

FLORIDA ACTION COMMITTEE (FAC)

MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Member of Florida Action Committee, Inc. (FAC), you agree to follow the Member Code of Conduct provided in this document. Failure to adhere may result in termination of membership or other consequences.

1. Adherence to Laws – Despite the fact that FAC advocates for change to certain laws, while these laws are in effect, Members may not break the law or participate in any activity that violates Federal, State or Local laws or encourage another to do so.

2. Dealing with Others – Members are required to treat other FAC Members, politicians, police, probation officers, treatment providers, members of the media as well as all third parties with whom FAC interacts, with respect, dignity, honesty and fairness. Threatening, insubordinate, violent or obscene behavior by any Member towards another member or any third party will not be tolerated. Any conduct that encourages or permits an offensive or hostile environment will not be tolerated.

Members are expected to communicate with candor, courtesy, and respect. Members must realize that Registered Citizens are already perceived in an unfavorable light and for that reason we must conduct ourselves in a manner that reflects the highest ethical standards and most professional conduct in order to strengthen the public's perception.

FAC respects all individual's political and religious beliefs and any actions or comments which express intolerance to another's faith or beliefs will not be tolerated. That said, FAC is not affiliated with any religious group or political party. Accordingly, no member may utilize the FAC forum, an FAC promoted event, or information generated through their participation with FAC to promote their personal religious or political beliefs, so as to not offend or alienate those who do not share the same beliefs.

3. No Representation of Organization – No member is permitted to represent FAC, verbally or in writing, at any time, without prior approval of the Board of Directors. Members will not speak as “a representative of FAC”, “on behalf of FAC”, or represent or imply that they are authorized to act on behalf of FAC or that their personal views or opinions represent those of FAC to any third party, to the media or in a public forum without the prior knowledge and approval of the Board of Directors of FAC.

If a Member receives approval from the Board of Directors of FAC and is speaking as a FAC member, their comments must reflect current organizational policy and positions even when these do not agree with the Member's personal views. Members must understand that statements or representations that can be perceived by the recipient (whether the statement is authorized or not) can potentially result in liability and civil or criminal action against FAC. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Members still maintain all rights to speak or express their personal views as a private citizen, but may not make such statements in conjunction with reference to FAC.

If a Member has access to confidential FAC membership information in connection with a volunteer activity for FAC (ex: stuffing envelopes addressed to FAC Members or participation in an outreach campaign where personally identifying information is provided for communication purposes), Members are reminded that all member information is to be considered confidential. Membership information is to be held by the Membership Committee Chair in a manner that will protect the information from being publicized or accessed by those without a specific need to access such information. At no time will membership information be shared with any other organization or third party. Members of the Board of Directors, County Coordinators, Project Leaders, Support Group Leaders, and active members of project teams and support groups will be provided member contact information strictly when needed and as needed for FAC related communications and events only. At no time is member information to be used to distribute non-FAC related communications unless such information was provided to the sender independent of FAC.

4. No Conflict of Interest – Members may not engage in any activity that conflicts with the mission or goals of FAC. Members may not engage in any self-dealing or create a circumstance that might be viewed by others as a conflict of interest. If a member is uncertain whether a conflict exists, the Member must consult the Board of Directors of FAC and abide by their decision.

5. FAC is NOT a Law Firm – FAC is an advocacy group, FAC is NOT a law firm, we do not employ attorneys, we are neither qualified nor legally permitted to provide legal advice or representation to Members or any individuals. FAC's legal committee focuses on legal issues that concern registrants *in general*, and affect a significant number of our population. FAC does NOT and CAN NOT focus on individual criminal cases or personal legal issues and is not authorized, nor has the financial means to finance an individual's legal challenge. FAC does work with attorneys and legal aid organizations, to which we provide legal support, research, access to studies and experts and through which we are plaintiffs in lawsuits filed on behalf of our entire membership (not individual Members).

6. Referrals to Third Parties - FAC maintains a list of private attorneys, forensic psychologists, treatment providers and other third parties who FAC has identified as experts in sex offender issues and who have experience in cases dealing with registrants. Many of these referrals can be found on the resource page of the FAC website. It is important to note that these individuals are NOT employees of FAC, nor have they committed to provide services to FAC members for free, at a discounted rate or even to take on a Member as a client at all. Members should respect the time of these professionals and not contact them seeking free professional advice. Members, if retaining a third-party professional listed on our website, guest speaker on a member call or referral from another FAC Member, should expect to pay a fee to the expert for their services and it is best practice to get a clear and candid understanding of what that will be at the inception of the call. FAC receives no remuneration for referrals.

