

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070
(512) 463-5800

Jim Graham, Chair
Wilhelmina Delco, Vice Chair
Jim Clancy
Tom Harrison

Bob Long
Paula M. Mendoza
Tom Ramsay
Chase Untermeyer

AGENDA

Date and Time: 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 14, 2011
Location: Room E1.010, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. Communication to the commission from the public.
3. Comments by the commissioners.
4. Comments by the executive director.
 - a. Personnel
 - b. Quarterly Report
 - c. Sunset Commission Review Update
5. Approve minutes of the October 6, 2011, Commission meeting.
6. Briefing, discussion, and possible action to waive or reduce certain penalties assessed for late filing of campaign finance reports, lobby reports, or personal financial statements for the following individuals:

Susan L. Hawk
Kevin O'Farrell
Robert A Barnard
James Frinzi
Stephen G. Nagle
Shawn Nicole Thierry
Mary L. Tipps
Sabrina Brown
Howard Cohen
J. Lawrence Collins
Marty De Leon
Judge Edwards

Richard D. Garza-Ray
Hispanic Republican Conference
Carl Holshouser
Elizabeth A. Jones
Jason Smith
Terral R. Smith
John "Rick" Thompson
Joseph Tornberg
Lindsay Suze
Javier Villalobos
Angelica E. Hernandez

Todd R. Kercheval
John E. Littel
Susan Bridges Patten
J. Hoke Peacock II
Richard Trabulsi Jr.
Felice Tirogoff
House Rural Caucus
Manuel J. Barraza
Connie J. Reese
Robert A. Reese Jr.
Chuck Rice Jr.

7. Briefing, discussion, and possible action to waive or reduce late-filing penalties in connection with certain corrected reports or to determine whether certain corrected reports as originally filed substantially complied with the applicable law for the following individuals:

For more information, contact David A. Reisman, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800

Tamela Gough
Texas Organizing Project (TOP)
Patrick Rose

Brent Taylor
Vivian Garza-Steele
Bonnie Rangel

8. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on the fines for late and corrected reports. Presentation by Commissioner Jim Clancy.
9. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on recommendations to the legislature on reducing the number of reporting deadlines. Presentation by Commissioner Jim Clancy.
10. Reports More than 30-days Late; Discussion and possible action regarding the imposition of additional fines on the following individuals:

Reverend R. E. Price
Remelle Farrar
Jeff Sandford

11. Discussion and possible action regarding the termination of a campaign treasurer appointment of the following inactive political committee:

South Texas Economic Alliance Political Action Committee

Discussion and possible action in response to the following Advisory Opinion Draft:

12. AOR-564: Whether a communication relating to a measure election complies with section 255.003 of the Election Code.

This opinion construes section 255.003 of the Election Code.

Discussion and possible action in response to the following Advisory Opinion Draft:

13. AOR-565: Whether an officeholder may use political contributions to reimburse an individual for expenses incurred due to clerical errors made by his office.

This opinion construes section 253.035 of the Election Code.

Discussion and possible action in response to the following Advisory Opinion Draft:

14. AOR-566: Whether a corporation makes a campaign contribution to a candidate by making a campaign expenditure that benefits the candidate, to a vendor shared by the corporation and the candidate.

This opinion construes section Title 15 of the Election Code.

Discussion and possible action in response to the following Advisory Opinion Draft:

15. AOR-567: Whether a group that distributes information regarding candidates for judicial offices constitutes a political committee required to file a campaign treasurer appointment and campaign finance reports.

This opinion construes section Title 15 of the Election Code.

16. Public discussion and possible action on the proposal or adoption and publication in the Texas Register of amendments and/or repeals to Ethics Commission Rules §§ 18.9 (Corrected Reports), 20.63 (Reporting the Use and Reimbursement of Personal Funds), and 40.3 (Expenditures Reported under the Election Code, Title 15).
17. Public discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of amendments and/or repeals to Ethics Commission Rules §§ 20.219 (Content of Candidate's Sworn Report of Contributions and Expenditures), 20.279 (Contents of Officeholder's Sworn Report of Contributions and Expenditures), 20.331 (Contents of Specific-Purpose Committee Sworn Report of Contributions and Expenditures), 20.433 (Contents of General-Purpose Committee Sworn Report of Contributions and Expenditures), 22.11 (Prohibition on Contributions during Regular Session), 22.13 (Contributions in the Capitol Prohibited), and 22.15 (Prohibition on Payments Made To Purchase Real Property).
18. Presentation of the Nominating Committee report regarding the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Texas Ethics Commission. Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Texas Ethics Commission.
19. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements.

Certifying Official: David A. Reisman, Executive Director

Agency Liaison: Natalia Luna Ashley, General Counsel

NOTICE: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the Texas Ethics Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired, readers, and large print

or Braille documents. In determining the type of auxiliary aid or service, the commission will give primary consideration to the individual's request. Those requesting auxiliary aids or services should notify Margie Castellanos at (512) 463-5800 or RELAY Texas (800) 735-2989 two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please also contact Ms. Castellanos if you need assistance in having English translated into Spanish.