

CRANDALL GENERAL ELECTION 2023



Welcome Prospective Candidate!

This packet offers insight into the election process for municipal governments and contains the information and required forms for the 2023 General Election in Crandall, Texas. The City Secretary's office is responsible for overseeing the election process to assist and administer the procedures accurately, fairly and according to state and local election laws. If you have questions regarding the materials enclosed, or any election/campaign issues, please contact the office at 972. 427.3771 or sdelbosque@crandalltexas.com.

The **Texas Election Code** prescribes certain days to hold municipal elections for city officials. The General Election of city officers will be held on **Saturday, May 06, 2023**, for the purpose of electing officers to the following:

One (1) Mayor and Two (2) Full Term Council Members

TERM OF OFFICE - The term of office for council members is two years. Crandall does not require voting precincts, districts, or wards. All elections are at large. There is no filing fee for a place on the ballot in Crandall.

Filing for a place on the ballot begins Wednesday, January 18, 2023, and ends at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 17, 2023. Once the forms are filed, they become public information. At the end of the filing period, there will be a drawing for the order of names on the ballot. The date for the drawing will be Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. in the City Secretary's office. You are encouraged to attend or send a representative to witness the drawing on your behalf.

INFORMATION ABOUT CRANDALL -

There are two categories of cities in Texas local governments:

- ▶ Home Rule - cities over 5,000 population that have held an election to become Home Rule
- ▶ General Law - smaller cities / Type C, Type B or Type A

The City of Crandall is a ***Type A General Law Municipality***, being the larger of general law municipalities. Crandall does not have a city charter. General Law cities refer to state law to determine and govern how and what they may do.

The governing body of Crandall consists of a mayor and five council members. All members of the Crandall City Council play special roles in making the city government operate effectively. Most of their functions are set by law. The Crandall City Council has the power to pass, publish, amend, repeal and enforce all ordinances within the city, not contrary to the Constitution of this State. Policy direction is the City Council's focus, while the appointed City Manager implements the Council policy.

The Texas Election Law requires certain disclosures and notices on political advertising. Please review the political advertising guide and the City's current sign ordinance (both of which are included in this packet). There are no permits that are required for political signs; however, they cannot be placed on utility poles, or between the sidewalk and the curb (street right-a- way). We ask for your discretion in the placement of such signs. If you have questions, please contact the Crandall Code Enforcement Officer, Jason Brooks at 972.427.3771 x118 for assistance.

Crandall City Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month with special meetings called as needed. Special workshops or work sessions are designed to facilitate budget, policy discussion, or direction as needed by Staff.

Interest in your municipal government is appreciated and I trust that this will be a positive and exciting experience for you and your supporters.

All necessary and required forms to file for a place on the ballot including campaign finance reports and guides are included in this packet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at sbelbosque@crandalltexas.com or the office number at 972.427.3771 anytime during normal business hours. Best Wishes!

Sincerely,

Sabrina Del Bosque

Sabrina Del Bosque
City Secretary

Important Contact & Reference Information

Kaufman County Elections Office - For Voter
Registration Information www.kaufmancounty.net

Texas Ethics Commission - Information about
Campaign Finance Forms www.ethics.state.tx.us

Texas Secretary of State - General Election
Information www.sos.state.tx.us

Texas Election Code - State Election Statutes
<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us>

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS - CITY COUNCIL

In accordance with the standard eligibility requirements to be a candidate for an elected position or appointment to a city office, a person must meet the following: (TX Election Code §141.001)

1. Be a United States Citizen.
2. Be 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled at the election or on the date of appointment, as applicable.
3. Have not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be:
 - a. Totally mentally incapacitated; or
 - b. Partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.
4. Have not been finally convicted of a felony from which the person has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities.
5. **Council Seat:** Must have resided one year in state prior to filing deadline; six months in the city prior to deadline.
6. Must be a registered voter in the city elected from, by the **filing deadline**. (LGC, Section 22.032, Election Code 141.001)



INCLUDED IN THIS PACKET

1. First Look **ELECTION CALENDAR**
2. Section 1: **APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE BALLOT** of the City of Crandall 2022 General Election
3. Section 2: **APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATE'S CAMPAIGN TREASURER (FORM CTA)** and the **FORM CTA INSTRUCTION GUIDE**. ***This form should accompany the application for a place on the ballot.*** Note the modified reporting section on the form. Additionally included: An Amendment form to the appointment of Candidate's Campaign Treasurer, the including guide, if needed.
4. Section 3: **CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES** subscription form (white) and information
5. Section 4: **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS**, forms and information / regulations.
 - a. One correction affidavit is included if needed
6. Section 5: Texas Ethics Commission **2023 FILING SCHEDULE** for Reports due in connection with elections held on uniform election dates.
7. Section 6: City of Crandall's **SIGN ORDINANCE** and a city boundary map.
 - a. Guide to TX Ethics Commission for **POLITICAL ADVERTISING**.
8. Section 7: **POLITICAL FUNDRAISERS**
9. Section 8: **CONFLICT DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE**
10. Section 9: Texas Municipal League **MAYOR AND COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Please return this packet if you decide not to file an application for a place on the ballot.





FIRST LOOK CALENDAR



2023 Election Calendar

<u>January 18, 2023</u>	First day for filing an application for a place on the ballot.
<u>February 17, 2023</u>	Last day to file an application for place on the ballot. The City Secretary's office will remain open until 5:00 PM.
<u>February 21, 2023</u>	Last day for a WRITE-IN candidate to declare candidacy.
<u>February 24, 2023</u>	Last day for a WRITE-IN CANDIDATE in a general election TO WITHDRAW. The statute does not state a time, but the SOS considers 5:00 p.m.
<u>February 24, 2023</u>	Last day for CANDIDATE in a general election TO WITHDRAW. The City Secretary's office will remain open until 5:00 PM on this day. (Last day that a declaration of ineligibility causes omission of candidate's name from ballot.)
<u>February 23-27, 2023</u>	Recommended time-period City Secretary will conduct drawing for order of NAMES ON THE BALLOT. Candidate will be notified of exact date.
<u>April 06, 2023</u>	DUE DATE for filing first report of campaign contributions and expenditures by candidates. The City Secretary's office will remain open until 5:00 PM. *Last day to register to vote for this election.
<u>April 24, 2023</u>	First day of early voting by personal appearance.
<u>April 25, 2023</u>	Last Day regardless of delivery method, last day to accept application by mail for a ballot to be voted by mail, by noon or close of business day. (Must be received on this date, not postmarked.)
<u>April 28, 2023</u>	DUE DATE for filing second report of campaign contributions and expenditures by candidates. The City Secretary's office will remain open until 5:00 PM.
<u>May 2, 2023</u>	Last day of early voting by personal appearance.
<u>May 6, 2023</u>	ELECTION DAY! Polls are open 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.



APPLICATION FORM FOR PLACE ON THE BALLOT

Information in this section is provided by the Texas Secretary of State.
For further information log onto: <http://www.sos.state.tx.us>

Please note that all applications, affidavits, statements & campaign reports filed with the City Secretary's office are considered public information. If you wish that your personal email (optional) remained private, it can be redacted.

APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE BALLOT FOR A GENERAL ELECTION FOR A CITY, SCHOOL DISTRICT OR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNLESS INDICATED AS OPTIONAL¹ Failure to provide required information may result in rejection of application.

APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE _____ GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT					
TO: City Secretary/Secretary of Board _____ (name of election)					
I request that my name be placed on the above-named official ballot as a candidate for the office indicated below.					
OFFICE SOUGHT (Include any place number or other distinguishing number, if any.)				INDICATE TERM <input type="checkbox"/> FULL <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPIRED	
FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)			PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT*		
PERMANENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Do not include a P.O. Box or Rural Route. If you do not have a residence address, describe the location of residence.)			PUBLIC MAILING ADDRESS (Optional) (Address for which you receive campaign related correspondence, if available.)		
CITY	STATE	ZIP	CITY	STATE	ZIP
PUBLIC EMAIL ADDRESS (Optional) (Address for which you receive campaign related emails, if available.)		OCCUPATION (Do not leave blank)		DATE OF BIRTH / /	VOTER REGISTRATION VUID NUMBER ² (Optional)
TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION (Optional)					
Home:		Office:		Cell:	
FELONY CONVICTION STATUS (You MUST check one)			LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE AS OF DATE THIS APPLICATION WAS SWORN		
<input type="checkbox"/> I have not been finally convicted of a felony. <input type="checkbox"/> I have been finally convicted of a felony, but I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of that felony conviction and I have provided proof of this fact with the submission of this application. ³			IN THE STATE OF TEXAS _____ year(s) _____ month(s)		IN TERRITORY/DISTRICT/PRECINCT FROM WHICH THE OFFICE SOUGHT IS ELECTED _____ year(s) _____ month(s)
*If using a nickname as part of your name to appear on the ballot, you are also signing and swearing to the following statements: I further swear that my nickname does not constitute a slogan or contain a title, nor does it indicate a political, economic, social, or religious view or affiliation. I have been commonly known by this nickname for at least three years prior to this election. Please review sections 52.031, 52.032 and 52.033 of the Texas Election Code regarding the rules for how names may be listed on the official ballot.					
Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared (name of candidate) _____, who being by me here and now duly sworn, upon oath says: "I, (name of candidate) _____, of _____ County, Texas, being a candidate for the office of _____, swear that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Texas. I am a citizen of the United States eligible to hold such office under the constitution and laws of this state. I have not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote. I am aware of the nepotism law, Chapter 573, Government Code. I am aware that I must disclose any prior felony conviction, and if so convicted, must provide proof that I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of any such final felony conviction. I am aware that knowingly providing false information on the application regarding my possible felony conviction status constitutes a Class B misdemeanor. I further swear that the foregoing statements included in my application are in all things true and correct."					
X _____ SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE					
Sworn to and subscribed before me this the _____ day of _____, _____, by _____ (name of candidate).					
Signature of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath ⁴			Printed Name of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath		
Notarial or Official Seal					
Title of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath					
TO BE COMPLETED BY FILING OFFICER: THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUIRED FILING FEE (If Applicable) PAID BY:					
<input type="checkbox"/> CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK <input type="checkbox"/> MONEY ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> CASHIERS CHECK OR <input type="checkbox"/> PETITION IN LIEU OF A FILING FEE.					
This document and \$_____ filing fee or a nominating petition of _____ pages received. <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration Status Verified					
_____/_____/_____ (Date Received)		_____/_____/_____ (Date Accepted)		(See Section 1.007) _____ (Signature of Filing Officer or Designee)	

INSTRUCTIONS

An application for a place on the general election for a city, school district or other political subdivision, may not be filed earlier than 30 days before the deadline prescribed by this code for filing the application. An application filed before that day is void. All fields of the application **must** be completed unless specifically marked optional.

For an election to be held on a uniform election date, the day of the filing deadline is the 78th day before Election Day.

If you have questions about the application, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 800-252-8683.

NEPOTISM LAW

The candidate must sign this statement indicating his awareness of the nepotism law. When a candidate signs the application, it is an acknowledgment that the candidate is aware of the nepotism law. The nepotism prohibitions of chapter 573, Government Code, are summarized below:

No officer may appoint or vote for or confirm the appointment or employment of any person related within the second degree by affinity (marriage) or the third degree by consanguinity (blood) to the officer, or to any other member of the governing body or court on which the officer serves when the compensation of that person is to be paid out of public funds or fees of office. However, nothing in the law prevents the appointment, voting for, or confirmation of anyone who has been continuously employed in the office or employment for the following period prior to the election or appointment of the officer or member related to the employee in the prohibited degree: six months if the officer or member is elected at an election other than the general election for state and county officers.

No candidate may take action to influence an employee of the office to which the candidate is seeking election or an employee or officer of the governmental body to which the candidate is seeking election regarding the appointment or employment of a person related to the candidate in a prohibited degree as noted above. This prohibition does not apply to a candidate's actions with respect to a bona fide class or category of employees or prospective employees.

FOOTNOTES

¹An application for a place on the ballot, including any accompanying petition, is public information immediately on its filing. (Section 141.035, Texas Election Code)

²Inclusion of a candidate's VUID is optional. However, many candidates are required to be registered voters in the territory from which the office is elected at the time of the filing deadline. Please visit the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's website for additional information. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/hb484-faq.shtml>

³Proof of release from the resulting disabilities of a felony conviction would include proof of judicial clemency under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 42A.701, proof of executive pardon under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.01, or proof of a restoration of rights under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.05. (Texas Attorney General Opinion KP-0251)

One of the following documents must be submitted with this application.

Judicial Clemency under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 42A.701

Executive Pardon under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.01

Restoration of Rights under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.05

⁴All oaths, affidavits, or affirmations made within this State may be administered and a certificate of the fact given by a judge, clerk, or commissioner of any court of record, a notary public, a justice of the peace, city secretary (for a city office), and the Secretary of State of Texas. See Chapter 602 of the Texas Government Code for the complete list of persons authorized to administer oaths.

**SOLICITUD DE INSCRIPCIÓN PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA DE UNA ELECCIÓN GENERAL
 PARA UNA CIUDAD, DISTRITO ESCOLAR U OTRA SUBDIVISIÓN POLÍTICA**

TODA LA INFORMACIÓN ES REQUERIDA A MENOS QUE SE INDIQUE COMO OPCIONAL¹ El hecho de no proporcionar la información requerida puede resultar en el rechazo de la solicitud.

SOLICITUD DE INSCRIPCIÓN PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA DE UNA ELECCIÓN GENERAL DE _____ Para: Secretario(a) de la Ciudad/ Secretario(a) del Consejo (nombre de la elección) Solicito que mi nombre se incluya en la boleta oficial mencionada anteriormente como candidato(a) al cargo indicado a continuación.					
CARGO SOLICITADO (Incluya cualquier número de cargo u otro número distintivo, si lo hay.)			INDIQUE TÉRMINO <input type="checkbox"/> TÉRMINO COMPLETO <input type="checkbox"/> TÉRMINO INCOMPLETO		
NOMBRE COMPLETO (Primer Nombre, Segundo Nombre, Apellido)			ESCRIBA SU NOMBRE COMO DESEA QUE APAREZCA EN LA BOLETA*		
DIRECCIÓN DE RESIDENCIA PERMANENTE (No incluya un apartado postal o una ruta rural. Si usted no tiene una dirección de residencia, describa la ubicación de la residencia.)			DIRECCIÓN DE CORREO PÚBLICO (Opcional) (Dirección en la que recibe la correspondencia relacionada con la campaña, si está disponible.)		
CIUDAD	ESTADO	CÓDIGO POSTAL	CIUDAD	ESTADO	CÓDIGO POSTAL
DIRECCIÓN DE CORREO ELECTRÓNICO PÚBLICO (Opcional) (Dirección donde recibe correo electrónico relacionado con la campaña, si está disponible.)		OCUPACIÓN (No deje este espacio en blanco)	FECHA DE NACIMIENTO ____/____/____	VUID – NÚMERO ÚNICO DE IDENTIFICACIÓN DE VOTANTE² (Opcional)	
INFORMACIÓN DE CONTACTO TELEFÓNICO (Opcional) Hogar: _____ Trabajo: _____ Celular: _____					
ESTADO DE CONDENA POR DELITO GRAVE (DEBE marcar una)			DURACIÓN DE RESIDENCIA CONTINUA A PARTIR DE LA FECHA EN QUE ESTA SOLICITUD FUE JURADA		
<input type="checkbox"/> No he sido finalmente condenado por un delito grave. <input type="checkbox"/> He sido finalmente condenado por un delito grave, pero he sido indultado o liberado de otro modo de las discapacidades resultantes de esa condena por delito grave y he proporcionado prueba de este hecho con la presentación de esta solicitud. ³			EN EL ESTADO DE TEXAS ____ año(s) ____ mes(es)		EN EL TERRITORIO/DISTRITO/PRECINTO DEL CUAL SE ELIGE EL CARGO BUSCADO ____ año(s) ____ mes(es)
*Si usa un apodo como parte de su nombre para aparecer en la boleta, también está firmando y jurando las siguientes declaraciones: Juro además que mi apodo no constituye un lema ni contiene un título, ni indica un punto de vista o afiliación política, económica, social o religiosa. He sido comúnmente conocido por este apodo durante al menos tres años antes de esta elección. Por favor, revise las secciones 52.031, 52.032 y 52.033 del Código Electoral de Texas con respecto a las reglas sobre cómo se pueden incluir los nombres en la boleta oficial.					
Ante mí, la autoridad abajo firmante, en este día apareció personalmente (nombre del candidato) _____, quien estando a mi lado aquí y ahora debidamente juramentado, bajo juramento dice: “Yo, (nombre del candidato) _____, del condado de _____, Texas, siendo candidato para el cargo de _____, juro que apoyaré y defenderé la Constitución y las leyes de los Estados Unidos y del Estado de Texas. Soy un ciudadano de los Estados Unidos elegible para ocupar dicho cargo según la Constitución y las leyes de este estado. No se me ha determinado por un fallo final de una corte que ejerce la jurisdicción testamentaria que esté totalmente incapacitado mentalmente o parcialmente incapacitado sin derecho a voto. Soy consciente de la ley de nepotismo según el Capítulo 573 del Código de Gobierno. Soy consciente de que debo divulgar cualquier condena previa de un delito grave y, si he sido condenado, debo proporcionar prueba de que he sido indultado o liberado de otro modo de las discapacidades resultantes de dicha condena final por delito grave. Soy consciente de que proporcionar a sabiendas información falsa en la solicitud con respecto a mi posible estado de condena por delito grave constituye un delito menor de Clase B. Juro además que las declaraciones anteriores incluidas en mi solicitud son, en todos los aspectos, verdaderas y correctas.”					
X _____ FIRMA DEL CANDIDATO					
Jurado y suscrito ante mí este día _____ de _____ del _____ por _____. (día) (mes) (año) (nombre de candidato)					
Firma del oficial autorizado para administrar el juramento ⁴			Nombre del oficial autorizado para administrar juramentos en letra de molde Notarial o sello oficial		
Título del oficial autorizado para administrar el juramento					
TO BE COMPLETED BY FILING OFFICER: THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUIRED FILING FEE (If Applicable) PAID BY: <input type="checkbox"/> CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK <input type="checkbox"/> MONEY ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> CASHIERS CHECK OR <input type="checkbox"/> PETITION IN LIEU OF A FILING FEE. This document and \$_____ filing fee or a nominating petition of _____ pages received. <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration Status Verified					
_____/_____/_____ Date Received		_____/_____/_____ Date Accepted		(See Section 1.007) _____ Signature of Filing Officer or Designee	

INSTRUCCIONES

Una solicitud para un lugar en la elección general para una ciudad, distrito escolar u otra subdivisión política, no puede ser presentada antes de los 30 días antes de la fecha límite prescrita por este código para presentar la solicitud. Una solicitud presentada antes de ese día es nula. Todos los campos de la solicitud **deben** completarse a menos que estén específicamente marcados como opcional.

