

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST

Excluding federal office holders, all elected officials, appointed officials and candidates seeking office are required to electronically file a Statement of Economic Interest with the Mississippi Ethics Commission. Candidates for elected office must file within fifteen (15) days of qualifying. Persons appointed to office must file within thirty (30) days of the appointment. Incumbents must file each and every year on or before May 1st.

Additional information may be obtained directly from the Mississippi Ethics Commission:

Mississippi Ethics Commission
600 North Street, Suite 100-C
Post Office Box 22746 (39225-2746)
Jackson, Mississippi 39202
Telephone: (601) 359-1285
Facsimile: (601) 359-1292
info@ethics.state.ms.us; www.ethics.state.ms.us

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Excluding candidates for federal office, Mississippi law requires all candidates for elective office to file campaign finance disclosure reports. Under the law, one is a candidate if he/she has filed qualifying papers or has spent or received *over \$200 in the aggregate* in furtherance of an election campaign. Following the qualifying deadline, all persons who have filed qualifying papers are candidates under the law, even if they have not received or spent any money whatsoever in furtherance of a campaign. Forms necessary for compliance with these laws are available from the Secretary of State's Office or the Circuit Clerk's Office. Campaign Finance reporting forms also may be downloaded from the Secretary of State's website located at <http://www.sos.ms.gov/Elections-Voting/Pages/Campaign-Finance-Lobbying.aspx>.

What information must be reported?

- All Reports of Receipts and Disbursements filed under state law must be complete and include:
- Name, address, contact information, the office sought and political party affiliation, if any, of the candidate,
 - The total amount of contributions received during the reporting period, both itemized and non-itemized, and an aggregate year-to-date total of all contributions,
 - The total amount of disbursements made during the reporting period, both itemized and non-itemized, and an aggregate year-to-date total of all disbursements, and
 - The total amount of cash on hand to date.

Itemized Contributions

A contribution must be included within the itemized total of contributions on the "Report of
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Receipts and Disbursements” and separately reported on the “Itemized Receipts” attachment to the report if the year-to-date aggregate total of the contribution(s) received from a particular person, business or entity exceeds \$200.00. A contribution separately itemized on the “Itemized Receipts” must identify the contribution by contributor type, contributor name and address, date(s) and amount(s) for the reporting period and aggregate year-to-date total, and the occupation or employer of the contributor, if applicable.

Itemized Disbursements

A disbursement must be included within the itemized total of disbursements on the “Report of Receipts and Disbursements” and separately reported on the “Itemized Disbursements” attachment to the report if the year-to-date aggregate total of the disbursement(s) made to a particular person, business or entity exceeds \$200.00. A disbursement separately itemized on the “Itemized Disbursements” must be identified by the recipient’s name and address, the date(s) and amount(s) for the reporting period and aggregate year-to-date total, and purpose of the disbursement. *Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(d)(ii)(iii).*

Non-Itemized Contributions and Disbursements

Contributions and disbursements with year to date aggregate totals equal to or less than \$200.00 in a calendar year are not itemized. However, these amounts are included in the totals of all contributions and of all disbursements for the reporting period on the “Report of Receipts and Disbursements.”

When are reports due?

Reports are due in the appropriate office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the deadline. If a deadline falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the report is due at 5:00 p.m. on the first working day preceding the weekend or legal holiday. Statutory deadlines are provided on the front of each reporting form and on the schedule following hereafter.

The appropriate office must be in actual receipt of the report by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline. It is the responsibility of the candidate to make sure the report is delivered on time. *Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(e).*

Where to Report?

Candidates for **Federal Office** file with the Federal Election Commission.

Candidates for **Judicial Office, excluding County Court Judge**, file with the Secretary of State’s Office.

Candidates for **County and County District Office (including County Court Judge)** file with the Circuit Clerk’s Office.

What types of reports must a candidate file this year?

Candidates for **Federal Office** (United States Senate and United States Representative) should familiarize themselves with the reporting requirements of the Federal Election Commission.

Candidates for **Judicial Office and political committees supporting or opposing a 2018 judicial candidate** must file the following campaign finance reports on the following deadlines:

- May 10, 2018 Periodic Report, for the period beginning January 1, 2018 through April 30, 2018
- June 8, 2018 Periodic Report, for the period beginning May 1, 2018 through May 31, 2018.
- July 10, 2018 Periodic Report, for the period beginning June 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018.
- October 10, 2018 Periodic Report, for the period beginning July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018
- October 30, 2018 Pre-Election Report, for the period beginning October 1, 2018 through October 27, 2018.
- November 20, 2018 Pre-Runoff Election Report, for the period beginning October 28, 2018 through November 17, 2018 (for only those candidates and political committees supporting or opposing those judicial candidates whose names will appear on a Runoff Election ballot on November 27, 2018)
- January 10, 2019 Periodic Report, for the period beginning October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Candidates for the **Mississippi Levee District** must file the following campaign finance reports on the following deadlines:

- May 29, 2018 Pre-Election Report, for the period beginning January 1, 2018 through May 26, 2018.
- June 12, 2018 Pre-Runoff Election Report, for the period beginning May 27, 2018 through June 9, 2018 (for only those candidates whose names will appear on a Runoff Election ballot on June 19, 2018).
- 2018 Annual Report due no later than January 31, 2019, for the period beginning on January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Candidates for **School District** must file the following campaign finance reports on the following deadlines:

- October 30, 2018 Pre-Election Report, for the period beginning January 1, 2018 through October 27, 2018
- November 20, 2018 Pre-Runoff Election Report, for the period beginning October 28, 2018 through November 17, 2018 (for only those candidates whose names will appear on a Runoff Election ballot on November 27, 2018).
- 2018 Annual Report due no later than January 31, 2019, for the period beginning on January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

A candidate should simply check (✓) the type of report being submitted on his/her form. A

candidate may submit a Termination Report at the same time as another scheduled report by placing a check in the blank preceding both the scheduled report and the Termination Report. Candidates and political committees are required to continue to file campaign finance disclosure reports in accordance with the applicable statutory schedule, which changes from year to year, unless and until a Termination Report is filed with the appropriate office. A Termination Report may only be filed, however, if the candidate or political committee no longer accepts contributions or makes expenditures and has no outstanding debts.

Campaign finance forms are available on the Secretary of State's website located at <http://www.sos.ms.gov/Elections-Voting/Pages/Campaign-Finance-Lobbying.aspx>. Please refer to the separately published *Campaign Finance Guide* for more detailed information pertaining to the campaign finance disclosure and reporting requirements.