

# **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS**

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## **Political Signboard Policy**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a general guideline for the placement of political and non-political signboards on public lands. It is understood that any election year usually brings about the abundance of political signboards throughout the island. Although these signboards are an effective tool in helping to publicize political candidates and messages, it does not aid in the government's overall effort to beautify our islands and to promote pedestrian/auto safety.

#### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- 1. All candidates and political parties, regardless of political party affiliation, must obtain a political signboard permit from the Department of Public Lands (DPL) prior to his/her placement of any signboard on public land.
- 2. Political signboards are charged an administrative processing fee of \$50.00 along with semi-annual fee of \$100.00 and cannot be erected sooner than six months before the election date.
- 3. A candidate may erect and place a maximum of Ten (10) signboards on its respective electoral senatorial district. A candidate running for office on a CNMI wide election may erect and place a maximum of Twenty (20) signboards on each senatorial district.
- 4. A candidate must provide a Public Liability Insurance Policy and shall name DPL and the CNMI Government as co-insured, with a Minimum coverage of \$50,000 in action for wrongful death, \$200,000 for each occurrence, \$100,000 in bodily injury per person, and \$100,000 in property damage for each occurrence, or such higher amounts as the DPL may reasonably require. This requirement is specified in DPL's Rules and Regulations for Temporary Occupancy \$145-70-210 (a) (7).

#### PLACEMENT OF SIGNBOARDS

- 1. No signboards shall be placed on the western side (beach side) of Beach Road beginning along the Fire Station in Garapan to Chalan Tun Thomas P. Sablan in San Antonio, Saipan, or such other area as determined by DPL.
  - 2. No signboard shall be placed or erected on any trees on public land.
  - 3. No signboard shall be placed or erected on any utility poles.
- 4. No signboard shall be placed or erected within 50 feet from any traffic light or roadway intersection.
- 5. No signboard shall be placed or erected within 6 feet of any road pavement and any right-of-way.
- 6. No signboard shall be placed on any public buildings, facilities, monuments, public parks, and tourist sites.
  - 7. No signboard exceeding dimensions of 4 feet by 8 feet shall be placed on public land

#### **REMOVAL**

Any signboards placed in any restricted area mentioned above will be removed by the DPL without notice. Similarly, any signboard that may be hindering traffic and pedestrian safety will be removed immediately. All signboards must be removed within ten (10) days after the date of either an island-wide or Commonwealth-wide election day.