



**FERRIS
TEXAS**

Distinct By Design

CITY OF FERRIS
GENERAL ELECTION
MAY 4, 2024

CANDIDATE PACKET

Instructions, Forms, and Guidelines

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING:

Mayor

Place 1

Place 4



FERRIS
TEXAS

Distinct By Design

January 2024

Dear Prospective Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in serving on the City of Ferris City Council. The May 4, 2024 election will be held for the purpose of electing a Mayor at large, Council Member Place 1, and Council Member Place 4, each serving a two (2) year term from May 2024 to May 2026. This packet has been prepared to inform you of important dates, provide necessary filing forms, instructions, and other pertinent information to assist you in complying with your responsibilities as a candidate for public office. I encourage you to set aside time to review the packet and, if necessary, make an appointment with me to go over any questions you may have regarding Council responsibilities. It is important that you understand these responsibilities prior to fining as a candidate.

Please note that all financial reports are filed with the City Secretary. These reports are considered open records and will be viewed as such by reporters and opponents alike. The City Secretary is specifically limited by law to the acceptance and filing of various applications, affidavits, statements and reports, and noting the date and time of all such filings. If you have any questions regarding reporting procedures, contributions and expenditures, or complaints, concerns and violations regarding campaign practices, please contact the Texas Ethics Commission at 512-463-5800, or at www.ethics.state.tx.us. You may also direct any questions regarding election procedures to the Texas Secretary of State at 1-800-252-8683 or 512-463-5650. The "Finance Guide for Candidates and Officeholders Who File with Local Filing Authorities" has been included in this packet and is an excellent source of information.

The Following information has been provided in your packet: (Items in red and marked with an asterisk are to be completed and returned to the City Secretary)

- 2024 General Election Calendar
- Eligibility Requirements
- Guide to Becoming a City Official
- First Steps for Candidates Running for a City Office

- *Application for Place on the City of Ferris General Election Ballot
- *General Release of Personal Information Affidavit
- *Fair Campaign Practice Act and Code of Fair Campaign Practices Form (CFCP)
- *Appointment of a Campaign Treasurer by a Candidate (CTA)
- Texas Ethics Commission 2024 Filing Schedule
- Candidate/Officeholder Campaign Finance Report (C-OH)
- Texas Ethics Commission Political Advertising Guide
- Regulations for Political Signs

If you have any concerns or need assistance, please contact me at 972-544-2110 ext: 1013 or at krystinarodriguez@ferristexas.gov. I hope this will be a positive experience for you!

Sincerely,

Krystina Rodriguez,

City Secretary

City of Ferris

2024 General Election Calendar of Events

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| January 17, 2024 | First day for filing application for place on ballot |
| February 16, 2024 | Last day to file application for place on ballot and filing appointment of a Campaign Treasurer NO later than 5:00 pm |
| February 20, 2024 | Last day for a write-in candidate to declare candidacy |
| February 23, 2024 | Last day for a candidate to withdraw and have name omitted from the ballot. |
| February 26, 2024 | Drawing for name place on ballot at 10:00 am |
| April 4, 2024 | Last day to register to vote in the May 4 th election |
| April 4, 2024 | Due date for filing the first report of campaign contributions and expenditures by opposed candidates (unless declared modified reporting) with the City Secretary |
| April 23, 2024 | First day for early voting by personal appearance |
| April 27, 2024 | Due date for filing second report of campaign contributions and expenditures with the City Secretary |
| April 30, 2024 | Last day of regular early voting by personal appearance |
| May 4, 2024 | Election Day 7am – 7pm |

City Council Eligibility Requirements

Texas Election Code

Election Code §141.001(a)

- Be a United States citizen
- Be a resident of the County
- Be eighteen (18) years of age or older on the first day of term to be filled at the election
- Have not been determined mentally incompetent or partially mentally incapacitated by a final judgement of a court
- Have not been finally convicted of a felony from which the person has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities
- Have resided continuously in the State for twelve (12) months and in the city or in the district or ward, as applicable, for six (6) months immediately preceding the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot.



A Guide to Becoming a City Official

Updated July 2019

The Texas Municipal League exists solely to provide services to Texas cities. Since its formation in 1913, the League's mission has remained the same: to serve the needs and advocate the interests of its members.

The TML Constitution states that the purpose of the League is to "render services which individual cities have neither the time, money, nor strength to do alone."

Texas Municipal League
1821 Rutherford Lane, Suite 400
Austin, Texas 78754
512-231-7400
www.tml.org

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Congratulations on Your Decision to File for City Office

Serving as an effective city elected official requires dedication, knowledge, and a substantial time commitment, and there are countless reasons why people choose to run for public office. While you may have a very specific reason for seeking a place on the city council, you will be involved in a number of other issues that can have a lasting impact on your city's future. For this reason, becoming a city elected official can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. An understanding of your role on the city council—as a member of a team—is critical to your success.

This booklet is designed to familiarize you with the responsibilities of city elected office. Use it as a reference guide during your campaign. Don't hesitate to ask your city manager or city secretary questions about your specific city structure. If you are elected, you may want to seek out the many other resources that help to guide newly elected officials in their new roles.

Material contained in this brochure should not be viewed as a substitute for legal advice or specific information applicable to your city. In addition, if you're serious about your candidacy, you should consider other, more detailed information sources available to you, including:

- attending city council or board of aldermen meetings
- examining your charter, if your city is home rule
- reviewing city ordinances
- the *TML Handbook for Mayors and Councilmembers*

For information on elections, you may get additional information from the city clerk or secretary or the Texas Secretary of State's office. You should also consult your own attorney or familiarize yourself with the requirements of election laws.

Leadership Attributes for Councilmembers

Do you have the necessary leadership attributes to be an effective city leader? At a minimum, successful elected officials must devote a significant amount of time and energy to fulfill a position that answers directly to citizens. Some desirable leadership attributes include:

- a general understanding of city government
- willingness to learn about a wide range of topics
- integrity

- consistency
- confidence
- dedication to the interests of citizens and the community as a whole
- strong communication and team-building skills, including being a good listener
- openness to the thoughts and ideas of others
- being approachable and accessible
- willingness to work cooperatively with others

An Elected Official Wears Many Hats

Local elected officials have many responsibilities—policymaker, legislator, ambassador, and employer.

The office of mayor is the highest elected office in city government. City councilmembers are the city's legislators, and their primary role is policymaking. The manner in which administrative responsibilities are handled depends on your city type, with which you should be familiar.

Policymaker

As policymakers, it is the council's responsibility to identify the needs of the citizens and to formulate a plan to meet those needs. Policymaking is a complicated process but can be simplified if the city council works together as a team and sets goals for the city. It is from the city council's vision that the administrative staff of the city takes direction and goes about its daily work. The goals of the city should be clear. There are many legal, financial, and administrative considerations to implementing the goals of the city, and without clear direction the effectiveness of the city council can be diminished.

Legislator

Citizens look to the city council to exercise authority to preserve and promote their health, safety, and welfare. A city council may enact ordinances and resolutions and use its governmental powers for the public good. Citizens expect their city council to provide leadership in addressing issues. It is important to show respect for your fellow councilmembers and be willing to discuss issues thoroughly to reach a consensus on the best course of action for all citizens, whatever the issue.

Ambassador

As a member of your city council, you will be invited to participate in a variety of civic activities. These events will provide you opportunities to learn more about what citizens of your city expect from city government. While not everyone likes this type of public spotlight, it is an important part of your role as a councilmember.

Employer

An understanding of your role as an elected official is vital to your relationship with the city staff. Just as in any productive employer-employee relationship, trust and respect are important. You can learn a great deal about the city from city employees. In many cities, councilmembers come and go, but the city staff continues to serve.

Mayors, Councils, and Boards of Aldermen

The mayor and city council or board of aldermen collectively serve as the governing body for a city and normally possess all legislative powers granted by state law. The positions of both councilmember and alderman have been compared to those of the members of the state legislature and the United States Congress. All these positions require elected officials to represent their constituents, to make policy decisions, to budget for the execution of the policies, and to see that their policies are carried out. Unlike their counterparts in state and federal offices, however, city officials are in direct contact with the citizens they serve on an ongoing basis.

Are You Eligible?

To run for office in a general law city in Texas, you must, among other requirements:

- be a citizen of the United States;
- be at least 18 years old on the date of the election; and
- be a registered voter and have lived in the State of Texas for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the filing date for the election, and in your city or ward for at least 6 months prior to the filing date for the election.

Certain offices and certain city types have additional requirements in state law, so you should be sure to check with both the city and the Texas Secretary of State's Elections Division to ensure that you are eligible. A home rule city may set different requirements in its charter, so check with your city clerk or secretary on whether additional or different requirements apply. The Texas Secretary of State website is at www.sos.state.tx.us.

Filing for a Place on the Ballot

To run for city office, you must file an application with the city clerk or secretary. The application includes information required by the Texas Election Code and must be filed according to deadlines set by that code. A candidate may either file for a place on the ballot or as a write-in candidate, but an application must be filed in either case. A home rule city may also have additional requirements and procedures for filing for a place on the ballot. Your city clerk or secretary can inform you of the rules and deadlines.

Texas Ethics Commission Campaign Finance Filings

State law requires the filing of various forms by a candidate for city office.

All candidates for city offices must file an “Appointment of a Campaign Treasurer by a Candidate” form with the city secretary before beginning their campaigns. Candidates who do not intend to accept more than \$500 in political contributions or make more than \$500 in political expenditures may file a modified reporting declaration and operate under modified reporting. Under modified reporting, the candidate is not required to file any further forms beyond the final report, which is filed at the end of the campaign. Semiannual reports may still be required in some cases.

Candidates who intend to accept more than \$500 in political contributions or make more than \$500 in political expenditures, or who exceed that amount even after filing for modified reporting, must file under regular reporting requirements. Reports due under these requirements must be submitted by January 15 and July 15 of each year. The reports filed on these dates are known as semiannual reports. An opposed candidate in an upcoming city election who is using regular reporting must file reports of contributions and expenditures 30 days and 8 days before the election. A candidate in a runoff must file a report 8 days before the runoff election. Candidates filing under regular reporting are also required to file a final report at the end of the campaign.

Detailed information on filing is available on the Texas Ethics Commission’s website at www.ethics.state.tx.us.

An Introduction to City Government

Elected city officials should have a basic understanding of city government and the duties, authority, and limitations of an elected body. What follows is a brief introduction to a few basic governance issues.

Of course, there is no better way to understand what elected officials do than to attend council meetings. In addition, most cities and towns have advisory boards that are formed to make or recommend policy or quasi-judicial decisions, such as a planning commission or parks and recreation board. Serving on these and other appointed boards is another excellent way to become informed.

Types of City Government

Texas has more than 1,200 incorporated cities; each of them is either a home rule city or a general law city.

