

Sent: Wed, 10 Aug 2016 11:20:47 -0400
From: "Baca, Roxane D. EOP/OA" <roxane_d._baca@oa.eop.gov>
To: "Maloney, Peggy" <peggy_a_maloney@oa.eop.gov>, "Maloney, Peggy" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=maloney, peggy a.c4e">
Cc: FN-OA-ETHICS TEAM <fn-oa-ethicsteam@oa.eop.gov>, "Pauwels, Ben" <benjamin_pauwels@oa.eop.gov>, "Kim, Ben" <benjamin_y_kim@oa.eop.gov>, "Bayne, Mack" <bayne_m@oa.eop.gov>, "Kim, Benjamin" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kim, benjamin y.39b">, "Pauwels, Ben" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pauwels, benjaminf92">, FN-OA-GENERAL-COUNSEL-INTERNS </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=oageneralcounselinte">, "Bayne, Mack C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=baynem53462557">
Subject: RE: Hatch Act and TV's in the workplace

Peggy,

[REDACTED] The Office of Special Counsel does allow audio, and I'm attaching their FAQ regarding radio broadcasts. However, I suggest you talk to your supervisor if you would like to request that the TV's be put on mute when you are in the NEOB lunchroom.

P6/b(6)

Q: Will I violate the Hatch Act if I listen to radio programs discussing partisan politics or candidates for partisan political office, or read a book about politics or political candidates while I am in the federal workplace?

A: No. Some federal agencies allow employees to listen to the radio while they are at work. Merely listening to a radio program that is discussing politics while in the federal workplace, without more, is not a Hatch Act violation. Similarly, merely reading a book about politics or political candidates while in the federal workplace, without more, is not a Hatch Act violation. However, employees should make certain that the federal agency where they work does not have any internal policies prohibiting its employees from generally engaging in any of these activities while at work (i.e., listening to the radio, reading).

ROXANE D. BACA ~ Senior Associate General Counsel
Office of Administration ~ Executive Office of the President
Telephone (202)395-1275 ~ Fax (202)456-7921

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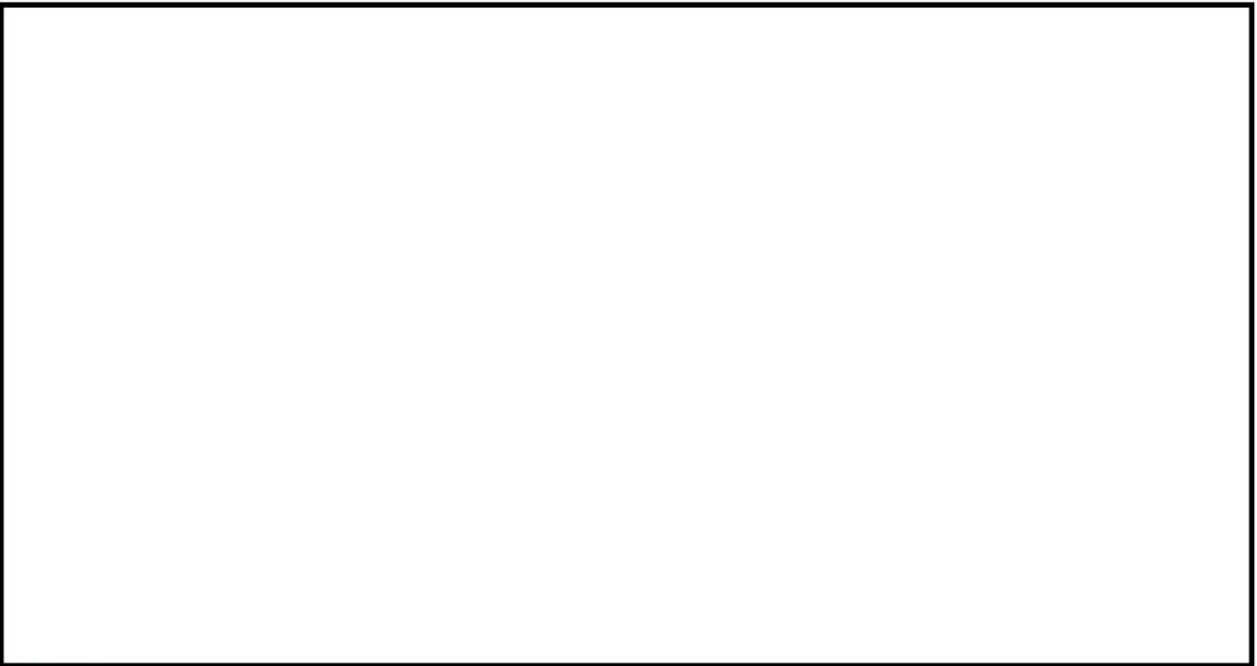
-----Original Message-----

From: Maloney, Peggy A. EOP/OA
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 7:54 AM
To: Baca, Roxane D. EOP/OA <Roxane_D._Baca@oa.eop.gov>; Kalnins, Andy EOP/OA <Andris_Kalnins@oa.eop.gov>
Cc: FN-OA-ETHICS TEAM <FN-OA-ETHICSTEAM@oa.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Hatch Act and TV's in the workplace

Roxane/Andy:

Thank you for this information Roxane.

Here is my response:



Thank you and

P6/b(6)

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Maloney
WHIT, Financial Operations Analyst
Executive Office of the President
202-395-1750 - work
[redacted] cell

-----Original Message-----

From: Baca, Roxane D. EOP/OA
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2016 3:18 PM
To: Maloney, Peggy A. EOP/OA <peggy_a_maloney@oa.eop.gov>
Cc: FN-OA-ETHICS TEAM <FN-OA-ETHICSTEAM@oa.eop.gov>
Subject: Hatch Act and TV's in the workplace

Peggy,

Here is the response from Office of Special Counsel about TV's tuned to political stations in the workplace:

Q: Is it a Hatch Act violation for a federal agency to have televisions in the federal workplace that are tuned to stations such as Fox News or MSNBC?

A: No. Watching, or allowing the broadcast of, stations such as Fox News or MSNBC in the federal workplace, without more, does not violate the Hatch Act. Thus, while some federal agencies may have televisions located in lobbies or other public areas within a federal workplace that are tuned to such stations the Hatch Act does not prohibit them from doing so.

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