

Reporting a Fundraising Event

Fundraiser Definition

(§ 130.011(18), RSMo)

A fundraising event is an event where contributions are solicited or received mainly by the purchase of tickets, payment of attendance fees, donations of prizes, or the purchase of goods, services, or political merchandise.

Anonymous Contributions Received through a Fundraiser

(§ 130.031.6, RSMo)

Outside of a fundraising event that meets specific criteria, committees cannot accept anonymous contributions over \$25.

To accept anonymous contributions over \$25, but under \$100 per contributor, at a fundraiser, the event must meet the following qualifications:

- 25 or more participants must contribute to the event.
- An announcement is made that no person may make an anonymous contribution over \$100.
- The person responsible for conducting the event must not knowingly accept anonymous contributions over \$100.
- For any contribution over \$100, the committee must collect the contributor's name, address, employer/occupation, etc.
- The committee's next campaign finance report must include a *Fundraising Events Held* form, describing the event.

Fundraiser Reporting Reminders

- Any contributions received with the contributor's information must also be reported in the *Monetary and In-Kind Contributions Received* form.
- All expenditures made to conduct the event must also be reported in the *Expenditures Made* form.
- If more than one fundraising event was held during the reporting period, record and report each event separately.
- Local campaign committees, formed for local ballot measures, which file reports on paper with local election authorities should follow instructions on the back of the reporting forms.



Reporting a Fundraising Event

Fundraiser Record-Keeping and Reporting

If a fundraising event does not meet the specific criteria to accept anonymous contributions up to \$100 per contributor, the committee does not need to complete the *Fundraising Events Held* form. Simply report each expenditure made toward the event and each contribution received as you normally would.

If a committee accepts contributions over \$25 and up to \$100 per contributor at a fundraiser, the committee's next campaign finance report should include the following details on the *Fundraising Events Held* form:

- The name and address of the candidate for whom the funds were raised.
- The location of the fundraising event.
- A description of the type of event and fundraising methods used.
- The name and address of the person(s) responsible for the event.
- The date of the event.
- The number of participants.
- The total amount of anonymous contributions received through the event (\$100 or less per contributor).
- An explanation of why the anonymous contributors' information could not be obtained.
- The total amount of contributions received from participants who are identified by their name, address, and employer in committee records.
- The total contributions received from the event.
- A list of expenditures made to conduct the fundraising event.
- And all verifying documents, which must be kept for three years (ex: event invitation, rental agreement, sign-in sheet, invoice, statements from vendors, etc.).

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Related Resources

- <u>The MEC's Guide to Record-Keeping</u>
- <u>Campaign Finance Frequently Asked Questions</u>
- <u>Reporting Contributions and Loans Tutorial YouTube Series</u>
- <u>Chapter 130, RSMo</u>

