

*The following excerpts are sourced from*

## **The Associated Press Statement of News Values and Principles**

*as outlined in 'The Associated Press Stylebook' ©2024*

### **Conflicts of interest**

The AP respects and encourages the rights of its employees to participate actively in civic, charitable, religious, public, social or neighborhood organizations.

However, AP employees must avoid behavior or activities that could create a conflict of interest or compromise our ability to report the news fairly and accurately, uninfluenced by any person or action.

Nothing in this policy is intended to abridge any rights provided by the National Labor Relations Act. ...

(I)f you are unsure whether an activity may constitute a conflict or the appearance of a conflict, consult your manager at the onset.

### **Expressions of opinion**

Those who work for the AP must be mindful that opinions they express may damage the AP's reputation as an unbiased source of news. They must refrain from declaring their views on contentious public issues in any public forum, whether through blogs, social networks, comments pages, petitions, bumper stickers or lapel buttons. They must not take part in demonstrations in support of causes or movements — or contribute to them in any way. ...

### **Political activities**

Editorial employees are expected to be scrupulous in avoiding any political activity, whether they cover politics regularly or not. They may not run for political office or accept political appointment; nor may they perform public relations work for politicians or their groups. Under no circumstances should they donate money to political organizations or political campaigns. They should use great discretion in joining or making contributions to other organizations that may take political stands.

Non-editorial employees must refrain from political activity and contributions unless they obtain approval from a manager. A supervisor must be informed when a spouse or other members of an employee's household have any ongoing involvement in political causes, either professionally or personally. ...