

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

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April 6, 2020

RE: Deadlines for Filing Personal Financial Statements

In response to the novel coronavirus COVID-19, the Texas Ethics Commission is automatically extending the due date for annual 2020 personal financial statements ("PFS") required by Chapter 572 of the Texas Government Code. To remain consistent with the IRS, which has extended the filing deadline for federal tax returns from April 15 to July 15, 2020, the commission finds good cause to extend the PFS deadline from April 30 to July 31, 2020. This extension applies to all state officers, state party chairs, and local filers subject to Subchapter B of Texas Government Code Chapter 572, including ISD trustees who are required to file PFS under Texas Education Code § 11.064 and directors of sports and community venue districts under Local Government Code Chapter 335.

Importantly, the commission does not have the authority to extend PFS deadlines for some local filers. Specifically, municipal officers and candidates of cities with a population of 100,000 or more must file PFS under Local Government Code Chapter 145, and the commission does not have the authority to extend that deadline. However, the municipality's clerk or secretary has the authority to grant extensions under Section 145.004(e), and the commission encourages them to exercise that authority. The commission similarly encourages county clerks to grant an extension of time to the county officers required to file a PFS with county officials under Chapter 159 of the Local Government Code.

Sincerely,

/s/ Anne Temple Peters

Anne Temple Peters
Executive Director