

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

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Upcoming Deadlines for 2020 General Election Candidates and Specific-Purpose Committees

You are receiving this notice to file because you are listed as a candidate in the November 3, 2020, general election or you are the campaign treasurer of a specific-purpose committee (SPAC) that may support or oppose a candidate in the general election. If this information is not correct, please contact our office immediately. All reports listed below are required to be filed with the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC).

OCTOBER 5, 2020 (deadline extended due to weekend): 30-Day Pre-Election Campaign Finance Report: Your 30-day pre-election report must be ***received by*** the TEC by Monday, October 5, 2020. It is required to be filed by all ***opposed*** candidates in the general election who did not select modified reporting for 2020, even if the candidate had no activity during the reporting period. SPACs must file the 30-day pre-election report if the SPAC has activity in connection with the general election during the reporting period. The first day covered by the report is July 1, 2020, or the date your campaign treasurer appointment was filed, or the day after the date the last report ended, as applicable. The last day covered by the report is September 24, 2020.

OCTOBER 26, 2020: 8-Day Pre-Election Campaign Finance Report: Your 8-day pre-election report must be ***received by*** the TEC by Monday, October 26, 2020. It is required to be filed by all ***opposed*** candidates in the general election who did not select modified reporting for 2020, even if the candidate had no activity during the reporting period. SPACs must file the 8-day pre-election report if (1) the SPAC was required to file the 30-day pre-election report, regardless of whether there is additional activity to report, or (2) the SPAC has activity in connection with the general during the 8-day pre-election reporting period. The first day covered by the report is September 25, 2020. The last day covered by the report is October 24, 2020.

OCTOBER 25 – NOVEMBER 2: Daily Pre-Election Report(s) for Contributions: The reporting period for filing a daily pre-election report begins on October 25, 2020, and ends at noon on November 2, 2020. ***Opposed*** candidates and SPACs must file daily pre-election reports to report political contributions from a single source that total more than \$1,790 during this period. A daily pre-election report must be ***received by*** the TEC not later than the first business day after the date of the contribution that causes the total amount accepted from a contributor during the period to exceed \$1,790. Therefore, you may be required to file more than one daily pre-election report. Contributions reported on a daily pre-election report must be reported again in the next applicable campaign finance report.

TIMELY FILING: A campaign finance report transmitted by Internet is considered timely filed if it is successfully transmitted in the correct format by midnight, Central Time Zone, on the date of the filing deadline. A report eligible to be filed on paper, by a person who qualifies for the electronic filing exemption, ***must be received by the TEC by 5:00 p.m. on the filing deadline.*** All paper reports must include the electronic filing exemption form, which is available on our website at www.ethics.state.tx.us/forms/affd/affs.php. Select "Electronic Filing Exemptions" from the left hand menu. **NOTE: The Texas Ethics Commission is closed to the public at this time. You cannot hand-deliver your paper report to the Texas Ethics Commission.**

LATE-FILING PENALTY: The minimum late-filing penalty for a 30-day pre-election report and daily reports is \$500. The minimum late-filing penalty for an 8-day pre-election campaign finance report is \$500 for the first day and \$100 for each day thereafter that the report is late, up to a maximum of \$10,000.

ELECTRONIC FILING: Campaign finance reports must be filed electronically unless you qualify for the statutory exemption. To be in compliance with current requirements, you must use the campaign finance filing application found at www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/TECindex.php. Select your filer type from the left hand menu. **If this is your first time filing with the application**, we suggest you view the instructional videos also available at that link. When you file electronically, wait for a confirmation number. If you do not get a confirmation number, the report has NOT been filed. Remember, you can file a report as soon as the reporting period ends, and we encourage you to file as early as possible so that if you experience any problems, we can assist you.

FILING SCHEDULES AND MORE: Future deadlines are listed on the filing schedules located at www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/schedules/filing_schedules.php. Also on our website are forms, instructions, filing guides, and other information that you may find useful.