Home rule cities are larger cities. A city with a population of more than 5,000 in which the citizens have adopted a home rule charter through an election is a home rule city. A home rule charter is the document that establishes the city's governmental structure and provides for the distribution of powers and duties.

General law cities are usually smaller cities. General law cities don't have charters. Rather, they operate according to specific state statutes. A general law city looks to the state constitution and state statutes to determine what it **may do**. If state law doesn't grant a general law city the express or implied power to initiate a particular action, none may be taken. There are three categories of general law cities: type A, B, or C. If you are seeking office in a general law city, you should ask your city manager or city secretary to clarify the type in order to understand which state laws apply.

As opposed to general law cities, a home rule city operates according to its charter and looks to the state constitution and state statutes to determine what it **may not do**.

Forms of Government

There are two prevalent forms of city government in Texas:

Mayor-Council Structure

- The mayor is the ceremonial head of government and presides over council or board of aldermen meetings.
- The council or board of aldermen sets meetings.
- The council or board of aldermen sets policy.
- Depending on local charter and/or ordinances, applicable statute, or local practice, broad or limited administrative authority is vested with the mayor or members of the council or board of aldermen or with an administrator or designated department heads appointed by the mayor, council, or board of aldermen.

Council-Manager Structure

- The mayor is the ceremonial head of government and presides over council meetings.
- The council sets policy and hires and fires the manager.
- The city manager normally has broad administrative authority.

Basic City Services

Services provided by cities vary. However, some typical services may include:

Public Safety—police, fire, and sometimes ambulance service

Utilities—water and sewer, trash collection, electric power, and natural gas

Land Use—planning, zoning, code enforcement, and other regulatory activities

Transportation—street construction and maintenance, traffic safety, and sometimes public transit

Recreation/Culture—parks, recreation, libraries, and sometimes cultural facilities

Legal—ordinances protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of the community

City Finance

In budgeting, the governing body makes important decisions about the operation and priorities of the city. Is a swimming pool more important than storm sewers? Does the city need a new library more than it needs extra police personnel? Should the potholes be filled or the street completely rebuilt? Budgeting is a process by which the governing body determines the city's standard of living—what the citizens need and want, what they are willing to pay, and what services they can expect to receive for their tax dollars.

Cities levy specific taxes to finance city services. In addition, many city services are financed in whole or in part by user fees and charges. The following are the most common taxes and fees levied by Texas cities:

Property tax—levied on the valuation of taxable property located within the city

Sales tax—levied on retail sales of tangible personal property and some specific services

Right-of-way rental fees—levied on non-municipally owned utilities (telecommunications, electric, gas, water, cable television)

Finally, cities receive some revenues from various federal and state grant and allocation programs. TML provides a comprehensive guide to all revenue sources available to cities. The guide is called the *TML Revenue Manual for Texas Cities* and is available at www.tml.org.

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Various laws govern the behavior of a city official. A brief overview of the most commonly-applicable statutes follows.

Local Government Code Chapter 171 – Conflicts of Interest

Definition of “conflict of interest”: A local public official has a conflict of interest in a matter if any action on the matter would involve a business entity or real property

in which the official has a substantial interest, and if an action on the matter will result in a special economic effect on the business that is distinguishable from the effect on the public, or in the case of a substantial interest in real property, it is reasonably foreseeable that the action will have a special economic effect on the value of the property, distinguishable from its effect on the public. A local public official is also considered to have a substantial interest if a close relative has such an interest.

General rule: If a local public official has a conflict of interest in regard to a business entity or real property, that official must file an affidavit with the city secretary stating the interest and must abstain from any participation or vote on the matter.

Exception: If a local public official has a conflict of interest and files an affidavit, the official is not required to abstain from further participation or a vote on the matter if a majority of the members of the governing body also have a conflict of interest and file an affidavit.

Penalties: Penalties for violating the conflict of interest provisions range from having the action voided to the imposition of fines and incarceration.

Local Government Code Chapter 176 – Conflicts Disclosure

Local Government Code Chapter 176 requires that “local government officers”—including mayors, councilmembers, and certain other executive city officers and agents—file a “conflicts disclosure statement” with a city’s records administrator within seven days of becoming aware of any of the following situations:

- A city officer or the officer’s family member has an employment or business relationship that results in taxable income of more than \$2,500 in the preceding 12 months with a person who has contracted with or is considering contracting with the city (“vendor”).
- A city officer or the officer’s family member receives and accepts one or more gifts with an aggregate value of \$100 in the preceding 12 months from a vendor.
- A city officer has a family relationship with a vendor.

The law also requires a vendor to file a “conflict of interest questionnaire” if the vendor has a business relationship with the city and has an employment or other relationship with an officer or officer’s family members, has given a gift to either, or has a family relationship with a city officer. The conflicts disclosure statement and

the conflict of interest questionnaire are created by the Texas Ethics Commission and are available online at www.ethics.state.tx.us. An officer who knowingly fails to file the statement commits either a class A, B, or C misdemeanor, depending on the amount of the contract.

Government Code Chapter 553 – Conflicts Disclosure

Government Code Chapter 553 requires that city officers and candidates for city office who have a legal or equitable interest in property that is to be acquired with public funds file an affidavit within 10 days before the date on which the property is to be acquired by purchase or condemnation. The affidavit must be filed with: (1) the county clerk of the county in which the officer or candidate resides; and (2) the county clerk of each county in which the property is located.

A person who fails to file the required affidavit is presumed to have committed a Class A misdemeanor offense if the person had actual notice of the acquisition or intended acquisition of the property.

Financial Disclosure for Cities of a Population of 100,000 or More

Chapter 145 of the Texas Local Government Code requires candidates and elected city officials in cities with a population of 100,000 or more to fill out detailed financial statements to be filed with the city secretary or city clerk.

Nepotism

Definition of "nepotism": Nepotism is the appointment or employment of a close relative of a city's "final hiring authority (the city council or city manager, depending on the form of government)" to a paid position with the city.

General rule: A public official, acting alone or as a member of a governing body, generally may not appoint a close relative to a paid position, regardless of the relative's merit. In addition, a person may not continue to be employed by a city if a close relative is elected to the city council, unless he or she falls under an exception.

Exception: If the employee has been continuously employed by the city for a certain period of time, an employee may remain employed by the city if a close relative is elected to city council.

Exception: The nepotism statute does not apply to cities with fewer than 200 people.

Penalties: Penalties for violating the nepotism provisions include a fine and immediate removal from office.

Dual Office-Holding/Incompatibility

Definition of “dual office-holding” and general rule: The Texas Constitution generally prohibits one person from holding more than one paid public office.

Definition of “incompatibility” and general rule: Texas law prohibits one person from holding two public offices, regardless of whether one or both offices are paid, if one position might impose its policies on the other or subject it to control in some other way. There are three types of incompatibility: (1) “self-appointment” incompatibility prohibits a member of a governing body from being appointed to a position over which the governing body has appointment authority; (2) “self-employment” incompatibility prohibits a member of a governing body from being employed in a position over which the governing body has employment authority; and (3) “conflicting loyalties” incompatibility prohibits one person from holding two public offices in which the duties of one office might negatively affect the duties of the other office.

Penalties: A person who accepts a prohibited second office automatically resigns the first office.

Open Government

Before assuming public office, you should become familiar with Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) and Public Information Act (PIA). These laws apply to political subdivisions in Texas, including cities, and outline what meetings and information must be open and available to the public.

Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA)

The Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) reflects the policy that public bodies are engaged in the public’s business. Consequently, city council or board of aldermen meetings should be open to the public and held only after the public has been properly notified. The TOMA governs how city meetings are conducted. Some general principles follow.

Definition of “meeting”: A meeting occurs any time a quorum of the city council discusses public business that is within the city council’s jurisdiction, regardless of the location or means of communication (e.g., phone, in person, email).

General rule: Every regular, special, or called meeting of the city council and most boards and commissions (depending on membership and authority) must be open to the public.

Exception: TOMA does not apply to purely social gatherings, conventions and workshops, ceremonial events, press conferences, or candidate forums, so long as any discussion of city business is incidental to the purpose of the gathering, and no action is taken.

Exception: A city may use an online message board that is viewable by the public for city councilmembers to discuss city business. The message board must meet several criteria provided for in TOMA.

Exception: Statutorily authorized executive or "closed" sessions, including deliberations concerning: (1) purchase or lease of real property; (2) consultation with attorney; (3) personnel matters; (4) economic development; (5) certain homeland security matters; and (6) certain cyber-security matters.

To hold an executive session, the governing body must first convene in open session, identify which issues will be discussed in executive session, and cite the applicable exception. All final actions, decisions, or votes must be made in an open meeting.

Agenda: A governmental body must post an agenda that includes the date, hour, place, and subject of each meeting. The agenda must be posted on a regular or electronic bulletin board at city hall in a place readily accessible to the public at all times for at least 72 hours before the meeting. In addition, for cities that have an Internet website, the city must post the city council's agenda 72 hours before the meeting on that website.

Records of meetings: Cities must keep written minutes or recordings of all open meetings, and a certified agenda or recording of all executive/closed meetings, except for closed consultations with an attorney. The minutes must state the subject and indicate each vote, decision, or other action taken, and a city that has a website must post the approved minutes on that website.

Minutes and recording of an open meeting are public records, while certified agendas and recording of a closed meeting are confidential and cannot be released to the public except by court order.

Penalties: Penalties for violating the TOMA range from having the action voided to the imposition of fines and incarceration. Any action taken in violation is voidable and may be reversed in a civil lawsuit. There are four criminal provisions under the TOMA, including:

- (1) Knowingly engaging in a series of communications of less than a quorum of members discussing city business that will ultimately be deliberated by a quorum of members;
- (2) Calling or participating in an impermissible closed meeting;
- (3) Participating in an executive session without a certified agenda or recording; and
- (4) Disclosing a certified agenda or recording to a member of the public.

Texas Public Information Act (PIA)

The Texas Public Information Act governs the availability of city records to the public. Some general provisions follow.

Definition of “public information”: Public information includes any information that is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental entity, regardless of the format. Public information can include city-related emails or texts on a city official’s personal devices/accounts.

General rule: Most information held by a city is presumed to be public information and must be released pursuant to a written request.

Exceptions: Specific statutory exceptions to disclosure allow certain types of information to be withheld from the public. Other statutes make certain kinds of information “confidential by law,” meaning that a city must withhold that information from the public. Because there are numerous exceptions, city officials should consult with local counsel immediately on receipt of a request.

Procedure: Any member of the public may request information in writing. A city official is prohibited from inquiring into the requestor’s motives and is generally limited to: (1) releasing the information as quickly as is practicable, but generally not later than ten business days following the request; or (2) requesting an opinion from the Texas attorney general’s office within ten business days of the receipt of the request as to whether the information may be withheld. Recent statutory changes and rulings by the attorney general have granted cities the authority to withhold specified types of confidential information without going through the process of seeking an opinion from the attorney general’s office.

