



The Code of Conduct of the Bexar County Young Democrats

Last Revised in July/August 2026

This policy has been drafted to outline the code of conduct in the chapter, the roles of the Executive Board in potential violations, as well as the method for reporting/resolving any such violations.

Section 1. Purpose

This code of conduct has been drafted for the purpose of defining the expected conduct of all members of Bexar County Young Democrats, including all BCYD Executive Board Members. Subsequently, this code of conduct defines what shall constitute “misconduct” under the Bylaws of Bexar County Young Democrats and subsequently be grounds for disciplinary action against a member of the chapter.

Section 2. Definitions

1. **The Code of Conduct of the Bexar County Young Democrats** (also referred to as “the code of conduct” or “this code of conduct” in this code of conduct) shall refer to this document.
2. **Bexar County Young Democrats** (also referred to as “BCYD”, “the chapter”, “us”, “we”, or “our” in this code of conduct) shall refer to the current chapter of Texas Young Democrats and Young Democrats of America which resides exclusively in Bexar County, Texas, United States of America and was formed in 2022.
3. **Texas Young Democrats** (also referred to as “TYD” in this code of conduct) shall refer to the current chapter of Young Democrats of America which resides exclusively in the State of Texas and was formed in 1932.
4. **Young Democrats of America** (also referred to as “YDA” in this code of conduct) shall refer to the current national organization known as Young Democrats of America which was formed in 1932.

Section 3. The Code of Conduct

Members of Bexar County Young Democrats shall not:

1. **Violate the Bylaws of Bexar County Young Democrats,**
 - a. This notably includes, but is not limited to, violating any or all legal or ethical responsibilities placed upon one’s position within the organization, any effort to subvert or overturn – outside the BCYD Bylaw procedures – the will of the BCYD membership expressed through a formal vote of the general membership, or any effort to subvert or overturn – outside the BCYD Bylaw procedures – the will of the BCYD Executive Board expressed through a formal vote.
 - b. A “formal vote” shall refer to any vote taken by the membership or by the Executive Board in compliance with the Bylaws of Bexar County Young Democrats and the most up-to-date edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

2. **Otherwise violate the rules of TYD, YDA, the Democratic Party, or other affiliate organization of BCYD;**
 - a. This includes, but is not exclusive to, the rules of the Bexar County Democratic Party, the rules of the Texas Democratic Party, and the rules of the Democratic National Committee.
3. **Violate the Privacy Policy of BCYD or otherwise breach data confidentiality,**
 - a. The privacy policy shall be accessible on our website. At time of writing, found at: bexaryoungdemocrats.com/privacy-policy
 - b. A breach of data confidentiality includes and is exclusive to the use of data beyond that which one is entitled to use under the policy for collecting said data. If no such policy exists, then it shall be a breach of data confidentiality to use data beyond the reasonable interpretation of the public-facing purpose for collecting the data.
4. **Steal from BCYD or otherwise seek to defraud BCYD,**
 - a. This includes, but is not limited to, acts of or efforts to embezzle funds, falsify records, or steal physical or intellectual property of BCYD.
5. **Harass a person,**
 - a. This includes, but is not limited to: verbal, physical, or sexual harassment; unwanted advances in-person, online, or via phone; discrimination based one's protected status; the deliberate and repeated misgendering of someone; and any repeat behavior that creates an intimidating, hostile, or unsafe environment.
6. **Make unsolicited sexual advances,**
 - a. One should adopt a standard of *clear, positive, enthusiastic consent*. Consent must be actively sought, is specific to a particular act, can be withdrawn at any time, and must never be presumed. One shall bear in mind power dynamics in any situation and whether an individual may feel coerced into consenting or not objecting to invasive or threatening behavior. One shall also be aware of factors, such as age and intoxication, that could render someone incapable of providing consent.
7. **Or otherwise violate the law.**
 - a. This includes, but is not limited to, the laws of Bexar County, the State of Texas, the United States of America, and/or the violation of International Treaties to which the United States of America is party to.
 - b. This strongly includes the giving of alcohol and/or controlled substances to people under the legal age for consuming/using said substances.

Section 4. Violation of the Code of Conduct

It shall never be a mitigating factor to violate the code of conduct because:

1. **Of one's consumption of alcohol and/or usage of other controlled substances**
 - a. Anyone who feels they are unable to comply with the code of conduct when inebriated are advised to moderate their consumption/usage accordingly or refrain from consuming/using alcohol and/or other controlled substances.
2. **Or because someone should "not have made themselves vulnerable."**
 - a. It is never the responsibility of the victim to "not have made themselves vulnerable."

Section 5. Applicability of the Code of Conduct

This code of conduct is applicable at all times while one is a member of BCYD. Including, but not limited to, all events and meetings, both internal and external, whenever you are representing BCYD, as well as at all socials in association with the chapter. We expect all members to fully abide by this code of conduct.

Section 6. The Resolution Process

As a chapter, we would like to focus on resolution, not dwell on the negative immediate impact and effects of a code of conduct violation. While we hope this will never be needed, the resolution process is as follows:

A) Reporting of a Code of Conduct Violation.

- a) In the event someone believes a violation of the code of conduct has occurred or has suspicion of such action, one should issue an official report of said conduct to the Executive Board through their current email. At time of writing, this email is: execbcyd@gmail.com
 - i) The Executive Board shall be accessible and responsive regardless of who a complaint might be brought against.
 - ii) It is preferred that members speak to an Executive Board Member and discuss any concerns of a potential breach of the code of conduct (so they can deal with the matter as required) than not approach them at all because something does not seem like, or you are unsure whether something is, a code of conduct violation.
 - iii) It should be noted, while one may approach any individual Executive Board Member with a concern, in order to formally begin any action it must be reported to the Executive Board's current email.

B) Further Action.

- a) All further action shall be done in compliance with the most up-to-date edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
- b) Any report of a suspected code of conduct violation shall, with the support of at least a simple majority of the Executive Board in a formal vote, be made public to the membership at the earliest convenience to ensure transparency and accountability.

Emergency Contacts

A non-exhaustive list of emergency contacts are detailed here for your convenience in the event of an emergency. It is advised that one seeks out emergency contact information on their own if possible. BCYD is not liable for someone's lack of access to an appropriate emergency contact.

Emergencies | 911

Non-emergency (in San Antonio) | +1 (210) 207-7273 (San Antonio Police Department)

Non-emergency fire situation (in San Antonio) | +1 (210) 207-7744 (San Antonio Fire Department)

Non-emergency (in unincorporated Bexar County) | +1 (210) 335-6000 (Bexar County Sheriff's Office)

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) | 988

Trevor Project Helplines (LGBTQ+ Youth) | Call +1 (866) 488-7386 or Text 'START' to 678-678

RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline | Call +1 (800) 656-HOPE (4673) or Text 'HOPE' to 64673

National Domestic Violence Hotline | Call +1 (800) 799-SAFE (7233) or Text 'START' to 88788

NOTE: RAINN has faced criticism/media attention for removing certain diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) policies and specific references to transgender people from their website, which they stated was to comply with federal executive orders issued by the Trump Administration.

Written by Nicolas Kerr (July 2026)

With thanks to the Cambridge Open Equity Policy 2016 and the Cardiff University Debating Society Equity and Welfare Policy (2025 edition).

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