7. Contacting FAC – FAC invites members to contact our organization through a number of methods: (a) If you have a general question that others may benefit from a response to; you should submit it to the FAQ section of our website. (b) If you have a specific question; you may call our general phone number (833) 2-REPEAL [833-273-7325] (note that it is not manned live, messages will be returned at the earliest convenience).or email the appropriate contact:

info@floridaactioncommittee.org
membership@floridaactioncommittee.org
legal@floridaactioncommittee.org
media@floridaactioncommittee.org
support@floridaactioncommittee.org

The aforementioned contact methods are the only appropriate contact methods to reach FAC, a committee chair, an officer, or a member of the Board of Directors. Calling an individual on their personal phones or through a personal email is NOT appropriate. If a Member obtains a personal phone number or personal email belonging to a committee chair, officer or member of the Board of Directors through a response to an inquiry or was invited to call for a specific issue, that does not constitute permission to contact that individual for any other matter. The appropriate individual or department will respond to all inquiries as soon as possible, subject to other priorities and within general working hours. It is important for Members to realize that FAC has no staff or employees. All of our committee chairs, officers and members of our Board of Directors are volunteers. Even if you feel your issue only involves one question or takes only two minutes to address, please keep in mind FAC has hundreds of other members who feel exactly the same way.

8. Conduct on Member Calls – FAC conducts monthly Member calls that are open to our Membership. The purpose of these calls is to inform Members of FAC business and topics concerning registered citizens. All Members are invited to participate by calling in to the call-in information that is provided on our website. If a Member elects to participate, that Member must adhere to the following rules: (a) Members must announce their first name and county when joining the call. It's in our best interest to ensure that vigilantes and non-members are quickly removed from the call, which is why all participants must announce themselves.(b) Only use first names and don't provide any personally identifying information about yourself or any other participant. (c) Mute your phone when not speaking. Since we can have dozens of people in conference during these calls, it is important that background noise and distractions be kept to a minimum. (d) All questions should relate to the topic of the call only. Each call has a set topic or guest speaker. Questions must relate to the topic of the call (e) FAC's general code of conduct applies to member calls as well, including courtesy and professionalism to other Members and guests.

9. Comments on Website - We welcome all substantive opinions and encourage free discussion. Please stay on topic and be respectful of others. Do not attack, abuse, or threaten other contributors. When making claims of fact or law, please add references to the source or statute/ordinance for that information. FAC moderates the comments on its website to the best of our ability and limited time. FAC reserves the right to delete comments which do not comply with our Member Code of Conduct. FAC reserves the right to delete comments which are not relevant to the topic of the article or post under which the comment is made, which express political or religious viewpoints which may not reflect the beliefs of other members, which make statements of fact or law without reference to the particular source of the fact or law or which promote a commercial interest.

If you submitted a comment that was not posted, which you feel does not violate section 9 above, our Comment Policy below or this Member Code of Conduct, or if you find a comment that does and might have been inadvertently missed by our moderator, please contact info@floridaactioncommittee.org with reference to the comment. Please note that the moderation process is manual and done as quickly as often as volunteer time permits. Allow 24 hours for posts to appear.

10. Non-Disclosure of Confidential Information – Members may, from time to time, come to learn information that is Confidential to FAC. Disclosure of such information can be harmful to the interests of FAC. All information discussed during FAC member calls or amongst FAC Members, concerning corporate matters, financial matters, legal matters, or any other FAC business shall be held in the strictest of confidence and shall not be divulged to any outside party without written prior authorization by the Board of Directors.

11. Failure to Adhere to this Code of Conduct – Any breach of this Code of Conduct may result in the revocation of one’s membership in FAC. The decision to revoke any membership shall be made by a vote of the Board of Directors.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of Florida Action Committee, Inc., 7/19/2022

Comment Policy

- **PLEASE READ:** Comments not adhering to this policy will be removed.
- **Be patient.** All comments are moderated before they are published. This takes time.
- **Stay on topic.** We welcome all opinions and encourage free-but-civil discussion.
- **Be respectful.** Do not attack, abuse, or threaten. This includes profanity or yelling (ALL CAPS).
- **Use First-Person Language.** Also known as People First Language (PFL), it aims to avoid dehumanizing or stigmatizing language, and instead describes what a person "has" rather than what they "are." For example, "person forced to register (PFR)" prioritizes the person instead of the offense.
- **Cite.** Cite any bold or novel claims of fact or statistics.
- **Need to share a link with the community?** If you have media or an article you would like to share with us to post, please [CLICK HERE](#) to submit the content for review.
- **If your comment is fully or partially removed:** Moderation does not equate to censorship. It means your comment was either automatically flagged/deleted as spam, it violated comment policy, or it was otherwise deemed inappropriate. Comments are moderated to protect our community and enable ongoing civil discussion. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and participation. See [this](#) FAC Website post for more information on Moderation of Comments.