Penalties: Penalties for violating the PIA range from a civil lawsuit against the city or a city official to the imposition of fines and incarceration. There are three general criminal provisions under the PIA, including: (1) refusing to provide public information; (2) providing confidential information; and (3) destroying government information improperly.

Open Government Training

Each elected or appointed member of a governmental body must take at least one hour of training in both the Open Meetings Act and the Public Information Act. For more information, please visit the attorney general's website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov.

A Basic Glossary of City Government

Budgeting: Crafting, passing, and following a city budget are among the most important tasks you will perform as a councilmember. Cities cannot make expenditures except in strict accordance with a budget, and they can levy taxes only in accordance with the budget.

Conflicts of Interest: As a councilmember, you are prohibited from voting or deliberating on agenda items that affect your own business, financial interests, or real property. You'll be required to file an affidavit with the city secretary disclosing the details of your conflict, and that affidavit becomes a public record. Also, you are required to disclose in writing the receipt of any gifts or income from any vendor that does business with the city.

Dual Office-Holding/Incompatibility: Councilmembers cannot hold other paid public offices; in many cases, they cannot hold other unpaid public offices, either. Further, councilmembers can't take paid jobs with their own city, nor can they appoint themselves to other posts or positions. Finally, think twice about announcing to run for another public office while you're still a councilmember—you may automatically resign your council seat when you do. Check with your city attorney or the Texas Municipal League before considering any other position or job that might be a problem.

Employment Policies: In general law cities, the final authority on employment decisions typically rests with the council as a whole. In home rule cities, the charter usually determines who makes employment decisions. As a member of the council, you should familiarize yourself with the city's employment policies and periodically consult with your city attorney to ensure the policies are kept up to date.

Government Transparency: The Texas Public Information Act and the Open Meetings Act require access to records and meetings. After a city receives a written request for information under the Public Information Act, it must promptly provide copies or access to information, with limited exceptions. The Texas attorney general generally determines whether information is excepted from disclosure to the public. City councils are required to conduct their meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. City officials are required by law to attend training in both Acts.

Gifts and Donations: Cities are prohibited by the Texas Constitution from giving money or any thing of value to a private individual, association, or corporation. The exception to this doctrine is when the city council determines that a donation will serve a public purpose of the city. The decision as to what constitutes a public purpose is left to the discretion of the city council, but may be over- turned by a court. State law also places strict requirements on what gifts an elected official or candidate may receive. Officials and candidates should review these rules before giving or accepting any gift.

Holdover: The Texas Constitution includes a provision that allows an elected official who is no longer qualified for office to continue to serve until his or her vacancy is filled by a qualified individual. This provision allows a city to continue to conduct business even when it loses one or more councilmembers. However, some disqualifications may prevent the disqualified councilmember from continuing to serve as a holdover, and this issue should be reviewed upon the vacancy being created.

Liability: Councilmembers will generally be held personally liable only for actions taken outside the scope of their duties and responsibilities as members of the governing body. However, the city itself will be potentially liable for actions taken by its councilmembers within the scope of their official duties. (See Tort Claims Act below.)

Meeting: Almost everyone intuitively knows what a meeting is. For example, a regular meeting of a city council, where agenda items are discussed and formal action is taken, is clearly a meeting. However, according to the Texas Open Meetings Act, other gatherings of the members of a governmental body may constitute a meeting. Generally, any time a quorum is present and city business is discussed, all of the Open Meetings Act requirements, including posting of a notice and preparation of minutes, must be followed.

Quorum: A city council must have a quorum to call a meeting to order and conduct business. The number of councilmembers required to establish a quorum varies by city. A quorum in a general law city is determined by state law, and a quorum in a home rule city is spelled out in the city's charter.

Tort Claims Act: The Texas Tort Claims Act limits governmental liability and provides for damage caps for governmental entities. The Act provides that liability for engaging in 36 specifically enumerated "governmental functions" (such as provision of police and fire protection, maintaining city parks, and other activities one expects of a local government) is limited by statute to \$250,000 for personal injury claims and \$100,000 for property damage claims. The Tort Claims Act does not generally provide for private causes of action against individual councilmembers for the actions of the city government.

Votes by Council: When a council votes on an ordinance or resolution, all that is typically needed to pass the item is a majority of those present and voting. While a quorum is the number needed to conduct a meeting, it is not necessary that a quorum actually vote on each agenda item. Local practices may vary from city to city, however.

Good Luck

We wish you luck in the election. No matter the outcome, you will find the process rewarding and should be proud that you made the decision to offer your time and commitment to the citizens of your city. If you are elected, the Texas Municipal League is here to assist you. Contact us at 512-231-7400 or www.tml.org.

Who Belongs to TML?

Membership in the League is voluntary and is open to any city in Texas. From the original 14 members, TML's membership has grown to more than 1,150 cities. Over 16,000 mayors, councilmembers, city managers, city attorneys, and department heads are member officials of the League by virtue of their cities' participation. Associate memberships are available to private sector organizations and companies that strive to provide quality services to municipal government.

TML Service Statement

In serving its member cities, the League strives to:

- Represent the interests of member cities before legislative, administrative, and judicial bodies at the state and federal levels.
- Sponsor and conduct an annual conference and other conferences, seminars, meetings, and workshops for the purpose of studying city issues and exchanging information regarding city government.
- Publish and circulate an official magazine and other publications, reports, and newsletters of interest to member cities.
- Provide for and conduct training on relevant and timely topics related to city government.
- Alert member cities of important governmental or private sector actions or proposed actions that may affect city operations.
- Promote the interests of League affiliates (which represent specific professional disciplines in city governments) and TML regions by providing organizational and technical assistance as directed by the Board and consistent with financial resources.
- Promote constructive and cooperative relationships among cities and between the League and other levels of governments, councils of governments, the National League of Cities, educational institutions, and the private sector.

- Provide in a timely manner any additional services or information that individual members may request, consistent with the member cities' common interests and the League's resources.
- Provide administrative services to the Texas Municipal League risk pools so that quality coverages at reasonable and competitive prices can be made available to member cities and their employees.

First Steps for Candidates Running for a City Office

This quick-start guide for candidates seeking a city office is not intended to provide comprehensive information. For more details, including information on political advertising requirements, fundraising rules, and filing schedules, see the Texas Ethics Commission's (TEC) website at www.ethics.state.tx.us.

1. All candidates must file a Campaign Treasurer Appointment (Form CTA).

All candidates must file [Form CTA](#) even if you do not intend to raise or spend any money. [Form CTA](#) is required to be filed before you file an application for a place on the ballot, raise or spend any money for your campaign, or announce your candidacy. File [Form CTA](#) with the city clerk or city secretary, as applicable.

2. Opposed Candidates: Will you accept or spend more than **\$940*** for the election?

• YES:

- You do not qualify to file on the modified reporting schedule.
- You are **required** to file pre-election campaign finance reports using [Form C/OH](#) if you have an opponent on the ballot. Find [Form C/OH](#) and its instructions on our "[Local Filers Non-Judicial Candidate/Officeholder](#)" webpage.
- Pre-election reports are due 30 days and 8 days prior to each election. To be timely filed, pre-election reports must be received by the city clerk or city secretary no later than the due date.

• NO:

- You can elect to file on the modified reporting schedule by completing the *Modified Reporting Declaration* on page two of [Form CTA](#). File [Form CTA](#) with the city clerk or city secretary.
- If you elect to file on the modified reporting schedule, you do not have to file pre-election campaign finance reports due 30 days and 8 days prior to the election.

• Exceed \$940*: If you elect to file on the modified reporting schedule but later exceed \$940 in either contributions or expenditures, what reports you will be required to file depends upon when you exceed \$940*.

- If you exceed \$940* on or before the 30th day before the election, you are **required** to file pre-election campaign finance reports due 30 days and 8 days prior to an election using [Form C/OH](#). To be timely filed, pre-election reports must be received by the city clerk or city secretary no later than the due date. Find [Form C/OH](#) and its instructions on our "[Local Filers Non-Judicial Candidate/Officeholder](#)" webpage.
- If you exceed \$940* after the 30th day before the election, you are **required** to file an Exceeded Modified Reporting Limit report using [Form C/OH](#). To be timely filed, this report must be filed with the city clerk or city secretary within 48 hours of exceeding \$940.* You must also file the pre-election report due 8 days prior to an election. Find [Form C/OH](#) and its instructions on our "[Local Filers Non-Judicial Candidate/Officeholder](#)" webpage. If you exceed \$940* on or before the 8th day before the election, you are **required** to file a pre-election campaign finance report due 8 days prior to an election using [Form C/OH](#). To be timely filed, the pre-election report must be received by the city clerk or city secretary no later than the due date.

Find [Form C/OH](#) and its instructions on our “[Local Filers Non-Judicial Candidate/Officeholder](#)” webpage.

3. Unopposed Candidates.

If you do not have an opponent whose name will appear on the ballot in the election, you are an unopposed candidate and are not required to file pre-election campaign finance reports prior to that election.

4. All candidates must file semiannual campaign finance reports ([Form C/OH](#)).

All candidates are **required** to file semiannual reports using [Form C/OH](#) even if you have no campaign activity or were unsuccessful in the election. Semiannual reports are due on January 15th and July 15th and must be filed with the city clerk or city secretary. To end your filing obligations, you must cease campaign activity and file a Final report using [Form C/OH](#) and attaching Form C/OH-FR (Designation of Final Report). Form C/OH-FR is found on the last page of [Form C/OH](#). Find [Form C/OH](#) and its instructions on our “[Local Filers Non-Judicial Candidate/Officeholder](#)” webpage. For more information, see “[Ending Your Campaign](#)” for local filers.

5. All candidates can use the TEC’s Filing Application to prepare campaign finance reports ([Form C/OH](#)).

You can use the TEC’s [Filing Application](#) to prepare a PDF version of your campaign finance report ([Form C/OH](#)). Select “Local Authority” and follow the steps to set up an account and login to the application. Once you have completed your report, print out a copy, add your treasurer information, get it notarized, and file it with the city clerk or city secretary by the appropriate deadline.

6. Need More Information?

See the [Campaign Finance Guide for Candidates and Officeholders Who File With Local Filing Authorities](#), forms, instructions, examples on how to disclose contributions and expenditures, political advertising and fundraising guides, and other information you may find useful on our website at www.ethics.state.tx.us under the “Resources” and “Forms/Instructions” main menu items.

***NOTE:** *The \$940 threshold is specific to transactions made in 2022.*

APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE BALLOT FOR A GENERAL ELECTION FOR A CITY, SCHOOL DISTRICT OR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNLESS INDICATED AS OPTIONAL¹ Failure to provide required information may result in rejection of application.