Para una elección que se lleve a cabo en una fecha de elección uniforme, el día de la fecha límite de presentación es el 7^º día antes del día de la elección.

Si tiene preguntas sobre la solicitud, por favor póngase en contacto con la División de Elecciones del Secretario de Estado llamando al 800-252-8683.

LEY DE NEPOTISMO

El candidato debe firmar esta declaración indicando su conocimiento de la ley del nepotismo. Cuando un candidato firma la solicitud, es un reconocimiento de que el candidato conoce la ley del nepotismo. Las prohibiciones de nepotismo del capítulo 573, Código de Gobierno, se resumen a continuación:

Ningún funcionario puede nombrar, votar o confirmar el nombramiento o empleo de cualquier persona emparentada dentro del segundo grado por afinidad (matrimonio) o del tercer grado por consanguinidad (sangre) con sí mismo, o con cualquier otro miembro del órgano de gobierno o corte en el que se desempeña cuando la compensación de esa persona debe pagarse con fondos públicos o honorarios del cargo. Sin embargo, nada en la ley impide el nombramiento, la votación o la confirmación de cualquier persona que haya estado empleada continuamente en la oficina o el empleo durante el período siguiente antes de la elección o el nombramiento del funcionario o miembro emparentado con el empleado en el grado prohibido: seis meses, si el funcionario o miembro es elegido en una elección que no sea la elección general para funcionarios estatales y del condado.

Ningún candidato puede tomar medidas para influir en un empleado del cargo al que aspira a ser elegido o en un empleado o funcionario del organismo gubernamental al que aspira a ser elegido en relación con el nombramiento o el empleo de una persona emparentada con el candidato en un grado prohibido, tal como se ha indicado anteriormente. Esta prohibición no se aplica a las acciones de un candidato con respecto a una clase o categoría de buena fe de empleados o empleados prospectos.

NOTAS

¹Una solicitud para un lugar en la boleta electoral, incluida cualquier petición que la acompañe, es información pública inmediatamente después de su presentación. (Sección 141.035, Código Electoral de Texas)

²La inclusión del número único de identificación de votante (VUID, por sus siglas en Inglés) es opcional. Sin embargo, a muchos candidatos se les exige que estén registrados como votantes en el territorio desde el cual se elige el cargo en el momento de la fecha límite de presentación. Por favor, visite el sitio web de la División de Elecciones de la Secretaría de Estado para obtener información adicional. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/hb484-faq.shtml>

³La prueba de liberación de las discapacidades resultantes de una condena por un delito grave incluiría prueba de clemencia judicial según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 42A.701, prueba de indulto ejecutivo según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.01, o prueba de una restauración de derechos según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.05. (Opinión de Fiscal General de Texas KP-0251)

Se debe enviar uno de los siguientes documentos con esta solicitud:

Clemencia judicial según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 42A.701

Prueba de indulto ejecutivo según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.01

Prueba de una restauración de derechos según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.05

⁴Todos los juramentos, declaraciones juradas o afirmaciones hechas dentro de este estado pueden ser administrados y un certificado del hecho dado por un juez, secretario(a) o comisionado de cualquier corte de registro, un notario público, un juez de paz, secretario municipal (para una oficina de la ciudad) y el Secretario de Estado de Texas. Consulte el Capítulo 602 del Código del Gobierno de Texas para obtener la lista completa de personas autorizadas a administrar juramentos.

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE

FORM CTA--INSTRUCTION GUIDE



Revised January 1, 2023

Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711

www.ethics.state.tx.us

(512) 463-5800 • TDD (800) 735-2989

Promoting Public Confidence in Government

FORM CTA—INSTRUCTION GUIDE

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APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions are for the APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE (Form CTA). Use Form CTA only for appointing your campaign treasurer. Use the AMENDMENT (Form ACTA) for changing information previously reported on Form CTA and for renewing your choice to report under the modified schedule. Note: Candidates for most judicial offices use Form JCTA to file a campaign treasurer appointment.

DUTIES OF A CANDIDATE OR OFFICEHOLDER

As a candidate or officeholder, you alone, not the campaign treasurer, are responsible for filing this form and all candidate/officeholder reports of contributions, expenditures, and loans. Failing to file a report on time or filing an incomplete report may subject you to criminal or civil penalties.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER

A person is ineligible for appointment as a campaign treasurer if the person is the campaign treasurer of a political committee that has outstanding filing obligations (including outstanding penalties). This prohibition does not apply if the committee in connection with which the ineligibility arose has not accepted more than \$5,000 in political contributions or made more than \$5,000 in political expenditures in any semiannual reporting period. A person who violates this prohibition is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed three times the amount of political contributions accepted or political expenditures made in violation of this provision. Note: A candidate may appoint himself or herself as his or her own campaign treasurer.

DUTIES OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER

State law does not impose any obligations on a candidate's campaign treasurer.

REQUIREMENT TO FILE BEFORE BEGINNING A CAMPAIGN

If you plan to run for a public office in Texas (except for a federal office), you must file this form when you become a candidate even if you do not intend to accept campaign contributions or make campaign expenditures. A "candidate" is a person who knowingly and willingly takes affirmative action for the purpose of gaining nomination or election to public office or for the purpose of satisfying financial obligations incurred by the person in connection with the campaign for nomination or election. Examples of affirmative action include:

- (A) the filing of a campaign treasurer appointment, except that the filing does not constitute candidacy or an announcement of candidacy for purposes of the automatic resignation provisions of Article XVI, Section 65, or Article XI, Section 11, of the Texas Constitution;
- (B) the filing of an application for a place on the ballot;

- (C) the filing of an application for nomination by convention;
- (D) the filing of a declaration of intent to become an independent candidate or a declaration of write-in candidacy;
- (E) the making of a public announcement of a definite intent to run for public office in a particular election, regardless of whether the specific office is mentioned in the announcement;
- (F) before a public announcement of intent, the making of a statement of definite intent to run for public office and the soliciting of support by letter or other mode of
- (G) the soliciting or accepting of a campaign contribution or the making of a campaign expenditure; and
- (H) the seeking of the nomination of an executive committee of a political party to fill a vacancy.

Additionally, the law provides that you must file this form before you may accept a campaign contribution or make or authorize a campaign expenditure, including an personal funds. A filing fee paid to a filing authority to qualify for a place on a ballot is a campaign expenditure that may not be made before filing a campaign treasurer appointment form with the proper filing authority.

If you are an officeholder, you may make officeholder expenditures and accept officeholder contributions without having a campaign treasurer appointment on file. If you do not have a campaign treasurer appointment on file and you wish to accept *campaign* contributions or make *campaign* expenditures in connection with your office or for a different office, you must file this form before doing so. In such a case, a sworn report of contributions, expenditures, and loans will be due no later than the 15th day after filing this form.

WHERE TO FILE A CAMPAIGN TREASURER APPOINTMENT

The appropriate filing authority depends on the office sought or held.

a. Texas Ethics Commission. The Texas Ethics Commission (Commission) is the appropriate filing authority for the Secretary of State and for candidates for or holders of the following offices:

- Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Treasurer, Land Commissioner, Agriculture Commissioner, Railroad Commissioner.
- State Senator or State Representative.
- Supreme Court Justice, Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, and Court of Appeals Judge.*
- State Board of Education.

- A multi-county district judge* or multi-county district attorney.
- A single-county district judge.*
- An office of a political subdivision other than a county if the political subdivision includes areas in more than one county and if the governing body of the political subdivision has not been formed.
- A chair of the state executive committee of a political party with a nominee on the ballot in the most recent gubernatorial election.
- A county chair of a political party with a nominee on the ballot in the most recent gubernatorial election if the county has a population of 350,000 or more.

* Judicial candidates use FORM JCTA to appoint a campaign treasurer.

b. County Clerk. The county clerk (or the county elections administrator or tax assessor, as applicable) is the appropriate local filing authority for a candidate for:

- A county office.
- A precinct office.
- A district office (except for multi-county district offices).
- An office of a political subdivision other than a county if the political subdivision is within the boundaries of a single county and if the governing body of the political subdivision has not been formed.

c. Local Filing Authority. If a candidate is seeking an office of a political subdivision other than a county, the appropriate filing authority is the *clerk or secretary of the governing body* of the political subdivision. If the political subdivision has no clerk or secretary, the appropriate filing authority is the governing body's presiding officer. Basically, any political subdivision that is authorized by the laws of this state to hold an election is considered a local filing authority. Examples are cities, school districts, and municipal utility districts.

FILING WITH A DIFFERENT AUTHORITY

If you have a campaign treasurer appointment on file with one authority, and you wish to accept campaign contributions or make or authorize campaign expenditures in connection with another office that would require filing with a different authority, you must file a new campaign treasurer appointment *and* a copy of your old campaign treasurer appointment (certified by the old authority) with the new filing authority before beginning your campaign. You should also provide written notice to the original filing authority that your future reports will be filed with another authority; use Form CTA-T for this purpose.

FORMING A POLITICAL COMMITTEE

As a candidate, you must file an APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE (FORM CTA). You may also form a specific-purpose committee to support your candidacy. Remember that filing a campaign treasurer appointment for a political committee does not eliminate the requirement that a candidate file his or her own campaign treasurer appointment (FORM CTA) and the related reports.

NOTE: *See the Campaign Finance Guide for Political Committees for further information about specific-purpose committees.*

CHANGING A CAMPAIGN TREASURER

If you wish to change your campaign treasurer, simply file an amended campaign treasurer appointment (FORM ACTA). This will automatically terminate the outgoing campaign treasurer appointment.

AMENDING A CAMPAIGN TREASURER APPOINTMENT

If *any* of the information reported on the campaign treasurer appointment (FORM CTA) changes, file an AMENDMENT: APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE (FORM ACTA) to report the change.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN OFFICEHOLDERS

If you are an officeholder who appoints a campaign treasurer after a period of not having one, you must file a report of contributions, expenditures, and loans no later than the 15th day after your appointment is effective. This requirement is not applicable if you are a candidate or an officeholder who is merely changing campaign treasurers.

TERMINATING A CAMPAIGN TREASURER APPOINTMENT

You may terminate your campaign treasurer appointment at any time by:

- 1) filing a campaign treasurer appointment for a successor campaign treasurer, or
- 2) filing a final report.

Remember that you may not accept any campaign contributions or make or authorize any campaign expenditures without a campaign treasurer appointment on file. You may, however, accept officeholder contributions and make or authorize officeholder expenditures.

If your campaign treasurer quits, he or she must give written notice to both you and your filing authority. The termination will be effective on the date you receive the notice or on the date your filing authority receives the notice, whichever is later.

FILING A FINAL REPORT

For filing purposes, you are a “candidate” as long as you have an appointment of campaign treasurer on file. If you do not expect to accept any further campaign contributions or to make

any further campaign expenditures, you may file a final report of contributions and expenditures. A final report terminates your appointment of campaign treasurer and relieves you of the obligation of filing further reports as a candidate. If you have surplus funds, or if you retain assets purchased with political funds, you will be required to file annual reports. (*See instructions for FORM C/OH - UC.*) If you are an officeholder at the time of filing a final report, you may be required to file semiannual reports of contributions, expenditures, and loans as an officeholder.

If you do not have an appointment of campaign treasurer on file, you may not accept *campaign* contributions or make *campaign* expenditures. A payment on a campaign debt is a campaign expenditure. An officeholder who does not have an appointment of campaign treasurer on file may accept *officeholder* contributions and make *officeholder* expenditures.

To file a final report, you must complete the CANDIDATE/OFFICEHOLDER CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT (FORM C/OH), check the “final” box on Page 1, Section 9, and complete and attach the DESIGNATION OF FINAL REPORT (FORM C/OH-FR).

ELECTRONIC FILING

All persons filing campaign finance reports with the Commission are required to file those reports electronically unless the person is entitled to claim an exemption. Please check the Commission’s website at <http://www.ethics.state.tx.us> for information about exemptions from the electronic filing requirements.

GUIDES

All candidates should review the applicable Commission’s campaign finance guide. Guides are available on the Commission’s website at <http://www.ethics.state.tx.us>.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Each numbered item in these instructions corresponds to the same numbered item on the form.

PAGE 1

- 1. TOTAL PAGES FILED:** After you have completed the form, enter the total number of pages of this form and any additional pages. A “page” is one side of a two-sided form. If you are not using a two-sided form, a “page” is a single sheet.
- 2. CANDIDATE NAME:** Enter your full name, including nicknames and suffixes (e.g., Sr., Jr., III), if applicable. Enter your name in the same way on Page 2, Section 11, of this form.
- 3. CANDIDATE MAILING ADDRESS:** Enter your complete mailing address, including zip code. This information will allow your filing authority to correspond with you. If this information changes, please notify your filing authority immediately.
- 4. CANDIDATE PHONE:** Enter your phone number, including the area code and extension, if applicable.

5. **OFFICE HELD:** If you are an officeholder, please enter the office you currently hold. Include the district, precinct, or other designation for the office, if applicable.
6. **OFFICE SOUGHT:** If you are a candidate, please enter the office you seek, if known. Include the district, precinct, or other designation for the office, if applicable.
7. **CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME:** Enter the full name of your campaign treasurer, including nicknames and suffixes (e.g., Sr., Jr., III), if applicable.
8. **CAMPAIGN TREASURER STREET ADDRESS:** Enter the complete street address of your campaign treasurer, including the zip code. You may enter either the treasurer's business or residential street address. If you are your own treasurer, you may enter either your business or residential street address.
9. **CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE:** Enter the phone number of your campaign treasurer, including the area code and extension, if applicable.
10. **CANDIDATE SIGNATURE:** Enter your signature after reading the summary. Your signature here indicates that you have read the following summary of the nepotism law; that you are aware of your responsibility to file timely reports; and that you are aware of the restrictions on contributions from corporations and labor organizations.
 - The Texas nepotism law (Government Code, chapter 573) imposes certain restrictions on both officeholders and candidates. You should consult the statute in regard to the restrictions applicable to officeholders.
 - A candidate may not take an affirmative action to influence an employee of the office to which the candidate seeks election in regard to the appointment, confirmation, employment or employment conditions of an individual who is related to the candidate within a prohibited degree.
 - A candidate for a multi-member governmental body may not take an affirmative action to influence an officer or employee of the governmental body to which the candidate seeks election in regard to the appointment, confirmation, or employment of an individual related to the candidate in a prohibited degree.
 - Two people are related within a prohibited degree if they are related within the third degree by consanguinity (blood) or the second degree by affinity (marriage). The degree of consanguinity is determined by the number of generations that separate them. If neither is descended from the other, the degree of consanguinity is determined by adding the number of generations that each is separated from a common ancestor. Examples: (1) first degree - parent to child; (2) second degree - grandparent to grandchild; or brother to sister; (3) third degree - great-grandparent to great-grandchild; or aunt to niece who is child of individual's brother or sister. A husband and wife are related in the first degree by affinity. A wife has the same degree of relationship by affinity to her husband's relatives as her husband has by consanguinity. For example, a wife is related to her husband's grandmother in the second degree by affinity.

