

# TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

The Texas Ethics Commission is authorized by the Government Code, §571.091, to issue advisory opinions in regard to the following statutes: the Government Code, Chapter 302; the Government Code, Chapter 305; the Government Code, Chapter 572; the Election Code, Title 15; the Penal Code, Chapter 36; and the Penal Code, Chapter 39. Requests for copies of the full text of opinions or questions on particular submissions should be addressed to the Office of the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070, (512) 463-5800.

## Advisory Opinion Requests

Whether, under Section 572.070 of the Government Code, a state employee is required to report certain contacts with an employee of a university owned or controlled by the People's Republic of China? What are the reporting requirements for frequent contacts? (AOR-747.)

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Issued in Austin, Texas, on April 29, 2026.

TRD-202601696  
Amanda Arriaga  
General Counsel  
Texas Ethics Commission  
Filed: April 20, 2026



Regarding the application of the revolving door provision of Section 572.054(b) of the Texas Government Code to a former employee of Texas Department of Transportation ("TXDOT"). (AOR-748.)

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Does paying a social media company's users for engaging with political advertising content (viewing advertisements, watching videos, completing surveys, etc.) constitute bribery of a voter under Section 36.02(a)(1) of the Penal Code?

Does paying a social media company's users to complete a survey that includes questions about the user's voting intentions - where compensation is identical regardless of the user's answers - constitute prohibited vote-buying under Texas law?

What disclaimer and disclosure requirements under Chapter 255 of the Election Code apply to political advertisements posted on social media?

May candidates, political parties, and political committees use the requestor's social media platform to deliver political advertisements and compensate users for engagement with the advertisements without violating Texas election laws? (AOR-749.)

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Whether public resources were unlawfully used for a candidate's campaign video. (AOR-750.)

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