

Meet Commissioner Dirks

Eric Dirks was appointed to the Commission in July 2015.

Eric resides in Kansas City, Missouri with his wife, Kirsten, and two children, Will and Eli.

Eric is a practicing lawyer at the law firm Williams Dirks Dameron LLC, located in downtown Kansas City.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Eric served in the Army as a combat medic. Eric looks forward to working hard on the Commission.

His term ends March 15, 2018.

Welcome

Preparing for 2016

2016 Election News

ATTENTION: Officials Accepting Declarations of Candidacy Packets for 2016 Elections coming this month.

- Review the packet —includes instruction letter, 2016 Guide to Ethics Laws, PFD forms (AOB >\$1mil) & Notice to Candidate
- Candidate may not file for office unless all campaign finance disclosure reports from prior elections are filed.
- Candidates must have all campaign finance reports filed before taking office. [§130.071, RSMo](#)

Be sure to discard all old election materials.

Political Subdivisions

- In early November, if AOB over \$1 million, political subdivisions will be able to electronically submit their list of required annual filers to MEC. (Emails will be sent in advance containing password information).
- Both last year's annual filers and last year's candidates will be displayed. Carefully review each section, update each filer, and remove those no longer required to file.
- Each subdivision must notify those people whose names have been submitted. Annual filers are required to file their PFD by May 1, 2016 (earlier deadline for candidates).
- If the annual filer held position and is no longer serving, must file for the time period served.

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mec.mo.gov: Educational Resources

The **Educational Resources** page of the Commission website (mec.mo.gov) serves as a dashboard with links to publications, deadlines, forms, and tutorials

The resources page contains links related to conflicts of interest laws, lobbying, personal financial disclosure, and campaign finance disclosure.

From the Educational Resources page you can access the **Candidate & Committee Resources** link. This page is recommended for new users and those who seek to keep their knowledge base current. Here you will find important deadlines, tutorials, campaign finance disclosure laws, and one of the most popular sections, Publications.



Educational Resources

Lobbying

Campaign Finance

Conflict of Interest

Commission Business

Financial Disclosure



Login

Our Mission: The MEC serves the public interest by promoting and maintaining transparency, accountability, and compliance with campaign finance, lobbying, and conflict of interest laws. We educate and assist the citizens of Missouri, public officials, lobbyists, and those participating in public elections by increasing awareness and understanding of the law. We investigate and enforce these laws consistently.

Campaign Finance Tips

- **Reminder:** an originally signed Statement of Committee Organization form must be mailed or hand delivered to the MEC. Faxed or emailed copies are not accepted. Committees **MUST** also send an electronic filing agreement.
- Campaign Committees trying to get a ballot measure on the ballot by petition **MUST** file an initial 15 Day Report once the committee begins process of raising or spending money and a 15 Day After Petition Deadline Report. (For [additional information](#)).
- A **miscellaneous receipt** is money coming in other than by a contribution or loan received (ex: interest earned, receipt of a rejected contribution, refund for return of merchandise, etc.).
- A **miscellaneous disbursement** is money spent other than by expenditure or contribution made (ex: returning a contribution (that's already been deposited) back to the original contributor, transfer of funds from one candidate committee to another controlled by the same candidate, etc.).

MEC Employee Spotlight

Melissa Johnson: Employee of the Quarter

Melissa Johnson, paralegal at MEC, was recently recognized for her lead role in preparing, presenting and overseeing the implementation of amendments to the Commission's rules. This included a comprehensive review and circulation of the revisions both internally to MEC staff as well as members of the regulated community. In preparing the proposed rules for filing, she communicated with both the Secretary of State's Office and Joint Committee on Administrative Rules on the Commission's behalf. Great job Melissa!

Lobbyist Reporting Tips

How To Report (expenditure made on the behalf of a legislator's staff.)

1. Select "Employee of Staff".
 2. Enter the staff's name in the "Recipient" name field.
 3. Select the "Representative or Senator" button.
 4. Choose the correct Representative or Senator from the drop down menu.
 5. Choose the expenditure category.
 6. Enter the description, date, and amount as you would normally.
- **Lobbyists:** When reporting a "group" expenditure, staff members must still be reported individually. ([See Page 6, Question #7 of the Lobbyist FAQ](#))

Lobbyist Renewal Reminders

- Lobbyist renewal period begins Dec 1, 2015 and runs through Jan 5, 2016.
- All lobbyists must renew their registration annually and pay a \$10 registration fee.
- Lobbyists who fail to renew by Jan 5 will be terminated retroactive to Dec 31, 2015. (Must re-register within 5 days of lobbying activity).

🔗 Click [HERE](#) to view an advisory opinion regarding lobbyist and lobbyist expenditures

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