

## MEC Officially Launches Site Redesign

The Missouri Ethics Commission is inviting visitors to explore its redesigned website ([mec.mo.gov](http://mec.mo.gov)), which officially launched on June 22.

Key features include a cleaner and more attractive design and an overall focus on increased access to Commission information.

The site layout was prioritized based on links that were selected most often. Analysis revealed over one million searches were conducted in 2014.

Now all Searches, in addition to Forms & FAQs, are easily accessible from the homepage.

This solution reduced the number of clicks to get to important information. While the layout has changed, the functionality of the searches remains the same.

New users will benefit from the "How Do I" section which connects them to the most commonly requested information. On the Educational Resources page users can find publications, training materials, and other helpful information.

For convenience, Advisory Opinions, Commission Meetings, and News Archives have been consolidated on the Commission Business page. Campaign Finance, Personal

Financial Disclosure, and Lobbyist filers can access the universal log-in, located on the top right of every page on the site.

*"We hope you will visit the new website and acquaint yourself with the new design. While you're there, let us know what you think by filling out the survey."*

*"We plan to continue making enhancements to our site; taking into consideration the feedback we receive from our users."*

- **Craig Hollis**,  
MEC Director of IT Services

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## Tips & Reminders

### Personal Financial Disclosure

#### Annual Operating Budget (See E-File AOB)

In order to identify persons required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) statement, political subdivisions must confirm whether their Annual Operating Budget (AOB) is:

- Over \$1 million; or
- \$1 million or under

#### Conflict of Interest Ordinance/Resolution

If you do not adopt (or re-adopt) a conflict of interest ordinance or resolution, ALL elected, appointed, and decision making personnel, as well as candidates, are required to file a PFD.

If you do adopt a new ordinance (or re-adopt your current ordinance), the deadline is **Sept 15th**. The ordinance must be adopted (or re-adopted), every two years, at an open meeting. A certified copy must be mailed to MEC within 10 days of the adoption (or re-adoption).

See [§105.485 RSMo](#) for minimum ordinance requirements. In addition to the minimum requirements, consider including the following:

- Penalties for late filing, failing to file or follow ordinance, etc.
- Filing requirements for candidates.

#### E-File: AOB

Starting Wed, July 2nd, through Fri, August 1st, go to our [website](#) and:

1. **Log into the [Political Subdivision E-filing System](#)** (use your political subdivision's log-in information)
2. **Update** subdivision contact information (if necessary)
3. **Confirm** your AOB (you will - receive email confirmation)

**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.

## RULEMAKING

The Commission has amended its Rule 1 CSR 50-3.010, which sets forth the process for candidate committees to appeal late fees assessed for the late campaign finance disclosure reports.

This amendment was necessary to make the rule consistent with the statute as it existed prior to the passage of SB 844.

The Missouri Supreme Court later ruled SB 844 unconstitutional.

The amendment further clarifies the process for late fee appeals.

The rule will be effective August 30, 2015, and is currently published at [sos.mo.gov](http://sos.mo.gov). Under Proposed Rules, click on the Office of Administration link.



## MEC Employee Spotlight

**Betty Lohmann: Employee of the Quarter** (January 1 to April 30, 2015)

Once a quarter, MEC staff have the opportunity to nominate and recognize one of their own as Employee of the Quarter. Reporting Specialist, Betty Lohmann was selected, in part, for ensuring nearly 10,000 officeholders and candidates file Personal Financial Disclosure Reports each year. "With her pleasant demeanor and knowledge of the PFD requirements, Betty has developed a reputation for delivering quality customer service." - Betsy Byers, Director of Business Services. Betty has served the Ethics Commission since September 2008.

**Joe Owens: New Ethics Commission Trainer**

Joe holds a degree in multimedia production and co-founded Technocrats, one of the first mobile computer consulting and training firms in the nation. In addition to smartphone training conducted at AT&T, Joe has also trained staff at Cook County Hospital, Chicago public schools, and Handango.com. Joe plans to utilize emerging technology and training methods to build upon the success of the current MEC training program.

For tutorials and training materials, visit our [Educational Resources](#) page.

## NEPOTISM DEFINED

Nepotism is when any public officer or employee, who by virtue of his office or employment, names or appoints to public office or employment any relative within the 4th degree by consanguinity or affinity ([Art. VII, Sect 6](#)—MO Constitution). To identify a relative within the 4th degree refer to the [Relationship Chart](#) found on the Commission's website.

Consanguinity means related by blood or descended from a common ancestor. Affinity means a relationship by marriage or adoption, not a blood relationship. A relationship by affinity (marriage) terminates if death or divorce occurs.

The penalty for nepotism is automatic forfeiture of office. Legal action may be pursued (by the appropriate prosecuting attorney or disciplinary authority) to remove the individual from office or employment. (Art. VII, Sect 6—MO Constitution).

## IT Job Openings

The Commission is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

Information Technologist  
I-IV: Application Developer

Information Technologist  
I-IV: System Administrator

For the most current job listing information, please refer to the [MEC employment page](#).

**July Quarterly Report Due July 15th: All committees must file.**

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