

# National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) Sponsorship Policy

#### 1. Introduction:

The National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) is a national, non-partisan, non-profit membership association dedicated to providing technical assistance and resources to prosecutors across the country. Our commitment is to uphold the integrity and professionalism of the prosecutorial function.

### 2. Sponsorship/Philanthropic Opportunities:

NDAA offers opportunities for third-party entities to sponsor Association events, particularly when such sponsorships align with the mission and function of local prosecutors' offices.

## 3. Policy Statement:

NDAA strongly encourages the solicitation and acceptance of sponsorships, which enables it to fulfill its stated mission. Sponsorships may be sought from individuals, corporations, and foundations. However, they may be sought only for purposes, positions, and programs which have appropriate administrative approval.

The NDAA Board of Directors values and will protect the integrity and independence of NDAA. Sponsorships that may expose NDAA to adverse publicity, require expenditures beyond its resources, or involve NDAA in unexpected responsibilities because of their source, condition, or purposes, or are not consistent with the mission of NDAA will not be accepted. Sponsorships received by NDAA must not inhibit it from accepting sponsorships from other donors. Further, no sponsorship can be received which compromises the non-partisan integrity of NDAA.

NDAA will not accept sponsorships that are too restrictive in purpose. Sponsorships that are too restrictive are those that violate the terms of the Association's charter and bylaws, are too difficult to administer, are for purposes outside the mission of NDAA, or are sponsorships that are otherwise deemed by NDAA staff or board as too restrictive. All final decisions on the restrictive nature of a sponsorship, and its acceptance or refusal, shall be made by the executive staff and subject to review, if any, by NDAA's Executive Committee.

A sponsorship shall not be accepted by NDAA if accepting it would not be in the interest of the donor. Factors that help make the determination of whether the sponsorship is in the best interest of the donor include but are not limited to, the donor's financial situation and philanthropic interests, as well as any tax or other legal matters revealed while planning for a sponsorship.

The NDAA cannot accept sponsorships that involve unlawful discrimination based upon race, gender, age, national origin, color, handicap, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Nor can the NDAA accept sponsorships that obligate it to violate any other applicable law or regulation.





This policy is designed to provide guidance to the community and the public so as to facilitate the sponsorship process. The NDAA Board of Directors encourages philanthropic creativity; therefore, this policy is to be interpreted liberally so that prospective donors may enjoy the greatest freedom possible in formulating their sponsorships.

## 4. Sponsorship Acceptance:

- a. NDAA is legally obligated to adhere to the terms and conditions of every sponsorship. For this reason, the terms of each sponsorship must be considered with the utmost care to be sure they are feasible, do not unduly hamper the usefulness and desirability of the sponsorship, and are in conformity with NDAA's strict policy of non-endorsement and nonpartisan status.
- b. NDAA may convene a formal review of any sponsorship proposal when the circumstances surrounding a specific sponsorship raise significant institutional issues. A formal review will consist of one or more staff members, selected by the Executive Director and one or more board members, selected by the President of the NDAA Board of Directors.

### 5. Non-Endorsement Clause:

- a. NDAA maintains a strict policy of non-endorsement. Neither explicit nor implicit endorsement of other non-profit or for-profit organizations will be made to ensure the Association's autonomy and non-partisan status. Likewise, any training or initiative collaboration/partnership will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by NDAA's Executive Director and the Association's current president to ensure it fits within NDAA's mission and goals.
- **b.** Organizations seeking to sponsor NDAA events should be aware that such sponsorships will not be interpreted as an endorsement of that organization's work, products, or representations at any level Federal, state, or local.

## 6. Open Dialogue and Collaboration:

While NDAA exercises caution regarding sponsorships to maintain its non-partisan stance, we highly value and encourage open dialogue and collaboration with a diverse range of organizations on policy matters. Organizations are urged to engage with us on policy discussions irrespective of sponsorship alignments. NDAA's primary objective is to remain informed and promote constructive conversations that serve the broader prosecutorial community.

# 7. Further Information:

For detailed information on NDAA's sponsorship opportunities and how your organization can engage with our attendees, please refer to our sponsorship opportunities page.

These policies and guidelines have been reviewed and accepted by the Executive Director and President of the National District Attorneys Association Board. These two individuals must approve any changes to or deviations from these policies.







Approved on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

J. Charles Smith III NDAA President

Nelson O. Burn, Jr. Nelson O. Bunn, Jr.

NDAA Executive Director