



General Elections Ethical Guidelines



In our Democracy, different Strategies for social and economic development will be presented by the various political parties, and it is the people's right to make a choice through the process of General Elections. It is therefore the responsibility of all political leaders to propose the best way forward for all.

These guidelines are promoted to support mature campaigning and free and fair elections. Additionally, all persons must adhere to the Regulations contained in Statutory Rules and Orders No. 19 of 2020 – Emergency Powers (COVID-19) (No. 8) Regulations in Particular Regulations No. 7; 10 and 15.

To Candidates for Election, Their Associates and Supporters

1. The emphasis must be on issues rather than personalities. Candidates must also avoid defamation of character of their opponents, their families and supporters.
2. Campaign slogans and the like, affixed to walls, poles, etcetera, should be such as are easily removeable when campaigning ends. Special care should be taken to avoid defacing historic sites.
3. Electoral regulations should be observed and not circumvented.
4. All citizens have responsibility to obey the law and to promote the maintenance of law and order throughout the federation.
5. Every person entitled to vote must be able to do so freely. Victimization of persons, interference with employment rights, intimidation and the enticement with favors are gravely wrong. Persons are entitled to express their political views without fear of persecution or victimization.
6. Respect the freedom of the press and media.
7. Observe and promote the recommended COVID -19 health protocols particularly:
 - Maintain at least 6 feet of social distance at all times.
 - All persons shall wear a mask covering their nose and mouth when in a public space.

To Voters

1. It is the individual's right to vote.
2. Do not seek to vote more than once.
3. Do not seek to vote in anyone else's name.
4. Each person has a right to his or her views and to support the candidate he or she prefers. Respect must be maintained to the opinion of others.
5. Each Voter has a responsibility to obey the law and to promote the maintenance of law and order throughout the Federation.
6. Observe and promote the recommended COVID -19 health protocols particularly:
 - Maintain at least 6 ft of social distance
 - All persons shall wear a mask covering their nose and mouth when in a public space.

To the Media (Electronic, Print and Social)

7. Report the campaigning honestly and impartially.
8. Avoid the temptation of sensational reporting.
9. Election news coverage by all media should also be balanced and fair.
10. Media workers must conduct themselves professionally while defending freedom of information and resisting distortion, misrepresentation and censorship.

A Public Service Announcement from the St. Kitts and Nevis Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Coalition: The St. Kitts Christian Council, The St. Kitts Evangelical Association and The St. Kitts Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce 2020.