

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 51.9315, TEXAS
EDUCATION CODE – PROTECTED EXPRESSION ON CAMPUS

The University of Texas at San Antonio (“UTSA”) is committed to protect the expressive rights of persons guaranteed by the constitutions of the United States and of this state by (1) recognizing freedom of speech and assembly as central to the mission of institutions of higher education; and (2) ensuring that all persons may assemble peaceably on its campuses for expressive activities, including to listen to or observe the expressive activities of others.

The University of Texas System Board of Regents updated Regents’ *Rules and Regulations* 40501, 80101, and 80103 to ensure that the common outdoor areas of UTSA are deemed to be traditional public forums.

UTSA updated its policy detailing rights and responsibilities regarding expressive activities. The University of Texas System Board of Regents approved the policy on May 6, 2020. The policy complies with the requirements of Section 51.9315, Texas Education Code and is posted on UTSA’s website at: <https://www.utsa.edu/hop/chapter9/9-37.html>. The policy is made available to students during freshman and transfer student orientations and included in UTSA’s student handbook. The policy is also included in, and a part of, UTSA’s Handbook of Operating Procedures (“HOP”), which contains policies and procedures applicable to faculty, staff and students.

UTSA has developed procedures to train employees responsible for educating or disciplining students to ensure they understand the requirements of Section 51.9315, Texas Education Code and UTSA’s internal policies.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 51.9315(k), Texas Education Code, is being submitted to the Governor and the Legislature and is posted on UTSA’s website at: <https://www.utsa.edu/president/campusandcommunity/cde/activities.html>.