Federal civilian employees* and military personnel may use private or unofficial social media to express certain personal opinions (e.g., post, like, share, tweet, or retweet) on public issues or political candidates, but there are a few limitations.

- The employee must not be on duty or in the federal workplace.
- The employee must not refer to his or her official title or positions while engaged in political activity at any time.
- The employee must not suggest or ask anyone to make a political contribution at any time.
- The employee’s use of social media must comply with applicable federal law and regulation, including the Hatch Act, UCMJ, and DoD Directive 1344.10.

*“Further Restricted” civilian employees (e.g., members of the Senior Executive Service and employees of intelligence agencies) may not take an active part in partisan political management or campaigning.

Sources: Guidance on Political Activity and DoD Support 2018; Department of Defense Directive 5000.10; U.S. Office of Special Counsel guidance on the Hatch Act; U.S. Army Reserve Command Office of the Staff Judge Advocate