

## Commission Update

The Missouri Ethics Commission is composed of 6 Commissioners who are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Commissioners' primary roles are to determine the action to take on complaint investigations and audits, consider and issue Commission opinions on questions received about ethics laws, and make determinations on late fee appeals by candidate committees.

On March 15, 2018, three Commissioners completed their terms of service. The Governor appointed two individuals on April 13. The Senate must approve these nominees before they may serve.

While the Commission is required to have a quorum of at least 4 members in order to conduct Commission business, the Executive Director and Commission staff are able to handle the Commission's day-to-day operations without the need to convene the Commission.

## Have you filed your PFD?

### Candidate Filers: April 17<sup>th</sup> deadline is fast approaching!

If your name was submitted to our office as a candidate required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) statement, then you should have filed your PFD by **5:00 pm on Tuesday April 10, 2018** (or post-marked by April 9, 2018).

**If the PFD is not filed by 5:00pm Tuesday April 17, 2018 you will be disqualified as a candidate for the August primary election.**

### Annual Filers

If you are not a candidate but are required to file a PFD because of the position held in 2017, you must submit a PFD on or before Tuesday May 1, 2018.



### E-File your PFD

1. Complete **PFD E-Filer Account Request**
2. Upon receipt of your MEC Online ID & Password (sent to the email address provided), **log-in** to the **PFD E-Filing System**

For more info, see **The MEC Guide to PFD**.



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## Lobbying Report Due

### List of Principals & Legislative Action—Due May 30<sup>th</sup>

Avoid these common reporting errors:

- Only one report is required per principal; any one of multiple lobbyists that are registered to lobby on behalf of a principal may report for that principal.
- Must include general description of the proposed action; may provide the bill number but also include brief description of the bill.
- Report includes the lobbying of any action by an official agency, board or commission of state government (ex: if lobbying the head of a state agency, that action is reportable).

**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.

## Training Information

### Campaign Finance Webinars

#### Now on demand!

Topics for new candidates/committees and their treasurers.

Campaign finance:

- [Record Keeping](#)
- [Reporting](#)

Visit the [training schedule](#) to browse available in-person, and webinar sessions.



Is your organization, association, or political subdivision having a meeting or conference?

The Missouri Ethics Commission can conduct trainings on topics such as conflict of interest, use of public funds, personal financial disclosure, and campaign disclosure requirements.

To schedule, send a request to: [training@mec.mo.gov](mailto:training@mec.mo.gov)

## Reminder: Contribution Limits and New Provisions

- Contribution limits of \$2,600 per contributor/per election apply to candidates for statewide offices, state legislative offices and judicial offices
- There are no contribution limits on candidates for local offices. (Some municipalities have local contribution limits (e.g., Kansas City). Verify with governing body. )
- While the contributions limits do not apply to local candidates, there are numerous provisions that apply to all candidate committees, including local candidates. Under these provisions, candidate committees:
  - **Cannot** accept contributions from another candidate committee
  - **Cannot** make contributions to another candidate committee
  - **Cannot** make contributions to PACs
  - **Can** receive contributions from PACs
  - **Can** make contributions to political party committees
  - **Can** receive contributions from political party committees
- Labor organizations are prohibited from making contributions (monetary or in-kind) to political parties or candidate committees, exploratory committees, and political party committees
- Corporations and Missouri LLCs that elect to be classified as a corporation under federal tax code are prohibited from making contributions (monetary or in-kind) to political parties or candidate committees, exploratory committees, and political party committees.
- No political party shall accept aggregate contributions from any contributor that exceed \$25,000 per election at the state, county, municipal, district, ward, and township level combined

See [Advisory Opinions](#) and [FAQs](#) related to MO Constitutional Article VIII, Sec. 23 for additional information.

### CF Requirements and Tips

- Successful candidates must file 30 Day After Election Report (if have expenditures or contributions made) BEFORE being sworn-in. Time period is from day after last report closed through the day before the swearing-in.
- To aid in recording and importing contributions and loans received, itemized expenditures all over \$100, and contributions made, filers can use the Import Function in the e-filing system.
- View [Excel Template](#), [Import Function Tutorial](#), and [Import Specifications](#).
- Business cards used for campaign purposes are considered printed material, see [Campaign Materials Identification Requirements](#) (Paid-for-by) Brochure.

#### Personal Financial Disclosure

- Due 4/10/18
- After 4/10/18 - late fees at \$10/day
- After 4/17/18 - Disqualification & removal from ballot

#### Forming a Committee

- PAC form by 6/8/18
- Other committees form by 7/8/18

#### April Quarterly

- (Due if committee formed before 3/31)
- Due 4/16/18 (Closes 3/31/18)

#### 40 Day Before

- N/A

#### July Quarterly

- Due 7/16/18 (Closes 6/30/18)

#### 8 Day Before

- Due 7/30/18 (Closes 7/26/18)

#### ★ 8/7/18 Election Date

#### 30 Day After

- Due 9/6/18 (Closes 9/1/18)

AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup> PRIMARY

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