



Political Signs are Illegal in Rights-of-Way

The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) reminds political candidates that campaign signs are not permitted on state highway right-of-way. To maintain traffic safety, the following rules govern the placement of signs:

- According to Section 63-3-317 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated, it is illegal to place signs within the right-of-way on state highways.
- The width of highway right-of-way varies by location and includes the driving lanes, shoulders and mowed areas; the right-of-way can potentially reach distances of 300 feet or more from the centerline of driving lanes.
- Keeping the right-of-way clear prevents safety hazards and interference with the traveling public along roadways.
- Signs with steel or wooden posts pose potential hazards that may cause harm to roadside workers, may damage roadside equipment and may become projectiles if hit by mowers.
- Signs within areas necessary for clear vision at intersections interfere with the sight distance of a driver.
- Typically, the right-of-way is larger near roadway intersections.
- Any illegally placed signs will be removed. MDOT crews will take care in removing signs but cannot guarantee the condition of removed signs.
- Signs removed by MDOT crews will be kept for two weeks at a local MDOT maintenance facility before being discarded.
- Candidates may retrieve signs from MDOT without penalty. Candidates should coordinate pickup with the local MDOT office.
- Illegally placed campaign signs contribute to our state's \$3.2 million litter problem that spoils Mississippi's natural beauty.
- For information about right-of-way distances in specific areas along a state-maintained highway, call your local MDOT maintenance facility.

For more information, call **601-359-7074** or visit **GoMDOT.com**.