

# CHURCH & GOVERNMENT: KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

Pastors should be supported in their goal of helping their church members be good stewards in representing Christ in all areas of our society and in their civic duties. This is especially important in light of the fact that only one out of every four Christians in America is voting today.

SHARE  
WITH YOUR  
PASTOR

Unfortunately, many churches and pastors have been given false information in an attempt to scare them from impacting their culture for Christ. The law is actually very supportive of pastors and churches in fulfilling their mission to equip their saints. Even as a non-profit corporation, there is very little a church may not do.



## CHURCHES CAN

- Register their members as voters
- Pass out non-partisan Voter's Guides
- Invite all candidates in a race to speak (O.K. if only one shows up)
- Speak directly about specific issues and legislation (abortion, marriage, etc.)



## CHURCHES CAN'T

- Endorse or oppose a particular candidate
- Contribute to or use church resources for one candidate over another (including free use of church list)

Individually, a pastor can endorse, support a member's campaign, etc., as long as it's not done with church resources. There are no limitations on the pastor individually. The few limitations above are only for the church entity and only if the church is a non-profit corporation.

Pastors should not be intimidated from calling their people to vote and giving them information so they can best represent Christ at the voting booth.

### Questions?

Call (972) 941-4444

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