

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

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Upcoming Deadlines for the 2020 General Election for General-Purpose Committees and County Executive Committees

This notice is to remind you of upcoming reporting requirements in connection with the November 3, 2020, general election *that may apply to you* as the campaign treasurer of a general-purpose political committee (GPAC) or county executive committee (CEC). All reports listed below are required to be filed with the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC). If you think you received this notice in error, you should contact our office immediately.

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, *if the committee has activity in connection with the November 3, 2020, elections*. 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, if (1) the committee was required to file the 30-day campaign finance report, regardless of whether there is additional activity to report, or (2) the committee has activity in connection with the November 2020 general election during the period covered by the 8-day campaign finance report. The first day covered by the report is September 25, 2020, or the date of campaign treasurer appointment, or the day after the date the last report ended, as applicable. The last day covered by the report is October 24, 2020.

OCTOBER 25 – NOVEMBER 2: Daily Pre-Election Report(s): The reporting period for filing a daily pre-election report begins on October 25, 2020, and ends at noon on November 2, 2020. A campaign treasurer of a GPAC or CEC must file one or more daily pre-election reports if the committee is involved in the November 3, 2020, general election and if the committee accepts political contributions from a single source that total more than \$6,090 during the reporting period, or makes direct expenditures supporting or opposing either a single candidate that total more than \$1,790 or a group of candidates that total more than \$26,780 during the reporting period. Therefore, you may be required to file more than one daily pre-election report. A daily pre-election report must be **received by** the TEC not later than the first business day after the date the contribution is accepted or the expenditure is made that causes the total amount to exceed the applicable threshold. Any political activity reported on a daily pre-election report must be reported again on the next required 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 campaign finance 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.