

Do's and Don'ts for the 2020 Elections

Member to Member Communications

Unions can spend any amount from any source to communicate with their members and their members' families on any subject.

Communicating with the General Public

- **Union treasury funds**
 - Lawful
 - Taxable
- **Union PAC funds**
 - Lawful
 - Tax free

Campaign Signs on Union Property

- **Do not coordinate with candidate or party**
- **Pay expenses with PAC money**

Contributions to State Candidates

- **Union treasury funds**
 - Lawful (in most states)
 - Taxable (everywhere)
- **Union PAC funds**
 - Lawful (everywhere)
 - Tax free (everywhere)

Tax-Free Union Political Expenditures

- **Issue advocacy**
- **Ballot measures**
- **Lobbying**

Where Should the Money Come From?

- **PAC funds**
 - Contributions to candidates
 - Contributions to party organizations
 - Independent expenditures
 - Contributions to other political committees
- **Union treasury funds**
 - Issue advocacy
 - Ballot measures
 - Lobbying

Using Union Facilities

- **May be taxable in-kind contribution**
- **Solutions**
 - Charge market value
 - Make facilities available to others at same discount or no cost
 - Reimbursement by PAC fund

Volunteering

- **Local unions can tell members about opportunities and urge them to volunteer**
- **Local unions should not transport members or pay their expenses**
- **If officer or employees volunteer during working time:**
 - Can make up time within 30 days
 - Can take vacation or unpaid leave

Candidate Appearances

- **Lawful and tax free**
- **Union can pay expenses if audience limited to union members and their families**
- **Let the candidate and staff ask for and handle any contributions**

Making Contributions to IBEW PAC

- **Voluntary contributions from individuals**
- **Contributions from local union PACs**
- **Contributions from local union treasuries**
 - Only dues income can be contributed (not investment income)
 - Must be contributed promptly and directly
 - Contributions should be made with most recently received dues income
 - Records should reflect source of contribution

QUESTIONS?

Email the Compliance team at PACwebinars@ibew.org.
Or call 202-728-6046

Webinar on PCR system is available on Local Connections

