Guidelines For Charitable Fundraisers

In planning and conducting charitable fundraising events, councils should be guided by the following principles:

OFFICE OF THE SUPREME ADVOCATE

1. Councils may use the name "Knights of Columbus" in conjunction with the charity fund-raiser, so long as the individual council is clearly identified within the name, i.e., "Knights of Columbus [Name of Council] Council No. 5748". The councils are not to use the name "Knights of Columbus" standing alone.

2. Fund-raising activities should be used only to raise money for a worthy charitable organization, consistent with the mission of the Order and our first principle of Charity. The beneficiary organization should be identified in advertising for the event.

3. Proceeds from a charity fund-raiser cannot be used to pay for ordinary council expenses or liabilities. The proceeds must be disbursed as follows:

a. Payment of the expenses associated with the event;
b. Gift to charitable organization.

4. Councils should obtain event insurance to cover all potential liabilities associated with the event.

5. If a council uses the services of a professional fund-raiser, event organizer, or similar entity, such services should be obtained on a one-time basis. The council should not enter into a joint venture with any company or organization.

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