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--|---|--|--|
| APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE _____ GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT | | | | | |
| TO: City Secretary/Secretary of Board (name of election) | | | | | |
| I request that my name be placed on the above-named official ballot as a candidate for the office indicated below. | | | | | |
| OFFICE SOUGHT (Include any place number or other distinguishing number, if any.) | | | | INDICATE TERM <input type="checkbox"/> FULL <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPIRED | |
| FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last) | | | PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT* | | |
| PERMANENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Do not include a P.O. Box or Rural Route. If you do not have a residence address, describe location of residence.) | | | PUBLIC MAILING ADDRESS (Optional) (Address for which you receive campaign related correspondence, if available.) | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP | CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| PUBLIC EMAIL ADDRESS (Optional) (Address for which you receive campaign related emails, if available.) | | OCCUPATION (Do not leave blank) | | DATE OF BIRTH / / | VOTER REGISTRATION VOID NUMBER² (Optional) |
| TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION (Optional) Home: _____ Office: _____ Cell: _____ | | | | | |
| FELONY CONVICTION STATUS (You MUST check one) | | | LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE AS OF DATE THIS APPLICATION WAS SWORN | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have not been finally convicted of a felony. | | | IN THE STATE OF TEXAS ____ year(s) ____ month(s) | | IN TERRITORY/DISTRICT/PRECINCT FROM WHICH THE OFFICE SOUGHT IS ELECTED ____ year(s) ____ month(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have been finally convicted of a felony, but I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of that felony conviction and I have provided proof of this fact with the submission of this application. ³ | | | | | |
| *If using a nickname as part of your name to appear on the ballot, you are also signing and swearing to the following statements: I further swear that my nickname does not constitute a slogan or contain a title, nor does it indicate a political, economic, social, or religious view or affiliation. I have been commonly known by this nickname for at least three years prior to this election. Please review sections 52.031, 52.032 and 52.033 of the Texas Election Code regarding the rules for how names may be listed on the official ballot. | | | | | |
| Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared (name of candidate) _____, who being by me here and now duly sworn, upon oath says: "I, (name of candidate) _____, of _____ County, Texas, being a candidate for the office of _____, swear that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Texas. I am a citizen of the United States eligible to hold such office under the constitution and laws of this state. I have not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote. I am aware of the nepotism law, Chapter 573, Government Code. I am aware that I must disclose any prior felony conviction, and if so convicted, must provide proof that I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of any such final felony conviction. I am aware that knowingly providing false information on the application regarding my possible felony conviction status constitutes a Class B misdemeanor. I further swear that the foregoing statements included in my application are in all things true and correct." | | | | | |
| X _____ SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE | | | | | |
| Sworn to and subscribed before me this the _____ day of _____, _____, by _____. (day) (month) (year) (name of candidate) | | | | | |
| Signature of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath ⁴ | | | Printed Name of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath | | |
| _____ Title of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath | | | Notarial or Official Seal | | |
| TO BE COMPLETED BY FILING OFFICER: THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUIRED FILING FEE (If Applicable) PAID BY: <input type="checkbox"/> CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK <input type="checkbox"/> MONEY ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> CASHIERS CHECK OR <input type="checkbox"/> PETITION IN LIEU OF A FILING FEE. This document and \$_____ filing fee or a nominating petition of _____ pages received. <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration Status Verified | | | | | |
| _____/_____/_____ Date Received | | _____/_____/_____ Date Accepted | | (See Section 1.007) _____ Signature of Filing Officer or Designee | |

INSTRUCTIONS

An application for a place on the general election for a city, school district or other political subdivision, may not be filed earlier than 30 days before the deadline prescribed by this code for filing the application. An application filed before that day is void. All fields of the application **must** be completed unless specifically marked optional.

For an election to be held on a uniform election date, the day of the filing deadline is the 78th day before Election Day.

If you have questions about the application, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 800-252-8683.

NEPOTISM LAW

The candidate must sign this statement indicating his awareness of the nepotism law. When a candidate signs the application, it is an acknowledgment that the candidate is aware of the nepotism law. The nepotism prohibitions of chapter 573, Government Code, are summarized below:

No officer may appoint, or vote for or confirm the appointment or employment of any person related within the second degree by affinity (marriage) or the third degree by consanguinity (blood) to the officer, or to any other member of the governing body or court on which the officer serves when the compensation of that person is to be paid out of public funds or fees of office. However, nothing in the law prevents the appointment, voting for, or confirmation of anyone who has been continuously employed in the office or employment for the following period prior to the election or appointment of the officer or member related to the employee in the prohibited degree: six months, if the officer or member is elected at an election other than the general election for state and county officers.

No candidate may take action to influence an employee of the office to which the candidate is seeking election or an employee or officer of the governmental body to which the candidate is seeking election regarding the appointment or employment of a person related to the candidate in a prohibited degree as noted above. This prohibition does not apply to a candidate's actions with respect to a bona fide class or category of employees or prospective employees.

FOOTNOTES

¹An application for a place on the ballot, including any accompanying petition, is public information immediately on its filing. (Section 141.035, Texas Election Code)

²Inclusion of a candidate's VUID is optional. However, many candidates are required to be registered voters in the territory from which the office is elected at the time of the filing deadline. Please visit the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's website for additional information. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/hb484-faq.shtml>

³Proof of release from the resulting disabilities of a felony conviction would include proof of judicial clemency under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 42A.701, proof of executive pardon under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.01, or proof of a restoration of rights under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.05. (Texas Attorney General Opinion KP-0251)

One of the following documents must be submitted with this application.

Judicial Clemency under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 42A.701

Executive Pardon under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.01

Restoration of Rights under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 48.05

⁴All oaths, affidavits, or affirmations made within this State may be administered and a certificate of the fact given by a judge, clerk, or commissioner of any court of record, a notary public, a justice of the peace, city secretary (for a city office), and the Secretary of State of Texas. See Chapter 602 of the Texas Government Code for the complete list of persons authorized to administer oaths.

**SOLICITUD DE INSCRIPCIÓN PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA DE UNA ELECCIÓN GENERAL
 PARA UNA CIUDAD, DISTRITO ESCOLAR U OTRA SUBDIVISIÓN POLÍTICA**

TODA LA INFORMACIÓN ES REQUERIDA A MENOS QUE SE INDIQUE COMO OPCIONAL¹ El hecho de no proporcionar la información requerida puede resultar en el rechazo de la solicitud.

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---|---|--|---|
| SOLICITUD DE INSCRIPCIÓN PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA DE UNA ELECCIÓN GENERAL DE _____ Para: Secretario(a) de la Ciudad/ Secretario(a) del Consejo (nombre de la elección) Solicito que mi nombre se incluya en la boleta oficial mencionada anteriormente como candidato(a) al cargo indicado a continuación. | | | | | |
| CARGO SOLICITADO (Incluya cualquier número de cargo u otro número distintivo, si lo hay.) | | | INDIQUE TÉRMINO <input type="checkbox"/> TÉRMINO COMPLETO <input type="checkbox"/> TÉRMINO INCOMPLETO | | |
| NOMBRE COMPLETO (Primer Nombre, Segundo Nombre, Apellido) | | | ESCRIBA SU NOMBRE COMO DESEA QUE APAREZCA EN LA BOLETA* | | |
| DIRECCIÓN DE RESIDENCIA PERMANENTE (No incluya un apartado postal o una ruta rural. Si usted no tiene una dirección de residencia, describa la ubicación de la residencia.) | | | DIRECCIÓN DE CORREO PÚBLICO (Opcional) (Dirección en la que recibe la correspondencia relacionada con la campaña, si está disponible.) | | |
| CIUDAD | ESTADO | CÓDIGO POSTAL | CIUDAD | ESTADO | CÓDIGO POSTAL |
| DIRECCIÓN DE CORREO ELECTRÓNICO PÚBLICO (Opcional) (Dirección donde recibe correo electrónico relacionado con la campaña, si está disponible.) | | OCUPACIÓN (No deje este espacio en blanco) | FECHA DE NACIMIENTO ____ / ____ / ____ | VOID – NÚMERO ÚNICO DE IDENTIFICACIÓN DE VOTANTE² (Opcional) | |
| INFORMACIÓN DE CONTACTO TELEFÓNICO (Opcional) Hogar: _____ Trabajo: _____ Celular: _____ | | | | | |
| ESTADO DE CONDENA POR DELITO GRAVE (DEBE marcar una) | | | DURACIÓN DE RESIDENCIA CONTINUA A PARTIR DE LA FECHA EN QUE ESTA SOLICITUD FUE JURADA | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No he sido finalmente condenado por un delito grave. <input type="checkbox"/> He sido finalmente condenado por un delito grave, pero he sido indultado o liberado de otro modo de las discapacidades resultantes de esa condena por delito grave y he proporcionado prueba de este hecho con la presentación de esta solicitud. ³ | | | EN EL ESTADO DE TEXAS ____ año(s) ____ mes(es) | | EN EL TERRITORIO/DISTRITO/PRECINTO DEL CUAL SE ELIGE EL CARGO BUSCADO ____ año(s) ____ mes(es) |
| <p>[*]Si usa un apodo como parte de su nombre para aparecer en la boleta, también está firmando y jurando las siguientes declaraciones: Juro además que mi apodo no constituye un lema ni contiene un título, ni indica un punto de vista o afiliación política, económica, social o religiosa. He sido comúnmente conocido por este apodo durante al menos tres años antes de esta elección. Por favor, revise las secciones 52.031, 52.032 y 52.033 del Código Electoral de Texas con respecto a las reglas sobre cómo se pueden incluir los nombres en la boleta oficial.</p> | | | | | |
| Ante mí, la autoridad abajo firmante, en este día apareció personalmente (nombre del candidato) _____, quien estando a mi lado aquí y ahora debidamente juramentado, bajo juramento dice: “Yo, (nombre del candidato) _____, del condado de _____, Texas, siendo candidato para el cargo de _____, juro que apoyaré y defenderé la Constitución y las leyes de los Estados Unidos y del Estado de Texas. Soy un ciudadano de los Estados Unidos elegible para ocupar dicho cargo según la Constitución y las leyes de este estado. No se me ha determinado por un fallo final de una corte que ejerce la jurisdicción testamentaria que esté totalmente incapacitado mentalmente o parcialmente incapacitado sin derecho a voto. Soy consciente de la ley de nepotismo según el Capítulo 573 del Código de Gobierno. Soy consciente de que debo divulgar cualquier condena previa de un delito grave y, si he sido condenado, debo proporcionar prueba de que he sido indultado o liberado de otro modo de las discapacidades resultantes de dicha condena final por delito grave. Soy consciente de que proporcionar a sabiendas información falsa en la solicitud con respecto a mi posible estado de condena por delito grave constituye un delito menor de Clase B. Juro además que las declaraciones anteriores incluidas en mi solicitud son, en todos los aspectos, verdaderas y correctas.” | | | | | |
| X _____ FIRMA DEL CANDIDATO | | | | | |
| Jurado y suscrito ante mí este día ____ de ____ del ____ por ____. (día) (mes) (año) (nombre de candidato) | | | | | |
| Firma del oficial autorizado para administrar el juramento ⁴ | | | Nombre del oficial autorizado para administrar juramentos en letra de molde _____ Notarial o sello oficial | | |
| Título del oficial autorizado para administrar el juramento | | | | | |
| TO BE COMPLETED BY FILING OFFICER: THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUIRED FILING FEE (If Applicable) PAID BY: <input type="checkbox"/> CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK <input type="checkbox"/> MONEY ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> CASHIERS CHECK OR <input type="checkbox"/> PETITION IN LIEU OF A FILING FEE. This document and \$_____ filing fee or a nominating petition of _____ pages received. <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration Status Verified | | | | | |
| ____/____/____ Date Received | | ____/____/____ Date Accepted | | _____ Signature of Filing Officer or Designee | |

INSTRUCCIONES

Una solicitud para un lugar en la elección general para una ciudad, distrito escolar u otra subdivisión política, no puede ser presentada antes de los 30 días antes de la fecha límite prescrita por este código para presentar la solicitud. Una solicitud presentada antes de ese día es nula. Todos los **campos** de la solicitud **deben** completarse a menos que estén específicamente marcados como opcional.

