MEC News

Missouri Ethics Commission (MEC) James Klahr, Executive Director

Volume 24

October 2014

CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In addition to the October Quarterly Report (due Oct 15), the following reports may need to be filed for the Nov 4 General Election:

- 8 Day Before Election Report only required if spent money (made contributions or expenditures (whether paid or incurred)) for that election
- 30 Day After Election Report only required if: 1) spent money (made contributions or expenditures (whether paid or incurred)) for that election; or, 2) if debt is more than \$1,000; and, if required, must be filed before taking office. 30 Day After may be filed early for those candidates that take office before the report is due (Dec 4th), the ending date will be the day before taking office.

Also, candidates cannot take office until all disclosure reports have been filed. If unsuccessful, and have more money on hand than debt, terminate the committee. If more debt than money on hand, can convert to Debt Service Committee (may only accept contributions to pay off debt, no other activity).



Upcoming Reports

October Quarterly due from all committees by Oct 15th (time period thru Sept 30)

Review Upcoming Deadlines & Reminders for Aug 5 & Nov 4, 2014 Elections for other election specific reports due

Inside this issue:

Campaign Finance Disclosure

2015 Election News

Political Subdivisions

NEW Searches

Training News

Lobbyist Renewal Reminder

FAQ

MEC raises \$ for charity

Contact Us

2015 Election News

ATTN: Officials Accepting Declarations of Candidacy: Packets for 2015 Elections coming in October.

- > Review the packet—includes instruction letter, 2015 Guide to Ethics Law, PFD forms (AOB >\$1mil) & Notice to
- **Review your Candidate Declaration form**—may include wording that candidate has no outstanding campaign finance reports due from prior elections.
- Remember, §130.071 RSMo prohibits candidates from taking office until all reports are filed.

Be sure to discard all old election materials!

Political Subdivisions

Beginning November 15, 2014, political subdivisions (if annual operating budget (AOB) over \$1 million) will be able to electronically submit their list of required annual Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) filers to MEC (password information will be sent in November).

Upon logging in to the Political Subdivision e-Filer system, 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. Reminder: if an annual filer held the position at any time in 2014, that person is required to file for the time period served.

Each subdivision must notify those people whose names have been submitted. They are required to file their PFD by May 1, 2015 (earlier if a candidate).



Our Mission:

We serve the public interest. We assist and educate the citizens of Missouri, public officials, lobbyists, and those participating in public elections. We create transparency and accountability and consistently enforce campaign finance, conflict of interest, and lobbying laws.

NEW Searches

Non-Committee Expenditure Search

The Non-Committee Expenditure Report is used by individuals, businesses, and groups, not defined as a committee, who make expenditures totaling \$500 or more in support of or in opposition to candidates or ballot measures. These reports are filed on paper with MEC and scanned for viewing. View When to Form & Register a Committee Brochure for more information.

Lobbyist Expenditures by Principals

Search all expenditures made by a principal as reported by the associated lobbyist making the expenditure. A lobbyist principal is any person, business entity, religious organization, nonprofit corporation or association who employs, contracts for pay, or otherwise compensates a lobbyist. Lobbyists are required to report expenditures on behalf of certain public officials.

Training News

We are winding down our training for the 2014 election cycle and have just a few webinars left.

Oct 7, 10 am—Record-Keeping Oct 9, 10 am—Reporting

Register @ http://bit.ly/Vd0y0E. Don't forget that we also have a number of other resources on our website to assist you @ http://on.mo.gov/YDwqDZ.

We are discussing ideas for new training opportunities for 2015, be sure and keep watching our website and your emails for details.



Lobbyist Renewal Reminders

- Lobbyist renewal period begins Dec 1, 2014 and runs through Jan 5, 2015.
- All lobbyists must renew their registration and pay a \$10 registration fee.
- Lobbyists who fail to renew by Jan 5 will be terminated retroactive to Dec 31, 2014. (Must re-register within 5 days of lobbying activity).

Advisory Opinion: The Commission recently released a new advisory opinion regarding lobbyist and lobbyist expenditures, view @ http://mec.mo.gov/Scanned/PDF/Opinions/463.pdf

Contact us:

Physical address: 3411 A Knipp Dr. Jefferson City MO 65109

Mailing address: PO Box 1370 Jefferson City MO 65102

Phone: 800-392-8660 573-751-2020

Email: helpdesk@mec.mo.gov

Website: www.mec.mo.gov

Twitter:

@MOEthics

MEC raises money for charity...

MEC staff engaged in a game of Penny Wars to raise money for the Mo State Employees Charitable Campaign.



Total money raised was **\$213.51** with \$56.90 going to the winning team's charity of Make-A-Wish Foundation and the remaining sum of \$156.61 going to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for childhood cancer research.



- Q: Can a campaign finance committee pay legal fees for post-election litigation or recounts?
- A. No, §130.034 RSMo, defines allowable uses of Campaign Finance contributions. For additional information related to payment of legal fees by a committee, refer to Contribution Uses & Legal Fees flyer and Advisory Opinions on our website.