited activities having been undertaken on their behalf, they shall immediately express their disapproval to those so engaged and shall instruct them to terminate such activity.

In a fairly recent landmark policy statement issued out of a meeting in February 2007 (Decision No. 149), the Board of Directors of Rotary International defined in detail the rules enforcing the foregoing Bylaws provision. This policy statement, codified as Section 26.100.5 of the 2009 Revised RI Code of Policies and entitled "Rules Regarding Campaigning, Canvassing and Electioneering" reads as follows:

It is a fundamental principle in Rotary that the best qualified candidate should be selected for service in Rotary's elective offices. Therefore, any effort to influence the selection process in a positive or negative manner by campaigning, canvassing, electioneering or otherwise is prohibited under the RI Bylaws. The following rules shall be

followed concerning campaigning, canvassing and electioneering for any Rotarian considering election to the office of president, director, Governor, or representative to the Council on Legislation, or the nominating committee for any such office. These rules are designed to ensure that the best qualified candidate is selected for office:

1) Rotarians should at all times conform to the prohibitions of the RI Bylaws concerning campaigning, canvassing or electioneering. All Rotarians should observe both the letter and the spirit of the bylaws and refrain from any activity whose purpose or effect is to influence others by promoting or soliciting support for a candidate's or another Rotarian's candidacy. Such activity is repugnant to the spirit of the bylaws and the principles of Rotary and will be grounds for disqualification of a candidate.

2) Campaigning, canvassing or electioneering is any action seeking to promote, attack, support, or oppose a candidate, either directly or indirectly, in any medium, including, but not limited to, any action seeking votes, requesting support in a forthcoming election, distribution of literature or promotional materials or other overt actions intended to promote one's candidacy for an elected Rotary office.

3) The periods of candidacy for elective office begin when individual Rotarians begin to give serious consideration to submitting their names for a position covered by the RI rules for nominations and elections. Commencing at that time, candidates should be particularly careful to avoid any actions designed to publicize their names or achievements, to call attention to the applicable nominations or elections, or to give candidates an unfair advantage over other candidates for the same position.

4) The normal performance of duly-assigned Rotary activities would not be considered to be a violation of the policies related to campaigning, canvassing or electioneering.

5) Should a candidate become aware of any campaigning or electioneering activities which are undertaken on the candidate's behalf, the candidate shall immediately and in writing express disapproval to all concerned and instruct them to terminate such activity.

6) Contacting clubs to inform them to request their concurrence for a proposed challenge or election complaint is not prohibited provided that such contact is limited to the exchange of factual information.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



EDGARDO 'Boyet' LIMON
District Governor
RY 2008-2009

The governor urges all Rotarians and their clubs in the district, beginning with his district officers and Real Good Presidents, and including the candidates for DGN and their supporters, to comport themselves strictly in accordance with the foregoing RI rules and guidelines.

Thank you very much for your support and cooperation.

By Authority of the Governor:

(original signed)

PP RAFFY AQUINO

Counsel for RI District 3830

RY 2008-2009