Para una elección que se lleve a cabo en una fecha de elección uniforme, el día de la fecha límite de presentación es el 78º día antes del día de la elección.

Si tiene preguntas sobre la solicitud, por favor póngase en contacto con la División de Elecciones del Secretario de Estado llamando al 800-252-8683.

LEY DE NEPOTISMO

El candidato debe firmar esta declaración indicando su conocimiento de la ley del nepotismo. Cuando un candidato firma la solicitud, es un reconocimiento de que el candidato conoce la ley del nepotismo. Las prohibiciones de nepotismo del capítulo 573, Código de Gobierno, se resumen a continuación:

Ningún funcionario puede nombrar, votar o confirmar el nombramiento o empleo de cualquier persona emparentada dentro del segundo grado por afinidad (matrimonio) o del tercer grado por consanguinidad (sangre) con sí mismo, o con cualquier otro miembro del órgano de gobierno o corte en el que se desempeña cuando la compensación de esa persona debe pagarse con fondos públicos o honorarios del cargo. Sin embargo, nada en la ley impide el nombramiento, la votación o la confirmación de cualquier persona que haya estado empleada continuamente en la oficina o el empleo durante el período siguiente antes de la elección o el nombramiento del funcionario o miembro emparentado con el empleado en el grado prohibido: seis meses, si el funcionario o miembro es elegido en una elección que no sea la elección general para funcionarios estatales y del condado.

Ningún candidato puede tomar medidas para influir en un empleado del cargo al que aspira a ser elegido o en un empleado o funcionario del organismo gubernamental al que aspira a ser elegido en relación con el nombramiento o el empleo de una persona emparentada con el candidato en un grado prohibido, tal como se ha indicado anteriormente. Esta prohibición no se aplica a las acciones de un candidato con respecto a una clase o categoría de buena fe de empleados o empleados prospectos.

NOTAS

¹Una solicitud para un lugar en la boleta electoral, incluida cualquier petición que la acompañe, es información pública inmediatamente después de su presentación. (Sección 141.035, Código Electoral de Texas)

²La inclusión del número único de identificación de votante (VUID, por sus siglas en Inglés) es opcional. Sin embargo, a muchos candidatos se les exige que estén registrados como votantes en el territorio desde el cual se elige el cargo en el momento de la fecha límite de presentación. Por favor, visite el sitio web de la División de Elecciones de la Secretaría de Estado para obtener información adicional. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/hb484-faq.shtml>

³La prueba de liberación de las discapacidades resultantes de una condena por un delito grave incluiría prueba de clemencia judicial según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 42A.701, prueba de indulto ejecutivo según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.01, o prueba de una restauración de derechos según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.05. (Opinión de Fiscal General de Texas KP-0251)

Se debe enviar uno de los siguientes documentos con esta solicitud:

Clemencia judicial según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 42A.701

Prueba de indulto ejecutivo según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.01

Prueba de una restauración de derechos según el Código de Procedimiento Penal de Texas 48.05

⁴Todos los juramentos, declaraciones juradas o afirmaciones hechas dentro de este estado pueden ser administrados y un certificado del hecho dado por un juez, secretario(a) o comisionado de cualquier corte de registro, un notario público, un juez de paz, secretario municipal (para una oficina de la ciudad) y el Secretario de Estado de Texas. Consulte el Capítulo 602 del Código del Gobierno de Texas para obtener la lista completa de personas autorizadas a administrar juramentos.



**FERRIS
TEXAS**

Distinct By Design

CANDIDATE AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE EMAIL ADDRESS

To be completed by candidates for the City of Ferris General Election.

Candidate Name: _____

The “Application for a Place on the City of Ferris General Election Ballot” form includes a box

to list candidate’s email address.

- *Disclosing your email address on the form is optional.*
- *The application is subject to release as an open record under the Public Information Act; however, personal emails are considered confidential.*

By signing this acknowledgement form, you are indicating your approval to release your email address if it was included on the application form.

Acknowledged and Approved to Release:

Signature

Date

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

FORM CFCP COVER SHEET

Pursuant to chapter 258 of the Election Code, every candidate and political committee is encouraged to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices. The Code may be filed with the proper filing authority upon submission of a campaign treasurer appointment form. Candidates or political committees that already have a current campaign treasurer appointment on file as of September 1, 1997, may subscribe to the code at any time.

Subscription to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is voluntary.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

Date Hand-delivered or Postmarked

Date Processed

Date Imaged

1 ACCOUNT NUMBER
(Ethics Commission Filers)

2 TYPE OF FILER

CANDIDATE ☐

POLITICAL COMMITTEE ☐

*If filing as a candidate, complete boxes 3 - 6,
then read and sign page 2.*

*If filing for a political committee, complete
boxes 7 and 8, then read and sign page 2.*

3 NAME OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)

FIRST

MI

NICKNAME

LAST

SUFFIX (SR., JR., III, etc.)

**4 TELEPHONE NUMBER
OF CANDIDATE**
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

AREA CODE

PHONE NUMBER

EXTENSION

()

5 ADDRESS OF CANDIDATE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

STREET / PO BOX;

APT / SUITE #;

CITY;

STATE;

ZIP CODE

**6 OFFICE SOUGHT
BY CANDIDATE**
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

7 NAME OF COMMITTEE
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

**8 NAME OF CAMPAIGN
TREASURER**
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.)

FIRST

MI

NICKNAME

LAST

SUFFIX (SR., JR., III, etc.)

GO TO PAGE 2

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play that every candidate and political committee in this state has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their constitutional rights to a free and untrammelled choice and the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

- (1) I will conduct the campaign openly and publicly and limit attacks on my opponent to legitimate challenges to my opponent's record and stated positions on issues.
- (2) I will not use or permit the use of character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or the candidate's personal or family life.
- (3) I will not use or permit any appeal to negative prejudice based on race, sex, religion, or national origin.
- (4) I will not use campaign material of any sort that misrepresents, distorts, or otherwise falsifies the facts, nor will I use malicious or unfounded accusations that aim at creating or exploiting doubts, without justification, as to the personal integrity or patriotism of my opponent.
- (5) I will not undertake or condone any dishonest or unethical practice that tends to corrupt or undermine our system of free elections or that hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters, including any activity aimed at intimidating voters or discouraging them from voting.
- (6) I will defend and uphold the right of every qualified voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process, and will not engage in any activity aimed at intimidating voters or discouraging them from voting.
- (7) I will immediately and publicly repudiate methods and tactics that may come from others that I have pledged not to use or condone. I shall take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of Texas or campaign treasurer of a political committee, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct the campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Signature

Date

APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A CANDIDATE

FORM CTA
PG 1

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| See CTA Instruction Guide for detailed instructions. | | 1 Total pages filed: | |
| 2 CANDIDATE NAME | MS / MRS / MR FIRST MI | OFFICE USE ONLY | |
| | NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX | Filer ID # | |
| 3 CANDIDATE MAILING ADDRESS | ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE | Date Received | |
| | | Date Hand-delivered or Postmarked | |
| 4 CANDIDATE PHONE | AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION () | Receipt # | Amount \$ |
| | | Date Processed | |
| 5 OFFICE HELD (if any) | | Date Imaged | |
| 6 OFFICE SOUGHT (if known) | | | |
| 7 CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME | MS/MRS/MR FIRST MI NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX | | |
| 8 CAMPAIGN TREASURER STREET ADDRESS (residence or business) | STREET ADDRESS; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE | | |
| 9 CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE | AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION () | | |
| 10 CANDIDATE SIGNATURE | <p>I am aware of the Nepotism Law, Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code.</p> <p>I am aware of my responsibility to file timely reports as required by title 15 of the Election Code.</p> <p>I am aware of the restrictions in title 15 of the Election Code on contributions from corporations and labor organizations.</p> <p>_____ Signature of Candidate</p> <p>_____ Date Signed</p> | | |
| GO TO PAGE 2 | | | |

CANDIDATE MODIFIED REPORTING DECLARATION

FORM CTA
PG 2

11 CANDIDATE
NAME

12 MODIFIED
REPORTING
DECLARATION

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU ARE CHOOSING MODIFIED REPORTING

•• This declaration must be filed no later than the 30th day before the first election to which the declaration applies. ••

•• The modified reporting option is valid for one election cycle only. ••
(An election cycle includes a primary election, a general election, and any related runoffs.)

•• Candidates for the office of state chair of a political party may NOT choose modified reporting. ••

I do not intend to accept more than \$940 in political contributions or make more than \$940 in political expenditures (excluding filing fees) in connection with any future election within the election cycle. I understand that if either one of those limits is exceeded, I will be required to file pre-election reports and, if necessary, a runoff report.

Year of election(s) or election cycle to
which declaration applies

Signature of Candidate

This appointment is effective on the date it is filed with the appropriate filing authority.

