

Advocacy Inside an Organization Worksheet

Classify three of your organization's advocacy activities, then check whether the 501(h) election could clarify your limits. General education, not legal advice.

Classify three activities

Activity 1

Is it issue education (unlimited), lobbying (limited but allowed), or partisan political activity (prohibited)? What would push it into a more restricted category?

Activity 2

Same three questions.

Activity 3

Same three questions.

The 501(h) election

Has your organization made the 501(h) election? Would swapping the vague "substantial part" test for clear dollar limits help you advocate more confidently?

Bright-line self-check

I'm using the unlimited issue-education category lavishly, not timidly

I'm tracking lobbying activity, not avoiding it out of vague fear

I have kept issue advocacy scrupulously separate from any support or opposition to a candidate

Any activity close to a line gets a quick check with a nonprofit lawyer

This is general education on the U.S. federal 501(c)(3) framework, not legal advice. Specifics and state rules vary — for real decisions, consult a lawyer who knows nonprofit law.