PAGE 2

11. CANDIDATE NAME: Enter your name as you did on Page 1.

12. MODIFIED REPORTING DECLARATION: Sign this option if you wish to report under the modified reporting schedule.

The modified reporting option is not available for candidates for the office of state chair of a political party and candidates for county chair of a political party.

To the left of your signature, enter the year of the election or election cycle to which your selection of modified reporting applies.

Your selection of modified reporting is valid for an entire election cycle. For example, if you choose modified reporting before a primary election, your selection remains in effect for any runoff and for the general election and any related runoff. You must make this selection at least 30 days before the first election to which your selection applies.

An opposed candidate in an election is eligible to report under the modified reporting schedule if he or she does not intend to accept more than \$1,010 in political contributions or make more than \$1,010 in political expenditures in connection with an election. The amount of a filing fee paid to qualify for a place on the ballot does not count against the \$1,010 expenditure limit. An opposed candidate who reports under the modified schedule is not required to file pre-election reports (due 30 days and 8 days before an election) or runoff reports (due 8 days before a runoff). (Note: An *unopposed* candidate is not required to file pre-election reports in the first place.) The obligations to file semiannual reports, special pre-election reports, or special session reports, if applicable, are not affected by selecting the modified schedule.

The \$1,010 maximums apply to each election within the cycle. In other words, you are limited to \$1,010 in contributions and expenditures in connection with the primary, an additional \$1,010 in contributions and expenditures in connection with the general election, and an additional \$1,010 in contributions and expenditures in connection with a runoff.

EXCEEDING \$1,010 IN CONTRIBUTIONS OR EXPENDITURES. If you exceed \$1,010 in contributions or expenditures in connection with an election, you must file according to the regular filing schedule. In other words, you must file pre-election reports and a runoff report, if you are in a runoff.

If you exceed either of the \$1,010 limits *after the 30th day before the election*, you must file a sworn report of contributions and expenditures within 48 hours after exceeding the limit. After that, you must file any pre-election reports or runoff reports that are due under the regular filing schedule.

Your selection is not valid for other elections or election cycles. Use the AMENDMENT (FORM ACTA) to renew your option to file under the modified schedule for a different election year or election cycle.

For more information, see the Commission's campaign finance guide that applies to you.

APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE

FORM CTA
PG 1

See CTA Instruction Guide for detailed instructions.		1 Total pages filed:		
2 CANDIDATE NAME	MS / MRS / MR	FIRST	MI	OFFICE USE ONLY
	NICKNAME	LAST	SUFFIX	
3 CANDIDATE MAILING ADDRESS	ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE			Filer ID #
				Date Received
4 CANDIDATE PHONE	AREA CODE	PHONE NUMBER	EXTENSION	Date Hand-delivered or Postmarked
	()			Receipt # Amount \$
5 OFFICE HELD (if any)				Date Processed
6 OFFICE SOUGHT (if known)				Date Imaged
7 CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME	MS/MRS/MR	FIRST	MI	NICKNAME
				LAST
				SUFFIX
8 CAMPAIGN TREASURER STREET ADDRESS (residence or business)	STREET ADDRESS; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE			
9 CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE	AREA CODE	PHONE NUMBER	EXTENSION	
	()			
10 CANDIDATE SIGNATURE	<p>I am aware of the Nepotism Law, Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code.</p> <p>I am aware of my responsibility to file timely reports as required by title 15 of the Election Code.</p> <p>I am aware of the restrictions in title 15 of the Election Code on contributions from corporations and labor organizations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signature of Candidate Date Signed</p>			
GO TO PAGE 2				

CANDIDATE MODIFIED REPORTING DECLARATION

FORM CTA
PG 2

11 CANDIDATE
NAME

12 MODIFIED
REPORTING
DECLARATION

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU ARE CHOOSING MODIFIED REPORTING

•• This declaration must be filed no later than the 30th day before the first election to which the declaration applies. ••

•• The modified reporting option is valid for one election cycle only. ••
(An election cycle includes a primary election, a general election, and any related runoffs.)

•• Candidates for the office of state chair of a political party may NOT choose modified reporting. ••

I do not intend to accept more than \$1,010 in political contributions or make more than \$1,010 in political expenditures (excluding filing fees) in connection with any future election within the election cycle. I understand that if either one of those limits is exceeded, I will be required to file pre-election reports and, if necessary, a runoff report.

Year of election(s) or election cycle to
which declaration applies

Signature of Candidate

This appointment is effective on the date it is filed with the appropriate filing authority.

TEC Filers may send this form to the TEC electronically at treasappoint@ethics.state.tx.us
or mail to
Texas Ethics Commission
P.O. Box 12070
Austin, TX 78711-2070

**Non-TEC Filers must file this form with the local filing authority
DO NOT SEND TO TEC**

For more information about where to file go to:
<https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/QuickFileAReport.php>

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

**FORM CFCP
COVER SHEET**

Pursuant to chapter 258 of the Election Code, every candidate and political committee is encouraged to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices. The Code may be filed with the proper filing authority upon submission of a campaign treasurer appointment form. Candidates or political committees that already have a current campaign treasurer appointment on file as of September 1, 1997, may subscribe to the code at any time.

Subscription to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is voluntary.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

Date Hand-delivered or Postmarked

Date Processed

Date Imaged

1 ACCOUNT NUMBER
(Ethics Commission Filers)

2 TYPE OF FILER

CANDIDATE

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

If filing as a candidate, complete boxes 3 - 6, then read and sign page 2.

If filing for a political committee, complete boxes 7 and 8, then read and sign page 2.

3 NAME OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)

FIRST

MI

NICKNAME

LAST

SUFFIX (SR., JR., III, etc.)

4 TELEPHONE NUMBER OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

AREA CODE

PHONE NUMBER

EXTENSION

()

5 ADDRESS OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

STREET / PO BOX;

APT / SUITE #;

CITY;

STATE;

ZIP CODE

6 OFFICE SOUGHT BY CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

7 NAME OF COMMITTEE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

8 NAME OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)

FIRST

MI

NICKNAME

LAST

SUFFIX (SR., JR., III, etc.)

GO TO PAGE 2

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play that every candidate and political committee in this state has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their constitutional rights to a free and untrammelled choice and the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

- (1) I will conduct the campaign openly and publicly and limit attacks on my opponent to legitimate challenges to my opponent's record and stated positions on issues.
- (2) I will not use or permit the use of character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or the candidate's personal or family life.
- (3) I will not use or permit any appeal to negative prejudice based on race, sex, religion, or national origin.
- (4) I will not use campaign material of any sort that misrepresents, distorts, or otherwise falsifies the facts, nor will I use malicious or unfounded accusations that aim at creating or exploiting doubts, without justification, as to the personal integrity or patriotism of my opponent.
- (5) I will not undertake or condone any dishonest or unethical practice that tends to corrupt or undermine our system of free elections or that hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters, including any activity aimed at intimidating voters or discouraging them from voting.
- (6) I will defend and uphold the right of every qualified voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process, and will not engage in any activity aimed at intimidating voters or discouraging them from voting.
- (7) I will immediately and publicly repudiate methods and tactics that may come from others that I have pledged not to use or condone. I shall take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of Texas or campaign treasurer of a political committee, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct the campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Signature

Date

CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT

**FORM C/OH
COVER SHEET PG 1**

The C/OH Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)	2 Total pages filed:
3 CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER NAME	MS / MRS / MR FIRST MI ----- NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX	OFFICE USE ONLY	
4 CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER MAILING ADDRESS <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address	ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE	Date Received	
5 CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER PHONE	AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION ()	Date Hand-delivered or Date Postmarked	
6 CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME	MS / MRS / MR FIRST MI ----- NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX	Receipt #	Amount \$
7 CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS (Residence or Business)	STREET ADDRESS (NO PO BOX PLEASE); APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE		
8 CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE	AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION ()		
9 REPORT TYPE	<input type="checkbox"/> January 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 30th day before election <input type="checkbox"/> Runoff <input type="checkbox"/> 15th day after campaign treasurer appointment (Officeholder Only) <input type="checkbox"/> July 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 8th day before election <input type="checkbox"/> Exceeded Modified Reporting Limit <input type="checkbox"/> Final Report (Attach C/OH - FR)		
10 PERIOD COVERED	Month Day Year THROUGH Month Day Year / / / / /		
11 ELECTION	ELECTION DATE Month Day Year / / /	ELECTION TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> Runoff <input type="checkbox"/> Other Description <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Special _____	
12 OFFICE	OFFICE HELD (if any)	13 OFFICE SOUGHT (if known)	
14 NOTICE FROM POLITICAL COMMITTEE(S) <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Pages	THIS BOX IS FOR NOTICE OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS ACCEPTED OR POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE BY POLITICAL COMMITTEES TO SUPPORT THE CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER. THESE EXPENDITURES MAY HAVE BEEN MADE WITHOUT THE CANDIDATE'S OR OFFICEHOLDER'S KNOWLEDGE OR CONSENT. CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT THIS INFORMATION ONLY IF THEY RECEIVE NOTICE OF SUCH EXPENDITURES.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIFIC	COMMITTEE TYPE	COMMITTEE NAME
			COMMITTEE ADDRESS
			COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME
			COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS
GO TO PAGE 2			

SUBTOTALS - C/OH

**FORM C/OH
COVER SHEET PG 3**

19 FILER NAME		20 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
21 SCHEDULE SUBTOTALS	NAME OF SCHEDULE	SUBTOTAL AMOUNT
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE A1: MONETARY POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE A2: NON-MONETARY (IN-KIND) POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE B: PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS	\$
4.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE E: LOANS	\$
5.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F1: POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$
6.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F2: UNPAID INCURRED OBLIGATIONS	\$
7.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F3: PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$
8.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F4: EXPENDITURES MADE BY CREDIT CARD	\$
9.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE G: POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM PERSONAL FUNDS	\$
10.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE H: PAYMENT MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO A BUSINESS OF C/OH	\$
11.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE I: NON-POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$
12.	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE K: INTEREST, CREDITS, GAINS, REFUNDS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS RETURNED TO FILER	\$

MONETARY POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE A1

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Total pages Schedule A1:
2 FILER NAME		3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 Date	5 Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) 6 Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code	7 Amount of contribution (\$)
8 Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)		9 Employer (See Instructions)
Date	Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code	Amount of contribution (\$)
Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)		Employer (See Instructions)
Date	Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code	Amount of contribution (\$)
Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)		Employer (See Instructions)
Date	Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code	Amount of contribution (\$)
Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)		Employer (See Instructions)
ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED If contributor is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements.		

NON-MONETARY (IN-KIND) POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE A2

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Total pages Schedule A2:	
2 FILER NAME		3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)	
4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED IN-KIND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS		\$	
5 Date	6 Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	8 Amount of Contribution \$	9 In-kind contribution description
	7 Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	
10 Principal occupation / Job title (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions)		11 Employer (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions)	
12 Contributor's principal occupation (FOR JUDICIAL)		13 Contributor's job title (FOR JUDICIAL)(See Instructions)	
14 Contributor's employer/law firm (FOR JUDICIAL)		15 Law firm of contributor's spouse (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL)	
16 If contributor is a child, law firm of parent(s) (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL)			

Date	Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	Amount of Contribution \$	In-kind contribution description
	Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	
Principal occupation / Job title (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions)		Employer (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions)	
Contributor's principal occupation (FOR JUDICIAL)		Contributor's job title (FOR JUDICIAL)(See Instructions)	
Contributor's employer/law firm (FOR JUDICIAL)		Law firm of contributor's spouse (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL)	
If contributor is a child, law firm of parent(s) (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL)			

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED
If contributor is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements.

PLEGGED CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE B

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Total pages Schedule B:	
2 FILER NAME		3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)	
4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED PLEDGES		\$	
5 Date	6 Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	8 Amount of Pledge \$	9 In-kind contribution description
	7 Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	

10 Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)	11 Employer (See Instructions)
---	---------------------------------------

Date	Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	Amount of Pledge \$	In-kind contribution description
	Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	

Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)	Employer (See Instructions)
---	-----------------------------

Date	Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	Amount of Pledge \$	In-kind contribution description
	Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	

Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)	Employer (See Instructions)
---	-----------------------------

Date	Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	Amount of Pledge \$	In-kind contribution description
	Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	

Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)	Employer (See Instructions)
---	-----------------------------

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED
If contributor is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements.

LOANS

SCHEDULE E

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Total pages Schedule E:
2 FILER NAME		3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED LOANS		\$
5 Date of loan	7 Name of lender <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	9 Loan Amount (\$)
6 Is lender a financial Institution? Y N	8 Lender address; City; State; Zip Code	10 Interest rate
		11 Maturity date
12 Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)		13 Employer (See Instructions)
14 Description of Collateral <input type="checkbox"/> none		15 <input type="checkbox"/> Check if personal funds were deposited into political account (See Instructions)
16 GUARANTOR INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	17 Name of guarantor	19 Amount Guaranteed (\$)
	18 Guarantor address; City; State; Zip Code	
20 Principal Occupation (See Instructions)		21 Employer (See Instructions)
Date of loan	Name of lender <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____)	Loan Amount (\$)
Is lender a financial Institution? Y N	Lender address; City; State; Zip Code	Interest rate
		Maturity date
Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions)		Employer (See Instructions)
Description of Collateral <input type="checkbox"/> none		<input type="checkbox"/> Check if personal funds were deposited into political account (See Instructions)
GUARANTOR INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	Name of guarantor	Amount Guaranteed (\$)
	Guarantor address; City; State; Zip Code	
Principal Occupation (See Instructions)		Employer (See Instructions)

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

If lender is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements.

POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE F1

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 8(a)

Advertising Expense	Event Expense	Loan Repayment/Reimbursement	Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Accounting/Banking	Fees	Office Overhead/Rental Expense	Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Consulting Expense	Food/Beverage Expense	Polling Expense	Travel In District
Contributions/Donations Made By	Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense	Printing Expense	Travel Out Of District
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee	Legal Services	Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor	Other (enter a category not listed above)
Credit Card Payment			

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

1 Total pages Schedule F1:	2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
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4 Date	5 Payee name
---------------	---------------------

6 Amount (\$)	7 Payee address;	City;	State;	Zip Code
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8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	(a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	(b) Description
	(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

9 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
---	-------------------------------	---------------	-------------

Date	Payee name
------	------------

Amount (\$)	Payee address;	City;	State;	Zip Code
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PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
--	-------------------------------	---------------	-------------

Date	Payee name
------	------------

Amount (\$)	Payee address;	City;	State;	Zip Code
-------------	----------------	-------	--------	----------

PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
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ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

UNPAID INCURRED OBLIGATIONS

SCHEDULE F2

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 10(a)

Advertising Expense	Event Expense	Loan Repayment/Reimbursement	Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Accounting/Banking	Fees	Office Overhead/Rental Expense	Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Consulting Expense	Food/Beverage Expense	Polling Expense	Travel In District
Contributions/Donations Made By	Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense	Printing Expense	Travel Out Of District
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee	Legal Services	Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor	Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

1 Total pages Schedule F2:	2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
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4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED UNPAID INCURRED OBLIGATIONS	\$
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5 Date	6 Payee name
---------------	---------------------

7 Amount (\$)	8 Payee address; City; State; Zip Code
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9 TYPE OF EXPENDITURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political
------------------------------	---

10 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	(a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	(b) Description
	(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

11 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
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Date	Payee name
------	------------

Amount (\$)	Payee address; City; State; Zip Code
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TYPE OF EXPENDITURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political
---------------------	---

PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
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ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

**PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS MADE
FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

SCHEDULE F3

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.	1 Total pages Schedule F3:
2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)

4 Date	5 Name of person from whom investment is purchased
	6 Address of person from whom investment is purchased; City; State; Zip Code
	7 Description of investment
	8 Amount of investment (\$)

Date	Name of person from whom investment is purchased
	Address of person from whom investment is purchased; City; State; Zip Code
	Description of investment
	Amount of investment (\$)

--

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

EXPENDITURES MADE BY CREDIT CARD

SCHEDULE F4

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 10(a)

Advertising Expense	Event Expense	Loan Repayment/Reimbursement	Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Accounting/Banking	Fees	Office Overhead/Rental Expense	Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Consulting Expense	Food/Beverage Expense	Polling Expense	Travel In District
Contributions/Donations Made By	Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense	Printing Expense	Travel Out Of District
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee	Legal Services	Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor	Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

1 Total pages Schedule F4:	2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED EXPENDITURES CHARGED TO A CREDIT CARD		\$
5 Date	6 Payee name	
7 Amount (\$)	8 Payee address;	City; State; Zip Code
9 TYPE OF EXPENDITURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political	
10 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	(a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	(b) Description
	(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	
11 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought Office held
Date	Payee name	
Amount (\$)	Payee address;	City; State; Zip Code
TYPE OF EXPENDITURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political	
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	
Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought Office held

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM PERSONAL FUNDS

SCHEDULE G

If the requested information is not applicable, DO NOT include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 8(a)

Advertising Expense	Event Expense	Loan Repayment/Reimbursement	Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Accounting/Banking	Fees	Office Overhead/Rental Expense	Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Consulting Expense	Food/Beverage Expense	Polling Expense	Travel In District
Contributions/Donations Made By	Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense	Printing Expense	Travel Out Of District
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee	Legal Services	Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor	Other (enter a category not listed above)
Credit Card Payment			

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

1 Total pages Schedule G:	2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 Date	5 Payee name	
6 Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended	7 Payee address; City; State; Zip Code	
8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	(a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	(b) Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense
9 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought Office held
Date	Payee name	
Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended	Payee address; City; State; Zip Code	
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense
Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought Office held
Date	Payee name	
Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended	Payee address; City; State; Zip Code	
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T.	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense
Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought Office held

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

PAYMENT MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO A BUSINESS OF C/OH

SCHEDULE H

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 8(a)

Advertising Expense Accounting/Banking Consulting Expense Contributions/Donations Made By Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee Credit Card Payment	Event Expense Fees Food/Beverage Expense Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense Legal Services	Loan Repayment/Reimbursement Office Overhead/Rental Expense Polling Expense Printing Expense Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor	Solicitation/Fundraising Expense Transportation Equipment & Related Expense Travel In District Travel Out Of District Other (enter a category not listed above)
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The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

1 Total pages Schedule H:	2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
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4 Date	5 Business name
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6 Amount (\$)	7 Business address;	City;	State;	Zip Code
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8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	(a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	(b) Description
	(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

9 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
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Date	Business name
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Amount (\$)	Business address;	City;	State;	Zip Code
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PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
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Date	Business name
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Amount (\$)	Business address;	City;	State;	Zip Code
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PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule)	Description
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense	

Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH	Candidate / Officeholder name	Office sought	Office held
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ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

NON-POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE I

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

1 Total pages Schedule I:	2 FILER NAME	3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 Date	5 Payee name	
6 Amount (\$)	7 Payee address;	City State Zip Code
8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	(a) Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.)	(b) Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.)
Date	Payee name	
Amount (\$)	Payee address;	City State Zip Code
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.)	Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.)
Date	Payee name	
Amount (\$)	Payee address;	City State Zip Code
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.)	Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.)
Date	Payee name	
Amount (\$)	Payee address;	City State Zip Code
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.)	Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.)

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

INTEREST, CREDITS, GAINS, REFUNDS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS RETURNED TO FILER

SCHEDULE K

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Total pages Schedule K:
2 FILER NAME		3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 Date	5 Name of person from whom amount is received	8 Amount (\$)
	6 Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code	
	7 Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer	
Date	Name of person from whom amount is received	Amount (\$)
	Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code	
	Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer	
Date	Name of person from whom amount is received	Amount (\$)
	Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code	
	Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer	
Date	Name of person from whom amount is received	Amount (\$)
	Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code	
	Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer	

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS OR POLITICAL EXPENDITURES FOR TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF TEXAS

SCHEDULE T

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.		1 Total pages Schedule T:
2 FILER NAME		3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)
4 Name of Contributor / Corporation or Labor Organization / Pledgor / Payee		
5 Contribution / Expenditure reported on: <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule A2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B(J) <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule C2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule D <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F1 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F4 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule G <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule H <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule COH-UC <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B-SS		
6 Dates of travel	7 Name of person(s) traveling	
	8 Departure city or name of departure location	
	9 Destination city or name of destination location	
10 Means of transportation	11 Purpose of travel (including name of conference, seminar, or other event)	
Name of Contributor / Corporation or Labor Organization / Pledgor / Payee		
Contribution / Expenditure reported on: <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule A2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B(J) <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule C2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule D <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F1 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F4 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule G <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule H <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule COH-UC <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B-SS		
Dates of travel	Name of person(s) traveling	
	Departure city or name of departure location	
	Destination city or name of destination location	
Means of transportation	Purpose of travel (including name of conference, seminar, or other event)	
Name of Contributor / Corporation or Labor Organization / Pledgor / Payee		
Contribution / Expenditure reported on: <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule A2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B(J) <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule C2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule D <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F1 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F2 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F4 <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule G <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule H <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule COH-UC <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B-SS		
Dates of travel	Name of person(s) traveling	
	Departure city or name of departure location	
	Destination city or name of destination location	
Means of transportation	Purpose of travel (including name of conference, seminar, or other event)	

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

**CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER REPORT:
DESIGNATION OF FINAL REPORT**

FORM C/OH - FR

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

**** Complete only if "Report Type" on page 1 is marked "Final Report" ****

1 C/OH NAME

2 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)

3 SIGNATURE

I do not expect any further political contributions or political expenditures in connection with my candidacy. I understand that designating a report as a final report terminates my campaign treasurer appointment. I also understand that I may not accept any campaign contributions or make any campaign expenditures without a campaign treasurer appointment on file.

Signature of Candidate / Officeholder

4 FILER WHO IS NOT AN OFFICEHOLDER

**** Complete A & B below *only* if you are not an officeholder. ****

A. CAMPAIGN FUNDS

Check only one:

- I do not have unexpended contributions or unexpended interest or income earned from political contributions.
- I have unexpended contributions or unexpended interest or income earned from political contributions. I understand that I may not convert unexpended political contributions or unexpended interest or income earned on political contributions to personal use. I also understand that I must file an annual report of unexpended contributions and that I may not retain unexpended contributions or unexpended interest or income earned on political contributions longer than six years after filing this final report. Further, I understand that I must dispose of unexpended political contributions and unexpended interest or income earned on political contributions in accordance with the requirements of Election Code, § 254.204.

B. ASSETS

Check only one:

- I do not retain assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions.
- I do retain assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions. I understand that I may not convert assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions to personal use. I also understand that I must dispose of assets purchased with political contributions in accordance with the requirements of Election Code, § 254.204.

Signature of Candidate

5 OFFICEHOLDER

**** Complete this section *only* if you are an officeholder ****

- I am aware that I remain subject to filing requirements applicable to an officeholder who does not have a campaign treasurer on file. I am also aware that I will be required to file reports of unexpended contributions if, after filing the last required report as an officeholder, I retain political contributions, interest or other income from political contributions, or assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions.

Signature of Officeholder



AFFIDAVIT FOR CANDIDATE OR OFFICEHOLDER: ELECTRONIC FILING EXEMPTION

An exemption affidavit must be submitted with each paper report.

Beginning on January 1, 2022, a candidate or officeholder who has accepted more than \$28,800 in political contributions or made more than \$28,800 in political expenditures in any calendar year must file all subsequent reports electronically.

Filer name	Filer ID #
------------	------------

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date Received	
Date Hand-delivered or Date Postmarked	
Receipt #	Amount \$
Date Processed	
Date Imaged	

- I swear or affirm that I have not accepted more than \$28,800 in political contributions or made more than \$28,800 in political expenditures in a calendar year.
- I further swear or affirm that I do not use computer equipment to keep current records of political contributions, political expenditures, or persons making political contributions to me.
- I further swear or affirm that no person acting as my agent or consultant, and no person with whom I contract, uses computer equipment to keep current records of political contributions, political expenditures, or persons making political contributions to me.
- I further swear or affirm that I understand that I am required to file my campaign finance reports electronically if I, my agent or consultant, or a person with whom I contract exceeds \$28,800 in political contributions or political expenditures in a calendar year, or uses computer equipment to keep current records of political contributions, political expenditures, or persons making political contributions to me.
- I am filing this affidavit with the _____ report due on _____. I understand that this affidavit is required to be filed with each campaign finance report for which I am claiming an exemption from electronic filing.

Please complete either option below:

(1) Affidavit

NOTARY STAMP / SEAL

Signature of Filer

Sworn to and subscribed before me by _____ this the _____ day of _____, 20_____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Signature of officer administering oath

Printed name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

OR

(2) Unsworn Declaration

My name is _____, and my date of birth is _____.

My address is _____ (street) _____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip code) _____ (country).

Executed in _____ County, State of _____, on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.
(month) (year)

Signature of Filer (Declarant)

FILERS WHO ARE EXEMPT FROM THE ELECTRONIC FILING REQUIREMENT ARE STILL REQUIRED TO FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS ON PAPER



TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
2023 FILING SCHEDULE FOR REPORTS DUE IN CONNECTION WITH
ELECTIONS HELD ON UNIFORM ELECTION DATES

This is a filing schedule for reports to be filed in connection with elections held on uniform election dates in May and November. Examples of elections held on uniform election dates are elections for school board positions and city offices. The uniform election dates in 2023 are May 6 and November 7.

Candidates and officeholders must file semiannual reports (due on January 17, 2023, and July 17, 2023). In addition, a candidate who has an opponent on the ballot in an election held on a uniform election date must file two pre-election reports (unless the candidate has elected modified reporting).

The campaign treasurer of a political committee that is involved in an election held on a uniform election date must also file pre-election reports (unless the committee is a general-purpose political committee that files monthly or a specific-purpose political committee that files on the modified reporting schedule). This schedule sets out the due dates for pre-election reports in connection with elections on uniform election dates. Please consult the 2023 REGULAR FILING SCHEDULE FOR GENERAL-PURPOSE POLITICAL COMMITTEES (GPAC), COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES (CEC), AND SPECIFIC-PURPOSE POLITICAL COMMITTEES (SPAC) for a complete listing of political committee deadlines.

Candidates for and officeholders in local offices regularly filled at the general election for state and county officers (the November election in even-numbered years) should use the 2023 FILING SCHEDULE FOR CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OR ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR.

EXPLANATION OF THE FILING SCHEDULE CHART

COLUMN I: REPORT DUE DATE - This is the date by which the report must be filed. If the due date for a report falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report is due on the next regular business day. This schedule shows the extended deadline where applicable. A report transmitted to the Texas Ethics Commission over the Internet is considered timely filed if it is transmitted *by midnight, Central Time Zone, on the night of the filing deadline*. For most filing deadlines, a report filed on paper is considered timely filed if it is deposited with the U.S. Post Office or a common or contract carrier properly addressed with postage and handling charges prepaid, or hand-delivered to the filing authority by the filing deadline. **Pre-Election Reports:** A report due 30 days before an election and a report due 8 days before an election must be *received* by the appropriate filing authority no later than the report due date to be considered timely filed.

COLUMN II: TYPE OF REPORT (WHO FILES) - This column gives the report type and explains which reporting form to use and which filers are required to file the report.

COLUMN III: BEGINNING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED - This column sets out the beginning date of the time period covered by the report. Use the latest one of the applicable dates. The "date of campaign treasurer appointment" is the beginning date only for the *first* report filed after filing a campaign treasurer appointment. For officeholders recently appointed to an elective office, the beginning date for the first report will be the date the officeholder took office, provided that he or she was not already filing as an officeholder or candidate at the time of the appointment. (*NOTE: If you are ever confused about the beginning date for a required report, remember this rule: **There should never be gaps between reporting periods and, generally, there should not be overlaps.***)

COLUMN IV: ENDING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED - This column sets out the ending date of the time period covered by the report. The report must include reportable activity occurring on the ending date.

Please consult the CAMPAIGN FINANCE GUIDE FOR CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS WHO FILE WITH LOCAL FILING AUTHORITIES or the CAMPAIGN FINANCE GUIDE FOR POLITICAL COMMITTEES for further information.

<u>COLUMN I</u> DUE DATE	<u>COLUMN II</u> TYPE OF REPORT (WHO FILES)	<u>COLUMN III</u> BEGINNING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED	<u>COLUMN IV</u> ENDING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED
Tuesday, January 17, 2023 <i>Deadline is extended because of weekend and holiday.</i>	January semiannual [FORM C/OH] (all local candidates and officeholders, except for officeholders who do not have a campaign treasurer appointment on file and who do not exceed \$940 in contributions or expenditures for the reporting period) [FORM GPAC] (all GPACs) [FORM SPAC] (all SPACs)	July 1, 2022, <i>or</i> the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i> the day after the date the last report ended.	December 31, 2022
Tuesday, January 17, 2023 <i>Deadline is extended because of weekend and holiday.</i>	Annual report of unexpended contributions [FORM C/OH-UC] (former candidates and former officeholders who have filed a final report and who retained unexpended contributions or assets purchased with contributions)	January 1, 2022, <i>or</i> the day after the date the final report was filed.	December 31, 2022

REPORTS DUE BEFORE THE MAY 6, 2023, UNIFORM ELECTION

Thursday, April 6, 2023 NOTE: This report must be received by the appropriate filing authority no later than April 6, 2023.	30th day before the May 6, 2023, uniform election [FORM C/OH] (all local candidates who have an opponent on the ballot in the May 6 election and who do not file on the modified reporting schedule) [FORM GPAC] (all GPACs that are involved with the May 6 election) [FORM SPAC] (all SPACs that do not file on the modified reporting schedule and that supported or opposed an opposed candidate or a measure in the May 6 election)	January 1, 2023, <i>or</i> the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i> the day after the date the last report ended.	March 27, 2023
NOTE: A political committee must file pre-election reports if the committee is involved with the election during each pre-election reporting period. A political committee must file an 8-day pre-election report if the committee filed a 30-day pre-election report, even if there is no activity to report during the 8-day reporting period. The campaign treasurer of a political committee may be required to file 30-day and 8-day pre-election reports in connection with elections not listed on this schedule.			

<u>COLUMN I</u> DUE DATE	<u>COLUMN II</u> TYPE OF REPORT (WHO FILES)	<u>COLUMN III</u> BEGINNING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED	<u>COLUMN IV</u> ENDING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED
<p>Friday, April 28, 2023</p> <p>NOTE: This report must be <u>received</u> by the appropriate filing authority no later than April 28, 2023.</p>	<p>8th day before May 6, 2023, uniform election</p> <p>[FORM C/OH] (all local candidates who have an opponent on the ballot in the May 6 election and who do not file on the modified reporting schedule)</p> <p>[FORM GPAC] (all GPACs that filed a “30th Day Before Election Report” or that are involved with the May 6 election)</p> <p>[FORM SPAC] (all SPACs that do not file on the modified reporting schedule and that filed a “30th Day Before Election Report” or that supported or opposed an opposed candidate or a measure in the May 6 election)</p>	<p>March 28, 2023, <i>or</i></p> <p>the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i></p> <p>the day after the date the last report ended.</p>	<p>April 26, 2023</p> <p>NOTE: Daily pre-election reports of contributions accepted and direct campaign expenditures made after April 26, 2023, may be required. Please consult the Campaign Finance Guide for further information.</p>

<p>Monday, July 17, 2023</p> <p><i>Deadline is extended because of weekend.</i></p>	<p>July semiannual</p> <p>[FORM C/OH] (all local candidates and officeholders, except for officeholders who do not have a campaign treasurer appointment on file and who do not exceed \$1,010 in contributions or expenditures for the reporting period)</p> <p>[FORM GPAC] (all GPACs)</p> <p>[FORM SPAC] (all SPACs)</p>	<p>January 1, 2023, <i>or</i></p> <p>the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i></p> <p>the day after the date the last report ended.</p>	<p>June 30, 2023</p>
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NOTE: A political committee must file pre-election reports if the committee is involved with the election during each pre-election reporting period. **A political committee must file an 8-day pre-election report if the committee filed a 30-day pre-election report, even if there is no activity to report during the 8-day reporting period.** The campaign treasurer of a political committee may be required to file 30-day and 8-day pre-election reports in connection with elections not listed on this schedule.

