

# DO'S AND DON'TS

## OF DELIVERING AN RPAC CHECK

RPAC (REALTORS® Political Action Committee) serves as a critical FPC resource to support pro-REALTOR® candidates in their election efforts. In the 2014 elections, RPAC was the largest association PAC in the nation, with direct contributions totaling over \$4.5 million. RPAC allocates certain funds for FPCs to use each cycle, including “In-State” funds and “Special Recognition Funds. The following is a reminder of the importance of delivering your RPAC checks and the rules surrounding the gesture. *Do not put yourself at risk or embarrass the lawmaker or his/her staff by forgetting these important guidelines.*

### In-State Funds

- \$1,000 for each FPC for a Congressional two-year election cycle and
- \$2,000 for each FPC for a Senate six-year election cycle.

In-State Funds are funds that can be used to attend in-district receptions or events for Members of Congress to support their re-election efforts.

### Special Recognition Funds

Before each election, your state association’s RPAC trustees will meet to consider additional support for your member of Congress based upon their voting record on REALTOR® Party issues. Once the NAR trustees approve your state’s request, your state association will receive a special recognition check for you to deliver for your member’s re-election.



**DO:**

- Deliver your RPAC check in-person
- Meet your Member of Congress at a non-government location like a coffee shop, your office, or their campaign headquarters. **NEVER** deliver a check at his/her office or on any other government property.
- Deliver the RPAC check within 15 days of receiving it from NAR.
- Contact your state association if you cannot deliver the check to the candidate, so another REALTOR® representative may be appointed to deliver it.
- Praise the Member of Congress for his/her work in the district and for supportive actions he or she has already taken to further REALTOR® Party issues.
  - ▶ It is important to only comment on action they have taken **IN THE PAST** and not on any legislation currently in play.
  - ▶ Even better is to avoid discussing specific legislation at all while presenting a check.
- Keep close track of all RPAC checks. If for some reason the check is lost, please report it to your NAR Political Representative **IMMEDIATELY** so that it can be cancelled and re-cut.



- Never deliver an RPAC check in a government office OR on government property. It is **ILLEGAL!** This includes everything from federal office buildings to federal parks and preserves to all other types of federal facilities.
  - ▶ Note: Even presenting the check in the parking lot can still be considered government property and it may be unlawful. **DO NOT DO IT.**
- Never make any political “ask” of your Member of Congress while presenting your RPAC check.
  - ▶ For example, **DO NOT** say, “please vote for this bill.” Again, it is **ILLEGAL** to solicit a legislative vote in exchange for a contribution.
- Don’t wait until just before the election to deliver the check, as it is then of limited use to the candidate. If the candidate is facing a difficult election, you may have trouble scheduling a meeting. Don’t keep waiting, instead deliver the check to the campaign manager, district director or other senior advisor with the promise of a meeting with the candidate after the election.
- Never deliver an RPAC check after the election day (Primary and General) for which the check is designated. After Election Day, it is legally too late to contribute and RPAC has missed the opportunity to demonstrate our support.
- Don’t mail a check unless it is absolutely unavoidable. Please deliver all checks in-person if possible.