TEC Filers may send this form to the TEC electronically at treasappoint@ethics.state.tx.us
or mail to
Texas Ethics Commission
P.O. Box 12070
Austin, TX 78711-2070

**Non-TEC Filers must file this form with the local filing authority
DO NOT SEND TO TEC**

For more information about where to file go to:
<https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/QuickFileAReport.php>

CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT

**FORM C/OH
COVER SHEET PG 1**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| The C/OH Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) | | 2 Total pages filed: | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER NAME | MS / MRS / MR FIRST MI | | | OFFICE USE ONLY | | | | | | | | | |
| | NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER MAILING ADDRESS <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address | ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE | | | Date Received | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER PHONE | AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION () | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME | MS / MRS / MR FIRST MI NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS (Residence or Business) | STREET ADDRESS (NO PO BOX PLEASE); APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE | AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION () | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 REPORT TYPE | <input type="checkbox"/> January 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 30th day before election <input type="checkbox"/> Runoff <input type="checkbox"/> 15th day after campaign treasurer appointment (Officeholder Only) <input type="checkbox"/> July 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 8th day before election <input type="checkbox"/> Exceeded Modified Reporting Limit <input type="checkbox"/> Final Report (Attach C/OH - FR) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 PERIOD COVERED | Month / Day / Year THROUGH Month / Day / Year | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 ELECTION | <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">ELECTION DATE Month / Day / Year</td> <td style="width: 70%;">ELECTION TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> Runoff <input type="checkbox"/> Other Description <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Special </td> </tr> </table> | | | | | ELECTION DATE Month / Day / Year | ELECTION TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> Runoff <input type="checkbox"/> Other Description <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Special | | | | | | |
| ELECTION DATE Month / Day / Year | ELECTION TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> Runoff <input type="checkbox"/> Other Description <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Special | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 OFFICE | OFFICE HELD (if any) | | 13 OFFICE SOUGHT (if known) | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 NOTICE FROM POLITICAL COMMITTEE(S) <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Pages | <p><small>THIS BOX IS FOR NOTICE OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS ACCEPTED OR POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE BY POLITICAL COMMITTEES TO SUPPORT THE CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER. THESE EXPENDITURES MAY HAVE BEEN MADE WITHOUT THE CANDIDATE'S OR OFFICEHOLDER'S KNOWLEDGE OR CONSENT. CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT THIS INFORMATION ONLY IF THEY RECEIVE NOTICE OF SUCH EXPENDITURES.</small></p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">COMMITTEE TYPE</td> <td>COMMITTEE NAME</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL</td> <td>COMMITTEE ADDRESS</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> SPECIFIC</td> <td>COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS</td> </tr> </table> | | | | | COMMITTEE TYPE | COMMITTEE NAME | <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL | COMMITTEE ADDRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIFIC | COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME | | COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS |
| COMMITTEE TYPE | COMMITTEE NAME | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL | COMMITTEE ADDRESS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIFIC | COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS | | | | | | | | | | | | |

GO TO PAGE 2

CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT

**FORM C/OH
COVER SHEET PG 2**

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 15 C/OH NAME | | 16 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 17 CONTRIBUTION TOTALS | 1. TOTAL UNITEMIZED POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS (OTHER THAN PLEDGES, LOANS, OR GUARANTEES OF LOANS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS MADE ELECTRONICALLY) | \$ |
| | 2. TOTAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS (OTHER THAN PLEDGES, LOANS, OR GUARANTEES OF LOANS) | \$ |
| EXPENDITURE TOTALS | 3. TOTAL UNITEMIZED POLITICAL EXPENDITURE. | \$ |
| | 4. TOTAL POLITICAL EXPENDITURES | \$ |
| CONTRIBUTION BALANCE | 5. TOTAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS MAINTAINED AS OF THE LAST DAY OF REPORTING PERIOD | \$ |
| OUTSTANDING LOAN TOTALS | 6. TOTAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ALL OUTSTANDING LOANS AS OF THE LAST DAY OF THE REPORTING PERIOD | \$ |

18 SIGNATURE I swear, or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the accompanying report is true and correct and includes all information required to be reported by me under Title 15, Election Code.

Signature of Candidate or Officeholder

Please complete either option below:

(1) Affidavit

NOTARY STAMP / SEAL

Sworn to and subscribed before me by _____ this the _____ day of _____, 20 _____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Signature of officer administering oath

Printed name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

OR

(2) Unsworn Declaration

My name is _____, and my date of birth is _____.

My address is _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.
(street) (city) (state) (zip code) (country)

Executed in _____ County, State of _____, on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.
(month) (year)

Signature of Candidate/Officeholder (Declarant)

SUBTOTALS - C/OH

FORM C/OH COVER SHEET PG 3

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 19 FILER NAME | | 20 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 21 SCHEDULE SUBTOTALS NAME OF SCHEDULE | | SUBTOTAL AMOUNT |
| 1. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE A1: MONETARY POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ |
| 2. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE A2: NON-MONETARY (IN-KIND) POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ |
| 3. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE B: PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ |
| 4. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE E: LOANS | \$ |
| 5. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F1: POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ |
| 6. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F2: UNPAID INCURRED OBLIGATIONS | \$ |
| 7. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F3: PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ |
| 8. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE F4: EXPENDITURES MADE BY CREDIT CARD | \$ |
| 9. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE G: POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM PERSONAL FUNDS | \$ |
| 10. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE H: PAYMENT MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO A BUSINESS OF C/OH | \$ |
| 11. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE I: NON-POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ |
| 12. | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE K: INTEREST, CREDITS, GAINS, REFUNDS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS RETURNED TO FILER | \$ |

MONETARY POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE A1

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule A1: |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 Date | 5 Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) 6 Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code | 7 Amount of contribution (\$) |
| 8 Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | 9 Employer (See Instructions) |
| Date | Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code | Amount of contribution (\$) |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) |
| Date | Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code | Amount of contribution (\$) |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) |
| Date | Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code | Amount of contribution (\$) |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) |
| | | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED If contributor is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements. | | |

NON-MONETARY (IN-KIND) POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE A2

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule A2: | |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) | |
| 4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED IN-KIND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS | | \$ | |
| 5 Date | 6 Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) 7 Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code | 8 Amount of Contribution \$ | 9 In-kind contribution description <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. |
| 10 Principal occupation / Job title (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions) | | 11 Employer (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions) | |
| 12 Contributor's principal occupation (FOR JUDICIAL) | | 13 Contributor's job title (FOR JUDICIAL)(See Instructions) | |
| 14 Contributor's employer/law firm (FOR JUDICIAL) | | 15 Law firm of contributor's spouse (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL) | |
| 16 If contributor is a child, law firm of parent(s) (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL) | | | |
| Date | Full name of contributor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) Contributor address; City; State; Zip Code | Amount of Contribution \$ | In-kind contribution description <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. |
| Principal occupation / Job title (FOR NON-JUDICIAL) (See Instructions) | | Employer (FOR NON-JUDICIAL)(See Instructions) | |
| Contributor's principal occupation (FOR JUDICIAL) | | Contributor's job title (FOR JUDICIAL)(See Instructions) | |
| Contributor's employer/law firm (FOR JUDICIAL) | | Law firm of contributor's spouse (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL) | |
| If contributor is a child, law firm of parent(s) (if any) (FOR JUDICIAL) | | | |
| | | | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED If contributor is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements. | | | |

PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE B

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule B: | |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) | |
| 4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED PLEDGES | | \$ | |
| 5 Date | 6 Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | 8 Amount of Pledge \$ | 9 In-kind contribution description |
| | 7 Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | |
| 10 Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | 11 Employer (See Instructions) | |
| Date | Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | Amount of Pledge \$ | In-kind contribution description |
| | Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) | |
| Date | Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | Amount of Pledge \$ | In-kind contribution description |
| | Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) | |
| Date | Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | Amount of Pledge \$ | In-kind contribution description |
| | Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) | |
| Date | Full name of pledgor <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | Amount of Pledge \$ | In-kind contribution description |
| | Pledgor address; City; State; Zip Code | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) | |
| | | | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED If contributor is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements. | | | |

LOANS

SCHEDULE E

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule E: |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED LOANS | | \$ |
| 5 Date of loan | 7 Name of lender <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | 9 Loan Amount (\$) |
| 6 Is lender a financial Institution? Y N | 8 Lender address; City; State; Zip Code | 10 Interest rate |
| | | 11 Maturity date |
| 12 Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | 13 Employer (See Instructions) |
| 14 Description of Collateral <input type="checkbox"/> none | | 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Check if personal funds were deposited into political account (See Instructions) |
| 16 GUARANTOR INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable | 17 Name of guarantor | 19 Amount Guaranteed (\$) |
| | 18 Guarantor address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| 20 Principal Occupation (See Instructions) | | 21 Employer (See Instructions) |
| Date of loan | Name of lender <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-state PAC (ID#: _____) | Loan Amount (\$) |
| Is lender a financial Institution? Y N | Lender address; City; State; Zip Code | Interest rate |
| | | Maturity date |
| Principal occupation / Job title (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) |
| Description of Collateral <input type="checkbox"/> none | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if personal funds were deposited into political account (See Instructions) |
| GUARANTOR INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable | Name of guarantor | Amount Guaranteed (\$) |
| | Guarantor address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| Principal Occupation (See Instructions) | | Employer (See Instructions) |

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

If lender is out-of-state PAC, please see Instruction guide for additional reporting requirements.

POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE F1

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 8(a)

Advertising Expense
Accounting/Banking
Consulting Expense
Contributions/Donations Made By
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee
Credit Card Payment

Event Expense
Fees
Food/Beverage Expense
Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense
Legal Services

Loan Repayment/Reimbursement
Office Overhead/Rental Expense
Polling Expense
Printing Expense
Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor

Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Travel In District
Travel Out Of District
Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

| | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| 1 Total pages Schedule F1: | | 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) | |
| 4 Date | | 5 Payee name | | | |
| 6 Amount (\$) | | 7 Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | | | |
| 8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | (a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | | (b) Description | | |
| | (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | | |
| 9 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | | Candidate / Officeholder name | | Office sought | Office held |
| Date | | Payee name | | | |
| Amount (\$) | | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | | | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | | Description | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | | |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | | Candidate / Officeholder name | | Office sought | Office held |
| Date | | Payee name | | | |
| Amount (\$) | | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | | | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | | Description | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | | |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | | Candidate / Officeholder name | | Office sought | Office held |
| Date | | Payee name | | | |
| Amount (\$) | | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | | | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | | Description | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | | |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | | Candidate / Officeholder name | | Office sought | Office held |

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

UNPAID INCURRED OBLIGATIONS

SCHEDULE F2

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 10(a)

Advertising Expense
Accounting/Banking
Consulting Expense
Contributions/Donations Made By
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee

Event Expense
Fees
Food/Beverage Expense
Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense
Legal Services

Loan Repayment/Reimbursement
Office Overhead/Rental Expense
Polling Expense
Printing Expense
Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor

Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Travel In District
Travel Out Of District
Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Total pages Schedule F2: | 2 FILER NAME | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED UNPAID INCURRED OBLIGATIONS | \$ | |
| 5 Date | 6 Payee name | |
| 7 Amount (\$) | 8 Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| 9 TYPE OF EXPENDITURE | <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political | |
| 10 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | (a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | (b) Description |
| | (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| 11 Complete ONLY if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| Date | Payee name | |
| Amount (\$) | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| TYPE OF EXPENDITURE | <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| Complete ONLY if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| | | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED | | |

PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE F3

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule F3: |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 Date | 5 Name of person from whom investment is purchased | |
| | 6 Address of person from whom investment is purchased; City; State; Zip Code | |
| | 7 Description of investment | |
| | 8 Amount of investment (\$) | |
| Date | Name of person from whom investment is purchased | |
| | Address of person from whom investment is purchased; City; State; Zip Code | |
| | Description of investment | |
| | Amount of investment (\$) | |
| | | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED | | |

EXPENDITURES MADE BY CREDIT CARD

SCHEDULE F4

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 10(a)

Advertising Expense
Accounting/Banking
Consulting Expense
Contributions/Donations Made By
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee

Event Expense
Fees
Food/Beverage Expense
Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense
Legal Services

Loan Repayment/Reimbursement
Office Overhead/Rental Expense
Polling Expense
Printing Expense
Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor

Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Travel In District
Travel Out Of District
Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Total pages Schedule F4: | 2 FILER NAME | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 TOTAL OF UNITEMIZED EXPENDITURES CHARGED TO A CREDIT CARD | | \$ |
| 5 Date | 6 Payee name | |
| 7 Amount (\$) | 8 Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| 9 TYPE OF EXPENDITURE | <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political | |
| 10 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | (a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | (b) Description |
| | (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| 11 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| Date | Payee name | |
| Amount (\$) | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| TYPE OF EXPENDITURE | <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Political | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| | | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED | | |

POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM PERSONAL FUNDS

SCHEDULE G

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 8(a)

Advertising Expense
Accounting/Banking
Consulting Expense
Contributions/Donations Made By
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee
Credit Card Payment

Event Expense
Fees
Food/Beverage Expense
Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense
Legal Services

Loan Repayment/Reimbursement
Office Overhead/Rental Expense
Polling Expense
Printing Expense
Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor

Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Travel In District
Travel Out Of District
Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Total pages Schedule G: | 2 FILER NAME | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 Date | 5 Payee name | |
| 6 Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended | 7 Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| 8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | (a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | (b) Description |
| | (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense |
| 9 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name Office sought Office held | |
| Date | Payee name | |
| Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name Office sought Office held | |
| Date | Payee name | |
| Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name Office sought Office held | |
| Date | Payee name | |
| Amount (\$) <input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement from political contributions intended | Payee address; City; State; Zip Code | |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name Office sought Office held | |

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

PAYMENT MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO A BUSINESS OF C/OH

SCHEDULE H

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES FOR BOX 8(a)

Advertising Expense
Accounting/Banking
Consulting Expense
Contributions/Donations Made By
Candidate/Officeholder/Political Committee
Credit Card Payment

Event Expense
Fees
Food/Beverage Expense
Gift/Awards/Memorials Expense
Legal Services

Loan Repayment/Reimbursement
Office Overhead/Rental Expense
Polling Expense
Printing Expense
Salaries/Wages/Contract Labor

Solicitation/Fundraising Expense
Transportation Equipment & Related Expense
Travel In District
Travel Out Of District
Other (enter a category not listed above)

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Total pages Schedule H: | 2 FILER NAME | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 Date | 5 Business name | |
| 6 Amount (\$) | 7 Business address; | City; State; Zip Code |
| 8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | (a) Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | (b) Description |
| | (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| 9 Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| Date | Business name | |
| Amount (\$) | Business address; | City; State; Zip Code |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| Date | Business name | |
| Amount (\$) | Business address; | City; State; Zip Code |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See Categories listed at the top of this schedule) | Description |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check if travel outside of Texas. Complete Schedule T. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Austin, TX, officeholder living expense | |
| Complete <u>ONLY</u> if direct expenditure to benefit C/OH | Candidate / Officeholder name | Office sought Office held |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED | | |

NON-POLITICAL EXPENDITURES MADE FROM POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SCHEDULE I

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

| | | | | |
|---|---|------|---|----------|
| 1 Total pages Schedule I: | 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) | |
| 4 Date | 5 Payee name | | | |
| 6 Amount (\$) | 7 Payee address; | City | State | Zip Code |
| 8 PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | (a) Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.) | | (b) Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.) | |
| Date | Payee name | | | |
| Amount (\$) | Payee address; | City | State | Zip Code |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.) | | Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.) | |
| Date | Payee name | | | |
| Amount (\$) | Payee address; | City | State | Zip Code |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.) | | Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.) | |
| Date | Payee name | | | |
| Amount (\$) | Payee address; | City | State | Zip Code |
| PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE | Category (See instructions for examples of acceptable categories.) | | Description (See instructions regarding type of information required.) | |

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

INTEREST, CREDITS, GAINS, REFUNDS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS RETURNED TO FILER

SCHEDULE K

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule K: |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 Date | 5 Name of person from whom amount is received 6 Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code | 8 Amount (\$) |
| 7 Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer | | |
| Date | Name of person from whom amount is received Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code | Amount (\$) |
| Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer | | |
| Date | Name of person from whom amount is received Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code | Amount (\$) |
| Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer | | |
| Date | Name of person from whom amount is received Address of person from whom amount is received; City; State; Zip Code | Amount (\$) |
| Purpose for which amount is received <input type="checkbox"/> Check if political contribution returned to filer | | |

ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS OR POLITICAL EXPENDITURES FOR TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF TEXAS

SCHEDULE T

If the requested information is not applicable, **DO NOT** include this page in the report.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form. | | 1 Total pages Schedule T: |
| 2 FILER NAME | | 3 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers) |
| 4 Name of Contributor / Corporation or Labor Organization / Pledgor / Payee | | |
| 5 Contribution / Expenditure reported on: <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-between; padding: 5px 0;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule A2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B(J)</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule C2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule D</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F1</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F4</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule G</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule H</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule COH-UC</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B-SS</div></div> | | |
| 6 Dates of travel | 7 Name of person(s) traveling | |
| | 8 Departure city or name of departure location | |
| | 9 Destination city or name of destination location | |
| 10 Means of transportation | 11 Purpose of travel (including name of conference, seminar, or other event) | |
| Name of Contributor / Corporation or Labor Organization / Pledgor / Payee | | |
| Contribution / Expenditure reported on: <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-between; padding: 5px 0;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule A2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B(J)</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule C2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule D</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F1</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F4</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule G</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule H</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule COH-UC</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B-SS</div></div> | | |
| Dates of travel | Name of person(s) traveling | |
| | Departure city or name of departure location | |
| | Destination city or name of destination location | |
| Means of transportation | Purpose of travel (including name of conference, seminar, or other event) | |
| Name of Contributor / Corporation or Labor Organization / Pledgor / Payee | | |
| Contribution / Expenditure reported on: <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-between; padding: 5px 0;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule A2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B(J)</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule C2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule D</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F1</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F2</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule F4</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule G</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule H</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule COH-UC</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Schedule B-SS</div></div> | | |
| Dates of travel | Name of person(s) traveling | |
| | Departure city or name of departure location | |
| | Destination city or name of destination location | |
| Means of transportation | Purpose of travel (including name of conference, seminar, or other event) | |
| ATTACH ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED | | |

CANDIDATE / OFFICEHOLDER REPORT: DESIGNATION OF FINAL REPORT

FORM C/OH - FR

The Instruction Guide explains how to complete this form.

•• Complete only if "Report Type" on page 1 is marked "Final Report" ••

1 C/OH NAME

2 Filer ID (Ethics Commission Filers)

3 SIGNATURE

I do not expect any further political contributions or political expenditures in connection with my candidacy. I understand that designating a report as a final report terminates my campaign treasurer appointment. I also understand that I may not accept any campaign contributions or make any campaign expenditures without a campaign treasurer appointment on file.

Signature of Candidate / Officeholder

4 FILER WHO IS NOT AN OFFICEHOLDER

•• Complete A & B below *only* if you are not an officeholder. ••

A. CAMPAIGN FUNDS

Check only one:

- ☐ I do not have unexpended contributions or unexpended interest or income earned from political contributions.
- ☐ I have unexpended contributions or unexpended interest or income earned from political contributions. I understand that I may not convert unexpended political contributions or unexpended interest or income earned on political contributions to personal use. I also understand that I must file an annual report of unexpended contributions and that I may not retain unexpended contributions or unexpended interest or income earned on political contributions longer than six years after filing this final report. Further, I understand that I must dispose of unexpended political contributions and unexpended interest or income earned on political contributions in accordance with the requirements of Election Code, § 254.204.

B. ASSETS

Check only one:

- ☐ I do not retain assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions.
- ☐ I do retain assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions. I understand that I may not convert assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions to personal use. I also understand that I must dispose of assets purchased with political contributions in accordance with the requirements of Election Code, § 254.204.

Signature of Candidate

5 OFFICEHOLDER

•• Complete this section *only* if you are an officeholder ••

- ☐ I am aware that I remain subject to filing requirements applicable to an officeholder who does not have a campaign treasurer on file. I am also aware that I will be required to file reports of unexpended contributions if, after filing the last required report as an officeholder, I retain political contributions, interest or other income from political contributions, or assets purchased with political contributions or interest or other income from political contributions.

Signature of Officeholder

POLITICAL ADVERTISING

What You Need to Know



The Texas Election Code requires certain disclosures and notices on political advertising. The law also prohibits certain types of misrepresentation in political advertising and campaign communications. This brochure explains what you need to know to insure that your political advertising and campaign communications comply with the law.

If you are not sure what the law requires, do the cautious thing. Use the political advertising disclosure statement whenever you think it might be necessary, and do not use any possibly misleading information in political advertising or a campaign communication. If you are using political advertising or campaign communications from a prior campaign, you should check to see if the law has changed since that campaign.

Candidates for federal office should check with the Federal Election Commission at (800) 424-9530 for information on federal political advertising laws.

NOTICE: This guide is intended only as a general overview of the disclosure statements that must appear on political advertising as required under [Chapter 255 of the Election Code](#), which is distinct from political reporting requirements under [Chapter 254 of the Election Code](#).

Texas Ethics Commission
P.O. Box 12070
Austin, Texas 78711-2070

(512) 463-5800

TDD (800) 735-2989

Visit us at www.ethics.state.tx.us.

Revised July 16, 2019

REQUIRED DISCLOSURE ON POLITICAL ADVERTISING

I. What Is Political Advertising?

The disclosure statement and notice requirements discussed in this section apply to “political advertising.” In the law, “political advertising” is a specifically defined term. Do not confuse this special term with your own common-sense understanding of advertising.

To figure out if a communication is political advertising, you must look at what it says and where it appears. If a communication fits in one of the categories listed in Part A (below) and if it fits in one of the categories listed in Part B (below), it is political advertising.

Part A. What Does It Say?

1. Political advertising includes communications supporting or opposing a candidate for nomination or election to either a public office or an office of a political party (including county and precinct chairs).
2. Political advertising includes communications supporting or opposing an officeholder, a political party, or a measure (a ballot proposition).

Part B. Where Does It Appear?