<u>COLUMN I</u> DUE DATE	<u>COLUMN II</u> TYPE OF REPORT (WHO FILES)	<u>COLUMN III</u> BEGINNING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED	<u>COLUMN IV</u> ENDING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED
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REPORTS DUE BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023, UNIFORM ELECTION

<p>Tuesday, October 10, 2023</p> <p><i>Deadline is extended because of weekend and holiday.</i></p> <p>NOTE: This report must be received by the appropriate filing authority no later than October 10, 2023.</p>	<p>30th day before the November 7, 2023, uniform election</p> <p>[FORM C/OH] (all local candidates who have an opponent on the ballot in the November 7 election and who do not file on the modified reporting schedule)</p> <p>[FORM GPAC] (all GPACs that are involved with the November 7 election)</p> <p>[FORM SPAC] (all SPACs that do not file on the modified reporting schedule and that supported or opposed an opposed candidate or a measure in the November 7 election)</p>	<p>July 1, 2023, <i>or</i></p> <p>the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i></p> <p>the day after the date the last report ended.</p>	<p>September 28, 2023</p>
<p>Monday, October 30, 2023</p> <p>NOTE: This report must be received by the appropriate filing authority no later than October 30, 2023.</p>	<p>8th day before the November 7, 2023, uniform election</p> <p>[FORM C/OH] (all local candidates who have an opponent on the ballot in the November 7 election and who do not file on the modified reporting schedule)</p> <p>[FORM GPAC] (all GPACs that filed a “30th Day Before Election Report” or that are involved with the November 7 election)</p> <p>[FORM SPAC] (all SPACs that do not file on the modified reporting schedule and that filed a “30th Day Before Election Report” or that supported or opposed an opposed candidate or a measure in the November 7 election)</p>	<p>September 29, 2023, <i>or</i></p> <p>the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i></p> <p>the day after the date the last report ended.</p>	<p>October 28, 2023</p> <p>NOTE: Daily pre-election reports of contributions accepted and direct campaign expenditures made after October 28, 2023, may be required. Please consult the Campaign Finance Guide for further information.</p>
<p>NOTE: A political committee must file pre-election reports if the committee is involved with the election during each pre-election reporting period. A political committee must file an 8-day pre-election report if the committee filed a 30-day pre-election report, even if there is no activity to report during the 8-day reporting period. The campaign treasurer of a political committee may be required to file 30-day and 8-day pre-election reports in connection with elections not listed on this schedule.</p>			

<u>COLUMN I</u> DUE DATE	<u>COLUMN II</u> TYPE OF REPORT (WHO FILES)	<u>COLUMN III</u> BEGINNING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED	<u>COLUMN IV</u> ENDING DATE OF PERIOD COVERED
<p>Tuesday, January 16, 2024</p> <p><i>Deadline is extended because of holiday.</i></p>	<p>January semiannual</p> <p>[FORM C/OH] (all local candidates and officeholders, except for officeholders who do not have a campaign treasurer appointment on file and who do not exceed \$1,010 in contributions or expenditures for the reporting period)</p> <p>[FORM GPAC] (all GPACs)</p> <p>[FORM SPAC] (all SPACs)</p>	<p>July 1, 2023, <i>or</i></p> <p>the date of campaign treasurer appointment, <i>or</i></p> <p>the day after the date the last report ended.</p>	<p>December 31, 2023</p>
<p>Tuesday, January 16, 2024</p> <p><i>Deadline is extended because of holiday.</i></p>	<p>Annual report of unexpended contributions</p> <p>[FORM C/OH-UC] (former candidates and former officeholders who have filed a final report and who retained unexpended contributions or assets purchased with contributions)</p>	<p>January 1, 2023, <i>or</i></p> <p>the day after the date the final report was filed.</p>	<p>December 31, 2023</p>

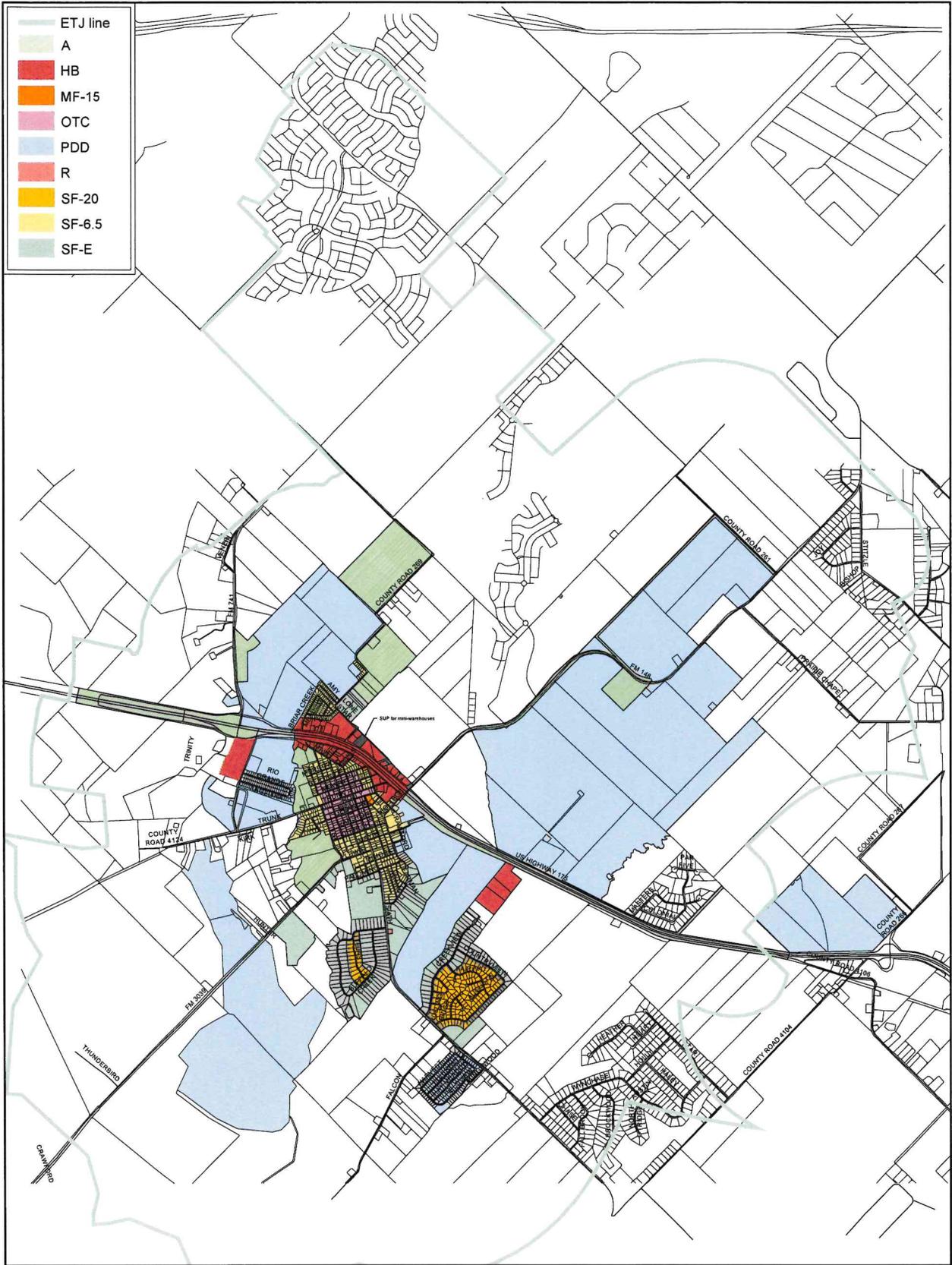
Sec. 4.03.035 Signage

Itinerant merchants shall be allowed a single temporary detached sign to advertise the business, subject to the following standards:

- (1) A vendor may have a maximum of two signs upon the vehicle or vendor structure. A third sign is allowed upon the vehicle/structure; however the third sign shall constitute the allowed single detached sign. If two signs or less are utilized on the vehicle structure, then the vendor shall be allowed the single temporary detached sign subject to standards below.
- (2) The sign must remain temporary and no permanent installation shall be allowed unless permitted under the city's sign ordinance. The sign should be anchored or stabilized to prevent wind damage.
- (3) Height of the sign shall not exceed six feet from the surface of the ground.
- (4) Overall sign dimensions shall not exceed 24 square feet. Sign may be dual sided.
- (5) Sign must be a minimum of 5 feet from the property line or curb, whichever is greater.
- (6) Signs may not:
 - (A) Block a sidewalk or other pedestrian path.
 - (B) Impede access to/from a mailbox.
 - (C) Block a driveway or be located in the turning radius of a driveway.
 - (D) Be set up in an area where the visual triangle of a driveway would be affected.
 - (E) Be within 10 feet of a fire hydrant.
- (7) All peddler/vendor signs may not be electronic or have any flashing component(s) upon the sign surface. Battery operated internally lighted signs are allowed.
- (8) All signs must be constructed of weatherproof materials and shall not be constructed of any of the following: Paper, canvas, cloth, cardboard, Styrofoam, or sheet metal.

LEGEND

	ETJ line
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	HB
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	OTC
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	R
	SF-20
	SF-6.5
	SF-E



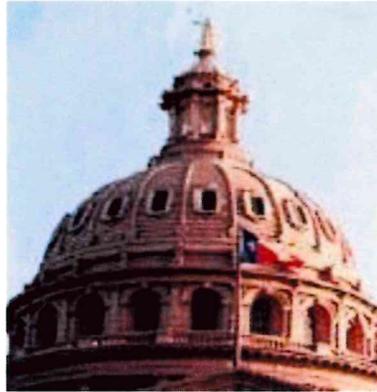
1

CRANDALL ZONING PLAN

SCALE: 1:1200

POLITICAL ADVERTISING

What You Need to Know



The Texas Election Code requires certain disclosures and notices on political advertising. The law also prohibits certain types of misrepresentation in political advertising and campaign communications. This brochure explains what you need to know to insure that your political advertising and campaign communications comply with the law.

If you are not sure what the law requires, do the cautious thing. Use the political advertising disclosure statement whenever you think it might be necessary, and do not use any possibly misleading information in political advertising or a campaign communication. If you are using political advertising or campaign communications from a prior campaign, you should check to see if the law has changed since that campaign.

Candidates for federal office should check with the Federal Election Commission at (800) 424-9530 for information on federal political advertising laws.

NOTICE: This guide is intended only as a general overview of the disclosure statements that must appear on political advertising as required under [Chapter 255 of the Election Code](#), which is distinct from political reporting requirements under [Chapter 254 of the Election Code](#).

Texas Ethics Commission
P.O. Box 12070
Austin, Texas 78711-2070

(512) 463-5800

TDD (800) 735-2989

Visit us at www.ethics.state.tx.us.

Revised July 16, 2019

REQUIRED DISCLOSURE ON POLITICAL ADVERTISING

I. What Is Political Advertising?

The disclosure statement and notice requirements discussed in this section apply to “political advertising.” In the law, “political advertising” is a specifically defined term. Do not confuse this special term with your own common-sense understanding of advertising.

To figure out if a communication is political advertising, you must look at what it says and where it appears. If a communication fits in one of the categories listed in Part A (below) and if it fits in one of the categories listed in Part B (below), it is political advertising.

Part A. What Does It Say?

1. Political advertising includes communications supporting or opposing a candidate for nomination or election to either a public office or an office of a political party (including county and precinct chairs).
2. Political advertising includes communications supporting or opposing an officeholder, a political party, or a measure (a ballot proposition).

Part B. Where Does It Appear?

1. Political advertising includes communications that appear in pamphlets, circulars, fliers, billboards or other signs, bumper stickers, or similar forms of written communication.
2. Political advertising includes communications that are published in newspapers, magazines, or other periodicals in return for consideration.
3. Political advertising includes communications that are broadcast by radio or television in return for consideration.
4. Political advertising includes communications that appear on an Internet website.

II. When Is a Disclosure Statement Required?

The law provides that political advertising that contains express advocacy is required to include a disclosure statement. The person who causes the political advertising to be published, distributed, or broadcast is responsible for including the disclosure statement.

The law does not define the term “express advocacy.” However, the law does provide that political advertising is deemed to contain express advocacy if it is authorized by a candidate, an agent of a candidate, or a political committee filing campaign finance reports. Therefore, a disclosure statement is required any time a candidate, a candidate’s agent, or a political committee authorizes political advertising.

The precise language of political advertising authorized by someone other than a candidate, the candidate's agent, or a political committee will determine if the advertising contains express advocacy and is therefore required to include a disclosure statement. Generally, the question is whether the communication expressly advocates the election or defeat of an identified candidate, or expressly advocates the passage or defeat of a measure, such as a bond election. The inclusion of words such as "vote for," "elect," "support," "defeat," "reject," or "Smith for Senate" would clearly constitute express advocacy, but express advocacy is not limited to communications that use those words. Similar phrases, such as "Cast your ballot for X," would also constitute express advocacy. Additionally, in 2007, the United States Supreme Court held that an advertisement included express advocacy or its functional equivalent "if the ad is susceptible to no reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate." *FEC v. Wis. Right to Life, Inc.*, 551 U.S. 449 (2007). It is a question of fact whether a particular communication constitutes express advocacy. If you are not sure whether political advertising contains express advocacy, do the cautious thing and include the disclosure statement. That way, there is no need to worry about whether you have violated the law.

Remember: The concept of "express advocacy" is relevant in determining whether political advertising is required to include a disclosure statement. However, the political advertising laws governing the right-of-way notice, misrepresentation, and use of public funds by political subdivisions will apply to political advertising regardless of whether the advertising contains express advocacy.

III. What Should the Disclosure Statement Say?

A disclosure statement must include the following:

1. the words "political advertising" or a recognizable abbreviation such as "pol. adv."; and
2. the full name of one of the following: (a) the person who paid for the political advertising; (b) the political committee authorizing the political advertising; or (c) the candidate or specific-purpose committee supporting the candidate, if the political advertising is authorized by the candidate.

The disclosure statement must appear on the face of the political advertising or be clearly spoken if the political advertising is audio only and does not include written text.

The advertising should not be attributed to entities such as "Committee to Elect John Doe" unless a specific-purpose committee named "Committee to Elect John Doe" has filed a campaign treasurer appointment with the Ethics Commission or a local filing authority.

IV. Are There Any Exceptions to the Disclosure Statement Requirement?

The following types of political advertising do not need the disclosure statement:

1. t-shirts, balloons, buttons, emery boards, hats, lapel stickers, small magnets, pencils, pens, pins, wooden nickels, candy wrappers, and similar materials;
2. invitations or tickets to political fundraising events or to events held to establish support for a candidate or officeholder;

3. an envelope that is used to transmit political advertising, provided that the political advertising in the envelope includes the disclosure statement;
4. circulars or fliers that cost in the aggregate less than \$500 to publish and distribute;
5. political advertising printed on letterhead stationery, if the letterhead includes the name of one of the following: (a) the person who paid for the advertising, (b) the political committee authorizing the advertising, or, (c) the candidate or specific-purpose committee supporting the candidate, if the political advertising is authorized by the candidate. (Note: There is also an exception for holiday greeting cards sent by an officeholder, provided that the officeholder's name and address appear on the card or the envelope.)
6. postings or re-postings on an Internet website if the person posting or re-posting is not an officeholder, candidate, or political committee and did not make an expenditure exceeding \$100 in a reporting period for political advertising beyond the basic cost of hardware messaging software and bandwidth;
7. an Internet social media profile webpage of a candidate or officeholder, if the webpage clearly and conspicuously displays the full name of the candidate or officeholder; and
8. postings or re-postings on an Internet website if the advertising is posted with a link to a publicly viewable Internet webpage that either contains the disclosure statement or is an Internet social media profile webpage of a candidate or officeholder that clearly and conspicuously displays the candidate's or officeholder's full name.

V. What Should I Do If I Discover That My Political Advertising Does Not Contain a Disclosure Statement?

The law prohibits a person from using, causing or permitting to be used, or continuing to use political advertising containing express advocacy if the person knows it does not include the disclosure statement. A person is presumed to know that the use is prohibited if the Texas Ethics Commission notifies the person in writing that the use is prohibited. If you receive notice from the Texas Ethics Commission that your political advertising does not comply with the law, you should stop using it immediately.

If you learn that a political advertising sign designed to be seen from the road does not contain a disclosure statement or contains an inaccurate disclosure statement, you should make a good faith attempt to remove or correct those signs that have been distributed. You are not required to attempt to recover other types of political advertising that have been distributed with a missing or inaccurate disclosure statement.

