



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

August 12, 2014

DME MEMORANDUM NUMBER 14-02

To: District Maintenance Engineers
From: Tim Lattner, P.E., Director, Office of Maintenance
Copies: Tom Byron, P.E., Brian Blanchard, P.E.
Subject: Illegal Signs on State Right of Way

Illegal political signs on state right of way will be removed upon discovery (no special or accelerated patrols needed, unless a safety issue exists). A courtesy call will be made to the candidate or their representative advising that the signs have been removed, explaining the requirements of the law, and advising where the signs will be located (either at Department or Asset Maintenance Contractors' facilities) for a reasonable period of time so that the candidate may pick up the signs for reuse.

The following guidance out of the Office of Right of Way for handling political signs in the right of way has been in place for a number of years.

1. Illegal political signs on state right of way will be removed immediately upon discovery.
2. A courtesy call will be made to the candidate or their representative advising that the signs have been removed, explaining the requirements of the law, and advising that the signs will be retained in the Department's offices for a reasonable period of time so that the candidate may pick up the signs for reuse.
 - In addition to providing guidance to the districts, the Office of Right of Way has worked with the Supervisors of Election throughout the state since the early 2000's seeking their assistance in making Department literature on this subject available to each candidate.

- The Office of Right of Way works with Dick Kane and the district PIO's on questions that come in from the public regarding political signs.
- Outdoor advertising regional inspectors who are on the roadways each day should not accelerate their patrol of road sections during campaign seasons. The inspectors will pick up signs on roads scheduled for inventory, in instances where a political sign could create a safety hazard, and for specific requests that come in from a district office.

If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Strickland 850-410-5620.