1. Political advertising includes communications that appear in pamphlets, circulars, fliers, billboards or other signs, bumper stickers, or similar forms of written communication.
2. Political advertising includes communications that are published in newspapers, magazines, or other periodicals in return for consideration.
3. Political advertising includes communications that are broadcast by radio or television in return for consideration.
4. Political advertising includes communications that appear on an Internet website.

II. When Is a Disclosure Statement Required?

The law provides that political advertising that contains express advocacy is required to include a disclosure statement. The person who causes the political advertising to be published, distributed, or broadcast is responsible for including the disclosure statement.

The law does not define the term “express advocacy.” However, the law does provide that political advertising is deemed to contain express advocacy if it is authorized by a candidate, an agent of a candidate, or a political committee filing campaign finance reports. Therefore, a disclosure statement is required any time a candidate, a candidate’s agent, or a political committee authorizes political advertising.

The precise language of political advertising authorized by someone other than a candidate, the candidate's agent, or a political committee will determine if the advertising contains express advocacy and is therefore required to include a disclosure statement. Generally, the question is whether the communication expressly advocates the election or defeat of an identified candidate, or expressly advocates the passage or defeat of a measure, such as a bond election. The inclusion of words such as "vote for," "elect," "support," "defeat," "reject," or "Smith for Senate" would clearly constitute express advocacy, but express advocacy is not limited to communications that use those words. Similar phrases, such as "Cast your ballot for X," would also constitute express advocacy. Additionally, in 2007, the United States Supreme Court held that an advertisement included express advocacy or its functional equivalent "if the ad is susceptible to no reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate." *FEC v. Wis. Right to Life, Inc.*, 551 U.S. 449 (2007). It is a question of fact whether a particular communication constitutes express advocacy. If you are not sure whether political advertising contains express advocacy, do the cautious thing and include the disclosure statement. That way, there is no need to worry about whether you have violated the law.

Remember: The concept of "express advocacy" is relevant in determining whether political advertising is required to include a disclosure statement. However, the political advertising laws governing the right-of-way notice, misrepresentation, and use of public funds by political subdivisions will apply to political advertising regardless of whether the advertising contains express advocacy.

III. What Should the Disclosure Statement Say?

A disclosure statement must include the following:

1. the words "political advertising" or a recognizable abbreviation such as "pol. adv."; and
2. the full name of one of the following: (a) the person who paid for the political advertising; (b) the political committee authorizing the political advertising; or (c) the candidate or specific-purpose committee supporting the candidate, if the political advertising is authorized by the candidate.

The disclosure statement must appear on the face of the political advertising or be clearly spoken if the political advertising is audio only and does not include written text.

The advertising should not be attributed to entities such as "Committee to Elect John Doe" unless a specific-purpose committee named "Committee to Elect John Doe" has filed a campaign treasurer appointment with the Ethics Commission or a local filing authority.

IV. Are There Any Exceptions to the Disclosure Statement Requirement?

The following types of political advertising do not need the disclosure statement:

1. t-shirts, balloons, buttons, emery boards, hats, lapel stickers, small magnets, pencils, pens, pins, wooden nickels, candy wrappers, and similar materials;
2. invitations or tickets to political fundraising events or to events held to establish support for a candidate or officeholder;

3. an envelope that is used to transmit political advertising, provided that the political advertising in the envelope includes the disclosure statement;
4. circulars or fliers that cost in the aggregate less than \$500 to publish and distribute;
5. political advertising printed on letterhead stationery, if the letterhead includes the name of one of the following: (a) the person who paid for the advertising, (b) the political committee authorizing the advertising, or, (c) the candidate or specific-purpose committee supporting the candidate, if the political advertising is authorized by the candidate. (Note: There is also an exception for holiday greeting cards sent by an officeholder, provided that the officeholder's name and address appear on the card or the envelope.)
6. postings or re-postings on an Internet website if the person posting or re-posting is not an officeholder, candidate, or political committee and did not make an expenditure exceeding \$100 in a reporting period for political advertising beyond the basic cost of hardware messaging software and bandwidth;
7. an Internet social media profile webpage of a candidate or officeholder, if the webpage clearly and conspicuously displays the full name of the candidate or officeholder; and
8. postings or re-postings on an Internet website if the advertising is posted with a link to a publicly viewable Internet webpage that either contains the disclosure statement or is an Internet social media profile webpage of a candidate or officeholder that clearly and conspicuously displays the candidate's or officeholder's full name.

V. What Should I Do If I Discover That My Political Advertising Does Not Contain a Disclosure Statement?

The law prohibits a person from using, causing or permitting to be used, or continuing to use political advertising containing express advocacy if the person knows it does not include the disclosure statement. A person is presumed to know that the use is prohibited if the Texas Ethics Commission notifies the person in writing that the use is prohibited. If you receive notice from the Texas Ethics Commission that your political advertising does not comply with the law, you should stop using it immediately.

If you learn that a political advertising sign designed to be seen from the road does not contain a disclosure statement or contains an inaccurate disclosure statement, you should make a good faith attempt to remove or correct those signs that have been distributed. You are not required to attempt to recover other types of political advertising that have been distributed with a missing or inaccurate disclosure statement.

VI. The Fair Campaign Practices Act.

The [Fair Campaign Practices Act](#) sets out basic rules of decency, honesty, and fair play to be followed by candidates and political committees during a campaign. A candidate or political committee may choose to subscribe to the voluntary code by signing a copy of the code and filing it with the authority with whom the candidate or committee is required to file its campaign

treasurer appointment. A person subscribing to the code may indicate that fact on political advertising by including the following or a substantially similar statement:

(Name of the candidate or political committee, as appropriate) subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

VII. Special Notice to Political Subdivisions and School Districts.

You may not use public funds or resources for political advertising. Please see our “Publications and Guides” section of our website for more information.

ROAD SIGNS

I. When Is the “Right-Of-Way” Notice Required?

All written political advertising that is meant to be seen from a road must carry a “right-of-way” notice. It is a criminal offense to omit the “right-of-way” notice in the following circumstances:

1. if you enter into a contract or agreement to print or make written political advertising meant to be seen from a road; or
2. if you instruct another person to place the written political advertising meant to be seen from a road.

II. What Should the “Right-Of-Way” Notice Say?

Section 259.001 of the Texas Election Code prescribes the exact language of the notice:

NOTICE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF STATE LAW (CHAPTERS 392 AND 393, TRANSPORTATION CODE) TO PLACE THIS SIGN IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A HIGHWAY.

III. Do Yard Signs Have to Have the “Right-Of-Way” Notice?

Yes. The “right-of-way” notice requirement applies to signs meant to be seen from any road. The notice requirement assures that a person responsible for placing signs is aware of the restriction on placing the sign in the right-of-way of a highway.

IV. What About Bumper Stickers?

Bumper stickers do not need the “right-of-way” notice. They do, however, need a political advertising disclosure statement.

V. Where May I Place My Signs and How Long May Signs Be Posted?

For information about exactly where you may or may not place signs, or for information regarding the length of time your signs may be posted, check with your city or county government or your homeowner’s association. The Texas Ethics Commission does not have

jurisdiction over matters involving the location of signs, and the length of time that they may be posted.

MISREPRESENTATION

I. Are There Restrictions on the Contents of Political Advertising?

Political advertising and campaign communications may not misrepresent a person's identity or official title, nor may they misrepresent the true source of the advertising or communication. The election law does not address other types of misrepresentation in political advertising or campaign communications.

Note that the misrepresentation rules apply to both political advertising and campaign communications. "Campaign communication" is a broader term than "political advertising."

A "campaign communication" means "a written or oral communication relating to a campaign for nomination or election to public office or office of a political party or to a campaign on a measure."

II. Misrepresentation of Office Title.

A candidate may not represent that he or she holds an office that he or she does not hold at the time of the representation. **If you are not the incumbent in the office you are seeking, you must make it clear that you are seeking election rather than reelection by using the word "for" to clarify that you don't hold that office.** The word "for" must be at least one-half the type size as the name of the office and should appear immediately before the name of the office. For example, a non-incumbent may use the following formats:

**Vote John Doe
for Attorney General**

**John Doe
For
Attorney General**

A non-incumbent may not be allowed to use the following verbiage:

**Elect John Doe
Attorney General**

**John Doe
Attorney General**

III. Misrepresentation of Identity or Source.

A person violates the law if, with intent to injure a candidate or influence the result of an election, the person misrepresents the source of political advertising or a campaign communication or if the person misrepresents his or her own identity or the identity of his or her agent in political advertising or in a campaign communication. (If someone else is doing something for you, that person is your agent.) For example, you may not take out an ad in favor of your opponent that purports to be sponsored by a notoriously unpopular group.

IV. Use of State Seal.

Only current officeholders may use the state seal in political advertising.

V. Criminal Offenses.

Be aware that many violations of the Election Code are criminal offenses. For example, unlawfully using public funds for political advertising can be a Class A misdemeanor. So can misrepresenting one's identity or office title in political advertising. For more details on these offenses and political advertising in general, see [Chapter 255 of the Election Code](#).

POLITICAL SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Please read all sign information carefully and pass along to any volunteers that will be putting out signs for you. It is important that signs are placed appropriately.

Campaign Signs

Texas Dept. of Transportation

During campaign season, the landscape blooms with a special kind of flower - the political sign. Unlike wildflowers that are welcome anywhere, putting campaign signs on public lands is illegal. So, before you plant that sign, learn the law and keep Texas beautiful.

You Need to Know

- It is illegal to place any signs on or within the right of way. This includes posting signs on trees, telephone poles, traffic signs and other objects on the right of way.
- Campaign signs along Texas roads can be placed on private property with the owner's permission. Signs must be made of lightweight material and be no larger than 50 square feet.
- Campaign signs may be posted as early as 90 days before an election (no earlier) and must be removed within 10 days after the election.
- Before placing a sign inside of incorporated city limits, check with the city for applicable ordinances.

Sign Removal

If you have placed your sign in the right of way or it is posing a traffic hazard, we will remove it without prior notice. All costs associated with sign removal will be paid by the sign owner.

Contact Us

For further information regarding rules governing campaign signs, please call (512) 416-3030.

City of Ferris - Zoning Ordinance No. 0-12-743

| TEMPORARY SIGNS | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---|----------------|---|--|
| TYPE OF SIGN | PERMIT REQ. | DISTRICTS PERMITTED | MAXIMUM AREA | MAXIMUM HEIGHT | TIME LIMIT | REQUIREMENTS |
| Political | Over 3 sq. ft., Yes, but no fee | All | Portable Signs shall not exceed 80 sq. ft. and shall not be more than 6 ft. in height measured from the surface of the ground. | 6 ft. | 30 days or 24 hrs after election | On private property not on R.O.W., No lighting. Removed 24 hrs after election or runoff. Signs no larger 2ft X 2ft may be placed in the R.O.W. at the polling place 12 hours prior to election (not early voting), |