VI. The Fair Campaign Practices Act.

The [Fair Campaign Practices Act](#) sets out basic rules of decency, honesty, and fair play to be followed by candidates and political committees during a campaign. A candidate or political committee may choose to subscribe to the voluntary code by signing a copy of the code and filing it with the authority with whom the candidate or committee is required to file its campaign

treasurer appointment. A person subscribing to the code may indicate that fact on political advertising by including the following or a substantially similar statement:

(Name of the candidate or political committee, as appropriate) subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

VII. Special Notice to Political Subdivisions and School Districts.

You may not use public funds or resources for political advertising. Please see our “Publications and Guides” section of our website for more information.

ROAD SIGNS

I. When Is the “Right-Of-Way” Notice Required?

All written political advertising that is meant to be seen from a road must carry a “right-of-way” notice. It is a criminal offense to omit the “right-of-way” notice in the following circumstances:

1. if you enter into a contract or agreement to print or make written political advertising meant to be seen from a road; or
2. if you instruct another person to place the written political advertising meant to be seen from a road.

II. What Should the “Right-Of-Way” Notice Say?

Section 259.001 of the Texas Election Code prescribes the exact language of the notice:

NOTICE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF STATE LAW (CHAPTERS 392 AND 393, TRANSPORTATION CODE) TO PLACE THIS SIGN IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A HIGHWAY.

III. Do Yard Signs Have to Have the “Right-Of-Way” Notice?

Yes. The “right-of-way” notice requirement applies to signs meant to be seen from any road. The notice requirement assures that a person responsible for placing signs is aware of the restriction on placing the sign in the right-of-way of a highway.

IV. What About Bumper Stickers?

Bumper stickers do not need the “right-of-way” notice. They do, however, need a political advertising disclosure statement.

V. Where May I Place My Signs and How Long May Signs Be Posted?

For information about exactly where you may or may not place signs, or for information regarding the length of time your signs may be posted, check with your city or county government or your homeowner’s association. The Texas Ethics Commission does not have

jurisdiction over matters involving the location of signs, and the length of time that they may be posted.

MISREPRESENTATION

I. Are There Restrictions on the Contents of Political Advertising?

Political advertising and campaign communications may not misrepresent a person’s identity or official title, nor may they misrepresent the true source of the advertising or communication. The election law does not address other types of misrepresentation in political advertising or campaign communications.

Note that the misrepresentation rules apply to both political advertising and campaign communications. “Campaign communication” is a broader term than “political advertising.”

A “campaign communication” means “a written or oral communication relating to a campaign for nomination or election to public office or office of a political party or to a campaign on a measure.”

II. Misrepresentation of Office Title.

A candidate may not represent that he or she holds an office that he or she does not hold at the time of the representation. **If you are not the incumbent in the office you are seeking, you must make it clear that you are seeking election rather than reelection by using the word “for” to clarify that you don’t hold that office.** The word “for” must be at least one-half the type size as the name of the office and should appear immediately before the name of the office. For example, a non-incumbent may use the following formats:

**Vote John Doe
for Attorney General**

**John Doe
For
Attorney General**

A non-incumbent may not be allowed to use the following verbiage:

**Elect John Doe
Attorney General**

**John Doe
Attorney General**

III. Misrepresentation of Identity or Source.

A person violates the law if, with intent to injure a candidate or influence the result of an election, the person misrepresents the source of political advertising or a campaign communication or if the person misrepresents his or her own identity or the identity of his or her agent in political advertising or in a campaign communication. (If someone else is doing something for you, that person is your agent.) For example, you may not take out an ad in favor of your opponent that purports to be sponsored by a notoriously unpopular group.

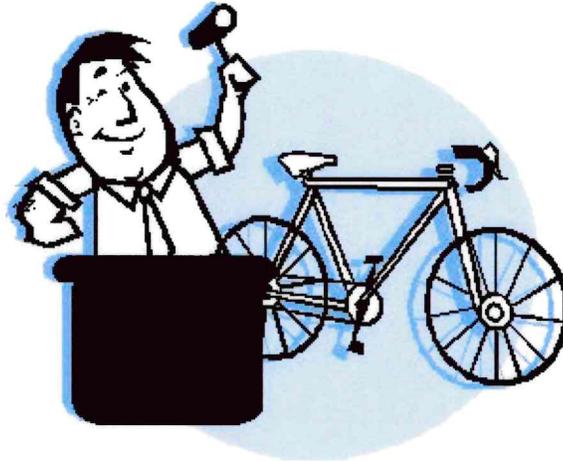
IV. Use of State Seal.

Only current officeholders may use the state seal in political advertising.

V. Criminal Offenses.

Be aware that many violations of the Election Code are criminal offenses. For example, unlawfully using public funds for political advertising can be a Class A misdemeanor. So can misrepresenting one's identity or office title in political advertising. For more details on these offenses and political advertising in general, see [Chapter 255 of the Election Code](#).

POLITICAL FUNDRAISERS: What You Need to Know



A GUIDE FOR CANDIDATES, OFFICEHOLDERS, AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES

January 1, 2022

Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711

www.ethics.state.tx.us

(512) 463-5800 • TDD (800) 735-2989

Promoting Public Confidence in Government

Fundraising Events

Rule No. 1

File a Campaign Treasurer Appointment

All candidates must file a campaign treasurer appointment with the proper filing authority before accepting a campaign contribution or making or authorizing a campaign expenditure, including an expenditure from personal funds.

All political committees must file a campaign treasurer appointment before accepting or spending over ~~\$940~~\$930, and additional requirements may also apply.

Rule No. 2

No Raffles

Texas law allows only certain charitable and nonprofit organizations to conduct raffles to support their charitable causes. An unlawful raffle may constitute illegal gambling, which may carry criminal penalties.

For more information see: texasattorneygeneral.gov/divisions/financial-litigation/charitable-trusts/charitable-raffles-and-casinopoker-nights on the Office of the Attorney General's website.

Rule No. 3

No Cash Contributions Over \$100

Texas law prohibits a candidate, officeholder, or specific-purpose committee from accepting political contributions in cash (excluding checks) that in the aggregate exceed \$100 from a single contributor in a reporting period.

Rule No. 4

Auction Activity is Reportable

Donations to a candidate or political committee at a fundraiser are campaign contributions.

An item donated to be auctioned at a fundraiser is an “in-kind” campaign contribution. The purchase of the item at the auction is also a contribution. Both the item and the purchase price must be reported as political contributions.

Rule No. 5

No Anonymous Contributions

Texas law requires filers to know the name of each contributor and the amount of each contribution, even for small contributions. Do not “pass the hat” or use a contribution jar. Depending on the filer and the amount of the contribution, additional information may be required.

Rule No. 6

No Contributions from Corporations or Labor Organizations

Texas law prohibits corporations and labor organizations from making political contributions to candidates, officeholders, and related specific-purpose committees. Contributions to GPACs are also restricted. Limited exceptions also exist.

The prohibition also applies to other organizations, such as partnerships and limited liability companies (LLC), if they are owned by a corporation or include an incorporated member or partner.

Rule No. 7

No Contributions from Foreign Nationals

The Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) prohibits certain foreign nationals from contributing, donating, or spending funds in connection with any federal, state, or local election in the U.S., either directly or indirectly. It is also unlawful to help foreign nationals violate that ban or to solicit, receive, or accept contributions or donations from them.

Rule No. 8

No Misuse of Government Property to Campaign

Chapter 39 of the Penal Code prohibits a public servant from using government property, services, personnel, or any other thing of value belonging to the government to obtain a benefit or to harm or defraud another. The commission has held that the use of state computers to prepare campaign finance reports, or to use state resources to gather information for a campaign fundraiser, constitutes a misuse of government property.

Texas Ethics Commission

P.O. Box 12070

Austin, Texas 78711-2070

(512) 463-5800

Note: This brochure is not intended to encompass all the rules, but is intended to give a broad overview of the most common questions involving fundraisers. Be sure to check with the Texas Ethics Commission and your local municipality for any additional limits that might apply.

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, the publications of the Texas Ethics Commission are available by request in alternative formats. To request an accessible format, please contact our ADA Compliance Officer by telephone at 512-463-5800 or through RELAY Texas at 800-735-2989; or by mail in care of the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER CONFLICTS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM CIS

(Instructions for completing and filing this form are provided on the next page.)

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This is the notice to the appropriate local governmental entity that the following local government officer has become aware of facts that require the officer to file this statement in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of Local Government Officer

2 Office Held

3 Name of vendor described by Sections 176.001(7) and 176.003(a), Local Government Code

4 Description of the nature and extent of each employment or other business relationship and each family relationship with vendor named in item 3.

5 List gifts accepted by the local government officer and any family member, if aggregate value of the gifts accepted from vendor named in item 3 exceeds \$100 during the 12-month period described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B).

Date Gift Accepted _____ Description of Gift _____

Date Gift Accepted _____ Description of Gift _____

Date Gift Accepted _____ Description of Gift _____

(attach additional forms as necessary)

6 SIGNATURE

I swear under penalty of perjury that the above statement is true and correct. I acknowledge that the disclosure applies to each family member (as defined by Section 176.001(2), Local Government Code) of this local government officer. I also acknowledge that this statement covers the 12-month period described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), Local Government Code.

Signature of Local Government Officer

Please complete either option below:

(1) Affidavit

NOTARY STAMP / SEAL

Sworn to and subscribed before me by _____ this the _____ day of _____,
20 _____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Signature of officer administering oath

Printed name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

OR

(2) Unsworn Declaration

My name is _____, and my date of birth is _____.

My address is _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.
(street) (city) (state) (zip code) (country)

Executed in _____ County, State of _____, on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.
(month) (year)

Signature of Local Government Officer (Declarant)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER CONFLICTS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Section 176.003 of the Local Government Code requires certain local government officers to file this form. A "local government officer" is defined as a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity; a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of a local governmental entity; or an agent of a local governmental entity who exercises discretion in the planning, recommending, selecting, or contracting of a vendor. This form is required to be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than 5 p.m. on the seventh business day after the date on which the officer becomes aware of the facts that require the filing of this statement.

A local government officer commits an offense if the officer knowingly violates Section 176.003, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

Refer to chapter 176 of the Local Government Code for detailed information regarding the requirement to file this form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

The following numbers correspond to the numbered boxes on the other side.

- 1. Name of Local Government Officer.** Enter the name of the local government officer filing this statement.
- 2. Office Held.** Enter the name of the office held by the local government officer filing this statement.
- 3. Name of vendor described by Sections 176.001(7) and 176.003(a), Local Government Code.** Enter the name of the vendor described by Section 176.001(7), Local Government Code, if the vendor: a) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A), Local Government Code; b) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), Local Government Code; or c) has a family relationship with the local government officer as defined by Section 176.001(2-a), Local Government Code.
- 4. Description of the nature and extent of each employment or other business relationship and each family relationship with vendor named in item 3.** Describe the nature and extent of the employment or other business relationship the vendor has with the local government officer or a family member of the officer as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A), Local Government Code, and each family relationship the vendor has with the local government officer as defined by Section 176.001(2-a), Local Government Code.
- 5. List gifts accepted, if the aggregate value of the gifts accepted from vendor named in item 3 exceeds \$100.** List gifts accepted during the 12-month period (described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), Local Government Code) by the local government officer or family member of the officer from the vendor named in item 3 that in the aggregate exceed \$100 in value.
- 6. Signature.** Signature of local government officer. Complete this section after you finish the rest of this report. You have the option to either: (1) take the completed form to a notary public where you will sign above the first line that says "Signature of Local Government Officer" (an electronic signature is not acceptable) and your signature will be notarized, or (2) sign above both lines that say "Signature of Local Government Officer (Declarant)" (an electronic signature is not acceptable), and fill out the unsworn declaration section.

Local Government Code § 176.001(2-a): "Family relationship" means a relationship between a person and another person within the third degree by consanguinity or the second degree by affinity, as those terms are defined by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A):

- (a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

- (2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that:

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 **Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.** (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

Yes No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

- (1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);
- (2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or
- (3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

- (A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or
- (B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

- (A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);
- (B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or
- (C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

Chapter One:

Local Government in Texas

Understanding city government requires some knowledge of all local governments. This chapter briefly discusses counties, school districts, council of governments, and types of city governments.

Units of Local Government

According to 2010 Census of Government figures, Texas has 1,209 cities, 254 counties, 1,082 school districts, and 2,291 special districts. During the past 20 years, the number of special districts has steadily increased, due mainly to the rapid creation of water districts in unincorporated areas. Conversely, the number of school districts has steadily declined as smaller systems have consolidated with larger ones. The number of counties has remained constant for 100 years, while the number of cities is increasing at an average of about 10 per year.

The United States Census Bureau also recognized that four of the 10 cities with the largest recent population gains were in Texas —San Antonio, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Frisco. Texas also had seven of the most recent 15 fastest-growing cities by percentage — New Braunfels, Frisco, McKinney, Georgetown, Rowlett, Midland, and Round Rock.

Counties

Counties are known as “general purpose” governments due to the many different functions they perform. Counties serve the dual purposes of providing governmental services for the benefit of their residents and

administrative services on behalf of the state. Major governmental services include road construction and maintenance, jails and courts, welfare, health, and law enforcement. Administrative services performed by counties as agents of the state include voter registration and motor vehicle licensing.

Special Districts

Schools and the many types of special districts are known as “single-purpose” governments, since they usually perform just one function, such as education, water supply, or hospital care. Most special districts serve a limited geographical area and were created because of the inability of general purpose local governments to provide a particular service.

Councils of Governments

Councils of governments (COGs) are also known as “regional planning commissions.” COGs are defined as “political subdivisions of the state” under Texas law. However, COGs differ considerably from cities, counties, and other conventional local governments because they cannot levy taxes nor incur debt.

COGs are voluntary, area-wide associations of local governments. Their function is to foster local cooperation among localities by serving as forums for intergovernmental problem-solving and by planning governmental programs and facilities on a regional basis. Though they do not have broad power to execute projects, many of the state’s COGs provide direct services on a limited basis.

Each COG operates under the supervision of a governing body composed of elected officials representing participating local governments. Financing is provided by a combination of dues paid by member governments and federal and state funds.

Cities

Among all of the different types of local governments, cities perform the greatest number of functions, both governmental and proprietary.

State law specifically defines and lists certain activities as either governmental or proprietary functions in the Texas Tort Claims Act. The law lists 36 functions that are governmental. Included among them are police and fire protection, health and sanitation services, street construction and design, transportation systems, establishment and maintenance of jails, and enforcement of land use restrictions. Three functions are listed as proprietary: the operation and maintenance of a public utility, amusements owned and operated by a city, and any activity that is abnormally dangerous or ultra-hazardous. Functions that are listed as governmental are not included as proprietary functions.

There are two categories of cities in Texas: home rule and general law.

Home rule cities are larger cities with more than 5,000 inhabitants in which the citizens have adopted a home rule charter. A charter is a document that establishes the city's governmental structure and provides for the distribution of powers and duties among the various branches of government.

The legal position of home rule cities is the reverse of general law cities. Rather than

looking to state law to determine what they may do, as general law cities must, home rule cities look to the state constitution and state statutes to determine what they may not do. Thus, if a proposed home rule city action has not been prohibited, limited, or pre-empted by the state, the city generally can proceed.

General law cities are smaller cities, most of which are less than 5,000 in population. All general law cities operate according to specific state statutes prescribing their powers and duties. General law cities are limited to doing what the state authorizes or permits them to do. If state law does not grant general law cities the express or implied power to initiate a particular action, none may be taken.

Approximately seventy-five percent of all Texas cities operate under the general laws; the remainder are home rule cities. "General law" is a term used to describe all of the state laws applicable to a particular class of things. A general law city, therefore, is one that is subject to all of the state laws applicable to such cities, many of which are found in the Local Government Code.

General law city officials occasionally call the Texas Municipal League office to request a copy of their "city charters." Unlike home rule cities, general law cities do not have charters. The creation of a general law city is documented in its incorporation papers, filed at the county courthouse, which describe when the city was established and its original boundaries.

Categories of General Law Cities

There are three categories of general law cities: Type A, Type B, and Type C. Although it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between

the types, it is necessary to know the difference in order to determine which state laws apply.

Type B General Law Cities

Most new cities begin as Type B general law cities under a state law that permits the incorporation of any area containing 201 to 10,000 inhabitants. Later, as the population of a city grows to 600 or more, it can make a transition to Type A.

In a Type B general law city with the aldermanic form of government, the governing body is known as the “board of aldermen” and includes six members (a mayor and five aldermen), all of whom are elected at-large. At its discretion, the board of aldermen may provide by ordinance for the appointment or election of such additional officers as are needed to conduct the business of the city.

Type A General Law Cities

Type A general law cities are usually the larger general law cities. Most were incorporated under Type B status and then switched to Type A status when their population increased to 600 or more, or when they had at least one manufacturing establishment.

The governing body of a city operating as a Type A general law city is technically known as the board of aldermen, although many cities refer to it as the “city council.” It varies in size depending on whether the city has been divided into wards. If the city has been divided into wards, the council consists of a mayor and two councilmembers from each ward—whatever the number. If the city has not been divided into wards, the governing body always consists of a mayor and five councilmembers.

In addition to the city council, other municipal officers include a marshal, treasurer, tax assessor-collector, city secretary, city attorney, and engineer. Whether these offices are elective or appointive depends on the method selected by the city council for filling them. Moreover, the city council may provide by ordinance for the appointment or election of such other municipal officers as it deems necessary.

Type C General Law Cities

A Type C city operates with the commission form of government. The governing body is known as the “board of commissioners” and always consists of a mayor and two commissioners. No other elective officers are required; however, the board of commissioners must appoint a city clerk, and may provide by ordinance for the election or appointment of such other officers as are required.

In a Type C city of 500 or less population, the board of commissioners must follow the requirements applicable to a Type B general law city—that is, the board of commissioners has the same powers and duties as the board of aldermen in a Type B general law city, except where specifically provided otherwise. In a city of over 500 population, the board of commissioners must follow the requirements of a Type A general law city, except where specifically provided otherwise.

Any city operating under the commission form of government can change over to the aldermanic form of government, and vice versa. The commission form of government in a general law city should not be confused with the commission plan adopted by the City of Galveston at the turn of the century. Under the Galveston plan, each member of the

municipal governing body—the city commission—simultaneously served as legislators and heads of the city’s administrative departments. Thus, one member of the governing body served as “police commissioner,” another served as “fire commissioner,” and so on, with each commissioner exercising day-to-day supervisory authority over a particular department.

General law cities operating under the commission form of government are not authorized to adopt the Galveston plan. In a general law city, one commissioner, acting alone, has no individual power; only the commission, acting collectively, exercises power.

City Manager Plan

The city manager plan can be adopted in any general law city under the provisions of Chapter 25, Local Government Code:

- 1) Upon presentation of a petition signed by at least 20 percent of the total number of qualified voters voting for mayor in the last preceding city election, the mayor must call an election on the question of adopting the city manager plan within 10 days after the date the petition is filed.
- 2) If a majority of the votes cast at the election favor adoption of the city manager plan, the council must, within 60 days after the election, appoint a city manager and fix his or her salary by ordinance.
- 3) The administration of the city is to be placed in the hands of the city manager, who serves at the pleasure of the city council.

- 4) In any city where the city manager plan has been approved, all officers of the city, except members of the governing body, thereafter shall be appointed as may be provided by ordinance.
- 5) Procedures for repealing the city manager plan are essentially the same as for adopting it.

The basic structure of the city manager plan is similar to that of a private corporation, in which the stockholders elect a board of directors which then hires a president to run the company. Under the city manager plan, the voters elect a city council which, in turn, hires a city manager to administer the city’s day-to-day affairs.

Under the city manager plan, the council serves as the legislative body. The council sets policy, it approves the budget and sets the tax rate, and it determines the size of the payroll and the extent and cost of municipal services. In short, the council is the final authority on all of the many policy decisions that determine the scope and functions of the city government.

The mayor and councilmembers have no administrative duties under the city manager plan. These are vested in the city manager, who is responsible for directing the workforce and programs of the city in accordance with ordinances, rules, and regulations adopted by the council.

The typical city manager in Texas is appointed for an indefinite term and is subject to dismissal by the council at any time except as otherwise prohibited by law. He or she is designated as the chief executive and administrative officer of the city and is accountable to the council for the proper conduct of all municipal operations. The

manager has the unilateral authority to hire, discipline, and fire the department heads under the manager's control. In some cases, however, certain employees, such as the city attorney or municipal judge, are directly hired and/or supervised by the council rather than the manager. Although the manager's role varies from one city to another, the primary function is to implement the policies established by the council and ensure that the city is operated in an economical and responsible manner. Specific duties of the manager may include the following:

- 1) Enforcing all city ordinances, rules, and regulations.
- 2) Supervising all municipal employees and programs.
- 3) Preparing and executing the city's annual budget pursuant to the revenue and expenditure plans adopted by the council.
- 4) Managing the city's funds and preparing periodic reports that advise the council and the general public of the city's financial condition.
- 5) Providing information to the council to facilitate its ability to make informed decisions in the best interests of the city.
- 6) Preparing council meeting agendas and attending all such meetings to serve as a resource to the council and the public.
- 7) Drawing the council's attention to community needs and recommending alternatives by which the council can respond to those needs.

Adopting the city manager plan does not change the basic governmental framework of a general law city. Rather, it is an administrative mechanism added to the basic structure.

Legislation passed in 2003 clarifies that city councils of cities that have not adopted a city manager plan under chapter 25 of the Local Government Code are free to delegate by ordinance management duties to a city administrator.

The Home Rule Concept

Although scholars have used a variety of flowery phrases to describe the concept of home rule, the principle is simple: home rule is the right of citizens at the grassroots level to manage their own affairs with minimum interference from the state. Home rule assumes that governmental problems should be solved at the lowest possible level, closest to the people.

As mentioned earlier, home rule cities look to the state to tell them what they are prohibited from doing, rather than for specific grants of authority to undertake particular functions. In *Forwood v. City of Taylor*, the Texas Supreme Court summarized Texas' home rule doctrine as follows:

It was the purpose of the Home-Rule Amendment ... to bestow upon accepting cities and towns of more than 5,000 population full power of self-government, that is, full authority to do anything the legislature could theretofore have authorized them to do. The result is that now it is necessary to look to the acts of the legislature not for grants of power to such cities but only for limitations on their powers.

As a result of the *Forwood* case and other court decisions upholding their broad powers, home rule cities have the inherent authority to do just about anything that qualifies as a

“public purpose” and is not contrary to the constitution or laws of the state.

Inherent Powers of Home Rule Cities

An “inherent power” is one that is possessed by a city without its having been specifically granted by the state. It is the right to perform an act without having received that right from the Texas Constitution or the state legislature.

Home rule cities have many inherent powers. A discussion of some of the inherent powers of major significance may explain why so many cities have chosen to adopt home rule charters.

Municipal Organization

In contrast to counties or general law cities, whose organization is fixed by state law, the governmental structure of a home rule city is left entirely to the discretion of local voters. The citizens of a home rule city are free to decide their form of municipal government (mayor-council, council-manager, and so on); choose between a large or small city council; provide for the election of the city council at-large, by single-member district, or by place; fix the terms of office for councilmembers at two, three, or four years; or establish overlapping terms of office. Moreover, they can decide whether the mayor is to be elected directly by the voters, selected from among members of the council, or chosen by some other method.

The citizens of a home rule city also have total discretion over the city’s administrative structure. Subject only to local preferences, the charter can establish a simple

administrative framework or a complex one, provide for the appointment or election of major administrative officials, and so on. And finally, the charter can provide for the creation of any boards or commissions that local voters decide are necessary to make the city function effectively.

Annexation

From 1912-2019, when H.B. 347 passed, the inherent power to unilaterally annex adjoining areas was one of the most important home rule prerogatives. To annex “unilaterally” means that the city can bring an adjacent, unincorporated area into the city without the permission of the persons residing in that area.

In 2019, the legislature passed H.B. 347. The bill drastically altered the annexation landscape for all cities. The bill provides that a city:

- 1) May annex vacant land at request of the owner
- 2) may annex an area with a population of less than 200 only if the following conditions are met, as applicable: (1) the city obtains consent to annex the area through a petition signed by more than 50 percent of the registered voters of the area; and (2) if the registered voters of the area do not own more than 50 percent of the land in the area, the petition described by (1) is signed by more than 50 percent of the owners of land in the area; and
- 3) may annex an area with a population of 200 or more only if the following conditions are met, as applicable: (1) the city holds an election in the area proposed to be annexed at which the qualified voters of the area may vote on the question of the annexation and

a majority of the votes received at the election approve the annexation; and (2) if the registered voters of the area do not own more than 50 percent of the land in the area, the city obtains consent to annex the area through a petition signed by more than 50 percent of the owners of land in the area.

Initiative, Referendum, and Recall

Initiative, referendum, and recall are inherent home rule powers that are reserved for exclusive use by local voters in order to provide direct remedies in unusual situations. There is no constitutional or statutory authority for initiative, referendum, or recall. These powers are unique to home rule cities, and they are not available to voters at any other level of government, including the state.

Initiative is a procedure under which local voters directly propose (initiate) legislation. Citizen lawmaking through the initiative process allows local voters to circumvent the city council by direct ballot box action on new ordinances that have wide support in the community, but which the council refuses to enact.

The initiative process begins with circulation of a petition setting forth the text of the desired ordinance. Then, petitioners must obtain the number of voter signatures needed to force the city council to submit the ordinance to the people at a citywide election. Petition signature requirements vary from charter to charter. Some are based on a percentage of the number of qualified voters in the city, while others are expressed as a ratio of the number of votes cast at the last general city election.

After a completed petition is filed, the city secretary checks it to make sure that all of those who signed are qualified voters. If the petition complies with the requirements of the charter, the city council has two options: (1) it can adopt the proposed ordinance; or (2) it must call an election on the ordinance. If, at the election on the proposed ordinance, a majority of those voting favor its adoption, the ordinance is put into effect.

Referendum is a procedure under which local voters can repeal unpopular, existing ordinances the council refuses to rescind by its own action. The procedures for forcing the city council to call a referendum election are usually the same as for initiative elections. Petitions calling for an election to repeal "Ordinance X" are circulated. When the required number of signatures is obtained, the petition is submitted to the city council, which can either repeal the ordinance by its own action or call an election at which the people can vote to repeal it. If, at such election, a majority favors retaining the ordinance, it is left on the books. If a majority favors its repeal, it is rescinded when the council canvasses the election returns.

Recall is a process by which local voters can oust members of the city council before the expiration of their terms. Under most charters, a recall election begins with the filing of an affidavit stating the name of the councilmember whose removal is sought and the grounds for removal. The city clerk or secretary then furnishes the person filing the affidavit with petition forms that must be completed and returned within a prescribed time.

Most city charters impose two further limitations on recall efforts. First, they prohibit more than one recall election per

councilmember per term. Secondly, they forbid recall elections for any councilmember during the early stages of his or her term—as, for example, prohibiting an election to recall a councilmember within 60 days of the date he or she was sworn into office, or prohibiting recall elections for councilmembers whose terms will expire within 60 days. The following language is typical of charter recall provisions:

The people of the city reserve the power to recall any member of the council and may exercise such power by filing with the city clerk a petition, signed by qualified voters of the city equal in number to at least ten percent of the qualified voters of the city, demanding the removal of a councilman.

Charter Amendments

In addition to initiative and referendum, direct lawmaking by local voters can be accomplished through amendments to the charter document itself. Under Section 9.004 of the Local Government Code, citizens can force the city council to call an election on a proposed charter amendment by simply filing a petition signed by five percent of the qualified voters or 20,000, whichever is less. Voter-initiated charter amendments, if adopted, can change most aspects of the city government.

Limitations on Home Rule Powers

Although the powers of a home rule city are extensive, they remain subject to all of the limitations imposed by state and federal law. Some of these are briefly summarized below.

Every city must comply with the federal and state constitution and statutory requirements.

Examples include state statutes that require every city to pay unemployment taxes, that require cities with 10,000 or more in population to pay longevity compensation to its police officers and firefighters, or prohibit conducting regular city elections on any day except on those days prescribed by the Election Code.

Though certain limitations are imposed on home rule cities by the state, some can be further narrowed by local action. For example, the Texas Constitution authorizes any city with more than 5,000 inhabitants to levy property taxes at a maximum rate of \$2.50 per \$100 assessed valuation. But a home rule charter may set a local ceiling lower than that. If a city's charter limits the city tax rate to \$1.70 per \$100 of assessed valuation, this provision has the same effect as state law. The city council is bound by it even though the state constitution permits a higher rate.

Additionally, the governing body of a home rule city cannot act on any matter which has been preempted by the state. For example, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code fixes the business hours of retail liquor stores. Therefore, an ordinance requiring liquor stores to open or close at times other than those prescribed by state law may not be enacted.

Finally, when a charter provision conflicts with a state law, the state law controls, unless expressly stated otherwise.

The Charter Document

Although all municipal governments are subject to an abundance of federal and state laws, the charter remains the most important document for a home rule city. Members of the council should read the charter

immediately upon their election to office; annual reviews also can be useful.

Most charters include the following components:

- Provisions establishing the city's form of government (mayor-council, council-manager, and so on) and its legislative and judicial machinery;
- Organizational provisions establishing the administrative structure of the city government and the means for financing its operations;
- Provisions governing the procedures of the city council and advisory boards and commissions, and procedures for granting franchises, and assessing and collecting taxes; and,
- Popular controls over the city government, such as elections, referenda, initiative, and recall.

Forms of Home Rule City Government

Every home rule city in the state operates under one of two forms of government: mayor-council or council-manager. Among Texas' approximately 385 home rule cities, the vast majority have the council-manager form.

Mayor-Council Government

The mayor-council plan has two variants: strong-mayor and weak-mayor. Under the strong-mayor system, most key administrative and appointive powers are concentrated in the hands of a full-time mayor who also presides over meetings of the city council. The mayor usually has: (1) the power to appoint and remove department heads and the members

of most major boards and commissions; (2) the prerogative to prepare the city budget and, following its adoption by the council, to execute the budget; (3) a high enough salary to enable the officeholder to devote their full time to being mayor, as well as an office budget sufficient to hire an adequate staff; and (4) the power to veto actions by the city council. In a strong-mayor city, councilmembers have no administrative duties. Their role is to enact ordinances, adopt policies governing the operations of the city, and otherwise function as the legislative branch of the city government.

Under the weak-mayor system, the powers of the mayor are limited. First, the mayor may be selected by the council rather than being directly elected by the people, which dilutes his or her political influence. Secondly, the mayor's pay is usually minimal and few, if any, funds are provided for staff. Third, department heads often are appointed and removed by majority vote of the city council, which diffuses administrative authority. And finally, few weak mayors have either the authority to veto actions of the council or the exclusive power to develop and execute the budget, since these powers are collectively exercised by the council.

Very few home rule cities in Texas use the weak-mayor form of government.

Council-Manager Plan

The basic structure of the council-manager form of government is similar to that of a private corporation where the stockholders elect a board of directors which then hires a president to run the company. Under the council-manager plan, the voters elect a city council which, in turn, hires a city manager to administer the city's day-to-day affairs.

In a council-manager city, as in any other form of city government, the council serves as the legislative body. The council sets policy, approves the budget and sets the tax rate, and determines the size of the payroll and the extent and cost of municipal services. In short, the council is the final authority on all of the many policy decisions that determine the scope and functions of the city government.

Under the council-manager plan, the mayor and councilmembers have no administrative duties. These are vested in the city manager, who is responsible for directing the workforce and programs of the city in accordance with ordinances, rules, and regulations adopted by the council. The typical city manager in Texas is appointed for an indefinite term and is subject to dismissal by the council at any time except as otherwise prohibited by law. He or she is designated, either by charter or ordinance, as the chief executive and administrative officer of the city and is accountable to the council for the proper conduct of all municipal operations. The manager has the unilateral authority to hire, discipline, and fire the department heads.

Although the manager's role varies from one city to another, the manager's primary function is to implement the policies established by the council and ensure that the city is operated in an economical and responsible manner. Specific duties of the manager may include the following:

- 1) Enforcing all city ordinances, rules, and regulations.
- 2) Supervising all municipal employees and programs.
- 3) Preparing and executing the city's annual budget pursuant to the revenue

and expenditure plans adopted by the council.

- 4) Managing the city's funds and preparing periodic reports that advise the council and the general public of the city's financial condition.
- 5) Providing information to the council to facilitate its ability to make informed decisions in the best interests of the community.
- 6) Preparing council meeting agendas and attending all such meetings to serve as a resource to the council and the public.
- 7) Drawing the council's attention to community needs and recommending alternatives by which the council can respond to those needs.

In larger cities, city managers spend comparatively little time on citizen contacts, personnel problems, and other routine matters. Managers in these cities usually have a sizable staff capable of handling day-to-day problems, thus allowing the manager to concentrate on communicating with the council, policy issues, planning activities, and work sessions with department heads.

On the other hand, the managers of medium-sized and smaller cities frequently operate with limited resources and small staffs. The manager must, by necessity, be personally involved in the details of providing police, fire, solid waste, and other services.

Chapter Two: Roles and Responsibilities of Officers in General Law Cities

All members of the city council play unique roles in making the city government operate effectively in a general law city. Many of their functions are set by law, while others are established as a matter of local custom or policy.

Office of the Mayor

The mayor occupies the highest elective office in the municipal government. As political head of the city, the mayor is expected to provide the leadership necessary to keep it moving in the proper direction.

Except under the city manager plan of government, the mayor is the city's chief executive officer. The mayor presides over council meetings and is generally recognized as the ceremonial and governmental head of the city for most purposes.

Most of the powers exercised by the mayor are created through ordinances and resolutions adopted by the city council. Very few mayoral powers are prescribed by state law.

Legislative Responsibilities

The mayor's most important duty is to carry out the legislative responsibilities he or she shares with other members of the council—identifying the needs of the city, developing programs to satisfy those needs, and evaluating the extent to which municipal

services satisfactorily reflect the policy goals of the council.

Under the law, the mayor is the presiding officer of the city council. In this capacity as presiding officer, the mayor's actual powers in legislative matters can be greater than those of other councilmembers. For example, the mayor can influence the flow of debate through the power to recognize councilmembers for motions or statements.

Also, the mayor rules on questions of procedure at council meetings, and those rulings are binding unless successfully challenged by a majority of the governing body. Finally, the mayor of a Type A general law city can formally object to ordinances and other resolutions passed by the council. If the mayor objects to an ordinance or resolution before the fourth day after it is placed in the city secretary's office, it must be reconsidered by the governing body. If approved, it becomes effective (Local Government Code Section 52.003).

Appointive Powers

Appointive powers represent another area in which the mayor's powers often outrank those of councilmembers, especially when the mayor is authorized by ordinance to appoint department heads and advisory board members. In Chapter 25 council-manager cities, the mayor's appointive powers are more limited, because the city manager may appoint all or most administrative employees. Although most of the mayor's appointive

powers are established by ordinances enacted by the city council, some are established by state law, such as the power to appoint commissioners of a housing authority (Local Government Code Section 392.031).

Law Enforcement and Related Duties of the Mayor

The office of the mayor involves a variety of law enforcement responsibilities. The mayor is specifically obligated by law to “actively ensure that the laws and ordinances of the city are properly carried out,” and “in the event of a riot or unlawful assembly or to preserve the peace,” the mayor may order the closing of certain public places.

Under extreme circumstances, as in the case of a riot, the mayor of a Type A general law city can summon a special police force into service (Local Government Code Section 341.011) or call for assistance from the Texas National Guard. Also, if the city has used the provisions of Sections 362.001 et seq., Local Government Code, to enter into a mutual law enforcement pact with other nearby cities or the county, the mayor can call on those localities for help in dealing with civil disorders and other emergencies. Additionally, most local emergency management plans authorize the mayor to exercise supreme powers in case of a public calamity, after the mayor has declared a local disaster or asked the governor to declare a state of emergency. State law also permits a mayor to require a mandatory evacuation order and control who can access an area during a phased reentry (Government Code Chapters 418 and 433).

Judge of the Municipal Court

In every general law city where no separate office of judge of the municipal court exists by

ordinance, the mayor is ex officio judge of the court (Government Code Section 29.004). A mayor serving as the ex officio municipal judge must still receive the annual training required of all municipal judges.

Signatory Duties

As signatory for the city, the mayor maybe required to sign a variety of documents to give them official legal effect. The mayor’s signature is required on all bonds, certificates of obligation, warrants, and other evidence of debt, as well as may be required on ordinances, resolutions, advertisements for bids on public works projects, contracts, and similar legal paperwork. The mayor is also responsible for signing proclamations recognizing special events and personal achievements.

Ceremonial Duties

The mayor’s participation in local ceremonial events is a never-ending responsibility. The mayor is expected on a daily basis to cut ribbons at ceremonies opening new businesses; break the ground to begin the construction of new city facilities; and regularly appear at fairs, parades, beauty pageants, and other community celebrations.

The mayor also issues proclamations for a variety of purposes, whether to honor visiting dignitaries or declare “Support Your Local School Week.” And as a featured speaker before professional clubs, school assemblies, and neighborhood groups, the mayor can expect to be interviewed, photographed, and otherwise placed on extensive public display by the media.

Administrative Duties

Except in Chapter 25 council-manager cities, the mayor serves in the dual roles of administrator and political head of the city, going to city hall on a regular basis, working with department heads on matters that need attention each day, and performing the ceremonial duties that go with the office. In some cases, ordinances approved by the council give the mayor wide latitude to deal with the many problems that arise each day. Also, an administrative staff is sometimes available to help the mayor, but the office still involves considerably more effort—and power—than its counterpart in cities operating under the city manager plan.

Limitations on the Mayor's Powers

The broad powers of the mayor can be offset by several methods, including ordinance requirements that the council ratify mayoral appointments and other key actions.

Limiting the mayor's power at the council table is another way of imposing restraints. In Type A general law cities, for instance, the mayor is allowed to vote only in the event of a tie (Local Government Code Section 22.037). As state law is unclear on the mayor's ability to vote in Type B general law cities, those cities should consult with their local legal counsel with questions.

The mayor's prerogatives can also be restricted by the structure of the city government. Under the Chapter 25 council-manager plan, for example, the mayor has no administrative powers and will probably be in city hall on a less frequent basis. The ordinances of most council-manager cities also make it clear that decision-making is to be shared by the full council, and that the mayor

is to be considered the same as any other member of the governing body for policy purposes. This is accomplished by concentrating administrative powers in the hands of a city manager, who acts under the direction of the full council.

Qualifications of Office

In Type A general law cities, every candidate for the office of mayor must meet the following qualifications:

- 1) Be a United States citizen;
- 2) Have been a resident of Texas for at least 12 months, as of the deadline for filing for the office;
- 3) Have resided in the city for at least 12 months preceding election day;
- 4) Be a registered voter;
- 5) Be 18 years of age or older upon the commencement of the term to be filled at the election;
- 6) Not have been convicted of a felony for which he or she has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities; and
- 7) Not have been deemed mentally incompetent by a final judgment of a court.

(Election Code Section 141.001; Local Government Code Section 22.032).

In Type B and Type C general law cities, every candidate for mayor must meet the qualifications listed above, except that he or she must have resided in the city for six months, rather than twelve, preceding election day (Election Code Section 141.001; Local Government Code Section 23.024).

Terms of Office

In a Type B general law city operating under the aldermanic form of government, the mayor's term of office is one year, unless the board of aldermen has enacted an ordinance providing a two-year term for the mayor and two-year overlapping terms for aldermen (Local Government Code Section 23.026). In a Type A general law city, the term of the mayor and members of the city council or board of aldermen is two years (Local Government Code Section 22.035). In a Type C general law city, the mayor's term of office is two years (Local Government Code Section 24.023).

In any city, the term of office for members of the governing body can be extended to three years or four years upon approval of a majority of the voters voting at an election on the question (Texas Constitution, Article XI, Section 11).

Vacancies

When the mayor is temporarily unable to perform his or her duties because of illness, out-of-town travel, or similar reasons, the mayor pro tem assumes the responsibilities of the office on an interim basis (please see discussion of mayor pro tem on the next page). But if a permanent vacancy occurs in the office of mayor as a result of death, disability, resignation, or some other reason, the vacancy should be filled according to prescribed procedures.

In a Type B general law city operating under the aldermanic form of government, a mayoral vacancy must be filled by appointment by the board of aldermen. The term of the person appointed expires at the same time that the term of the person who vacated the office would have expired if he or she had remained

in office (Local Government Code Section 23.002).

In a Type A general law city operating under the aldermanic form of government, the vacancy can be filled either by appointment of the city council or by a special election if the mayor's office is the only one vacant. However, if another vacancy exists on the board of aldermen when the mayor's office is vacant, both vacancies must be filled at a special election. When a vacancy is filled by appointment, the term of the person appointed expires at the next general municipal election. When a vacancy is filled by special election, the person elected serves out the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacancy being filled (Local Government Code Section 22.010).

In a Type C city operating under the commission form of government, a vacancy in the office of mayor must be filled by appointment by the two remaining members of the board of commissioners. But if there are two vacancies on the board of commissioners, they must be filled at a special election called by the county judge, and the persons elected serve out the remainder of the unexpired terms of the vacancies being filled (Local Government Code Section 24.026).

If the terms of office in a city have been changed to three or four years, appointment to fill a vacancy is no longer an option. Any vacancy must be filled by special election (Texas Constitution, Article XI, Section 11).

Absences

Under Section 22.041 of the Local Government Code, "if a member of the governing body is absent for three regular consecutive meetings, the member's office is considered vacant

unless the member is sick or has first obtained a leave of absence at a regular meeting.”

Removal

Procedures for removing the mayor or a councilmember from office are set forth in Section 21.002 of the Local Government Code. Under the law, a member of the governing body is subject to removal for incompetence, official misconduct, or intoxication. A petition for removal must be filed with a district court, may be filed by any resident of the city, and must state the alleged grounds for removal. The judge may decide to issue a citation to the member in question or may decline to do so. If the judge declines to issue a citation, the petition is dismissed at the cost of the petitioner. If the judge issues a citation to the member, the member must appear before the judge to answer the petition and may request a trial by jury. The petitioner must execute a bond in an amount fixed by the judge. The bond shall be used to pay damages and costs to the member if the alleged grounds for removal are found to be insufficient or untrue. The final judgment on the issue may be appealed by either party. Conviction of the member for any felony or official misconduct will result in immediate removal, and the removed member is ineligible for reelection for two years.

There is no such thing in a general law city as “recall,” which is a procedure citizens can use to vote an incumbent mayor or councilmember out of office before the expiration of his or her term. The power of recall is limited to voters in home rule cities in which the charter provides for the procedure.

Compensation

In Type C cities, the board of commissioners may, by ordinance, fix the mayor’s compensation at a maximum of \$5 for each regular commission meeting and \$3 for each special meeting. Alternatively, the board of commissioners in a city of less than 2,000 can pay the mayor a salary of up to \$600 per year, while the board of commissioners in a city of 2,000 or greater population can pay the mayor up to \$1,200 per year (Local Government Code Section 141.003).

In Type A and B general law cities, no maximum salary amount is fixed for the mayor. The governing body can set the mayor’s compensation at any level it chooses (Local Government Code Sections 141.001 and 141.002). Only one limitation exists: an elected officer cannot receive a pay increase that was approved during the term for which he or she is elected. Such increase will become effective only after the next general municipal election at which the office is filled (Local Government Code Section 141.001).

Expense Reimbursement

It is commonplace for the city to reimburse the mayor for travel and other expenses incurred on official city business trips, such as meetings of the Texas Municipal League and similar organizations. Most city travel policies are established by ordinance or resolution.

Office of the Mayor Pro Tem

The mayor pro tempore is a member of the council who performs the mayor’s duties during the mayor’s incapacity or absence. The mayor pro tem is selected by majority vote of the council from among its own membership.

The mayor pro tem's term is one year. The mayor pro tem retains the right to vote on all matters before the council while performing the duties of the mayor (Local Government Code Sections 22.037 and 23.027).

Office of Councilmember

Councilmembers are the city's legislators. Their primary duty is policymaking, which includes identifying the needs of local residents, formulating programs to meet the changing requirements of the community, and measuring the effectiveness of ongoing municipal services.

Unless restricted by state law, each councilmember is entitled to vote or abstain on every question decided at a council meeting, and has full parliamentary privileges in council meetings—including the right to speak and make motions when recognized by the chair and the right to introduce new ordinances and amendments to existing ones. Though foremost in importance, lawmaking is just one of many functions councilmembers perform. They also wear several other hats, which one writer describes as follows:

- **Regulator**—The council exercises regulatory powers over the conduct and property of its citizens. It has the power to declare certain conduct to be criminal, to require that certain businesses and activities be licensed, and to tell property owners how and for what purposes they may use their property.
- **Financier**—The council may levy taxes, assess fees and charges, and sell bonds in order to finance the many functions of the city government. The council also has to budget the expenditure of

the city's funds, and then explain to the people why municipal government is a bargain compared to the price of rampant crime, fires, disease, and all of the other problems that would flourish without proper city services.

- **Employer**—The council is responsible for all of the city's employees, and must see that they are adequately paid and provided with decent working conditions and fringe benefits.
- **Buyer**—The council is one of the biggest purchasers in the community, and must see to it that the city gets the best value possible for dollars spent.

Even this is not a complete description of all the challenges that confront councilmembers.

The real task is in providing leadership and direction for the city, in deciding what needs to be done, and in helping plan what the city will be for future generations.

Qualifications

In general law cities, the qualifications for the office of councilmember are:

- 1) Be a United States citizen;
- 2) Have been a resident of Texas for at least 12 months as of the deadline for filing for the office;
- 3) Have resided in the city for at least six months preceding election day;
- 4) Be a registered voter;
- 5) Be 18 years of age or older upon the commencement of the term to be filled at the election;
- 6) Not have been convicted of a felony for which he or she has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities; and

- 7) Not have been deemed mentally incompetent by a final judgment of a court.

(Election Code Section 141.001; Local Government Code Sections 22.032 and 23.024).

One additional requirement: if a Type A general law city has been divided into wards, every council candidate must, at the time of his or her election, be a resident of the ward he or she proposes to represent if elected (Local Government Code Section 22.032).

Terms of Office

In a Type B general law city, the term of office for aldermen is one year, unless the board of aldermen has enacted an ordinance providing a two-year term for the mayor and two-year overlapping terms for aldermen (Local Government Code Section 23.026). In a Type A general law city, the term of office for members of the city council is two years (overlapping terms) (Local Government Code Section 22.035).

In any city, the term of office of members of the governing body can be extended to three years or four years upon approval of a majority of the voters voting at an election called on the question (Texas Constitution, Article XI, Section 11).

Vacancies

In a Type B general law city operating under the aldermanic form of government, vacancies on the board of aldermen— whatever the number of vacancies—must be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the

board (Local Government Code Section 23.002).

In a Type A general law city operating under the aldermanic form of government, when there is only one vacancy on the governing body, the vacancy can be filled either by appointment of the city council or by means of a special election. However, if there are two or more vacancies on the governing body, such vacancies must be filled at a special election (Local Government Code Section 22.010).

In a Type C general law city, a single vacancy must be filled by appointment by the two remaining members of the board of commissioners. But if there are two vacancies on the board, they must be filled at a special election called by the county judge (Local Government Code Section 24.026).

Absences

Under Section 22.038 of the Local Government Code, an illness of an alderman or someone in his or her family is the only reason for absence from council meetings in a Type A general law city without a fine. Unexcused absences are punishable by a fine of \$3 for each council meeting missed. If an alderman is absent for three consecutive regular meetings—unless because of sickness or the alderman has obtained a leave of absence at a regular meeting—his or her office shall be vacant. (Local Government Code Section 22.041).

There is no law applicable to absences by aldermen in Type B general law cities or members of the board of commissioners in cities operating under the commission form of government (Type C general law cities). However, in cities over 500 population, which operate under the commission form of

government, Sections 51.035 and 51.051 (the “borrowing provisions”) of the Local Government Code (relating to the application of laws to cities with the commission form) would probably make Sections 22.038 and 22.041 of the Local Government Code (relating to absences) applicable to such cities. Type B general law cities should contact their local legal counsel to discuss this issue, as state law is unclear.

Removal

Procedures for removing a councilmember from office in a general law city are the same as for the mayor and are governed by Chapter 21 of the Local Government Code.

Compensation

In Type C cities, the board of commissioners may, by ordinance, fix commissioners’ compensation at a maximum of \$5 for each regular commission meeting and \$3 for each special meeting. Alternatively, the board of commissioners in a city of 2,000 or greater population can provide for paying commissioners up to \$600 per year (Local Government Code Section 141.003).

In Type A and B general law cities, no maximum salary amount is fixed for aldermen. Therefore, the governing body can set councilmembers’ compensation at any level it decides. Only one limitation exists: an alderman cannot receive the benefit of a pay increase adopted during the term for which he or she is elected. Such increase will become effective only after the next general municipal election at which the office of the alderman serving at the time of the pay increase is filled

(Local Government Code Chapter 141).

Expense Reimbursement

It is commonplace for cities to reimburse councilmembers for travel and other expenses incurred on official city business trips to meetings of the Texas Municipal League, a council of governments, and similar organizations. Most travel policies are established by ordinance or resolution.