## STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION 20 Trinity Street Hartford, Connecticut 06106—1628



## 2018 Filing Calendar

## Candidate Committees Organized for the January 9, 2018 Special Elections State Representative in the 15<sup>th</sup> District

General Statutes § 9-608

Type of Report	Period Covered	Filing Deadline
7 <sup>th</sup> Day Preceding Election Filing	creation of committee through 12/31/17	01/02/181
Deficit Filing	01/01/18 through 04/02/18	04/09/182
Termination Filing Candidate committees that did not receive notice of a Post-Election Review	01/01/18 through 04/09/18	<b>04/16/18</b> <sup>3</sup>
<b>Termination Filing</b> Candidate committees that received notice of a Post-Election Review	01/01/18 through 05/09/18	<b>05/16/18</b> <sup>3</sup>

How to File: Effective July 1, 2017, all General Assembly candidate committees must file electronically by eCRIS unless (1) they have not raised or spent \$1,000 or more; or (2) they can demonstrate good cause for not being able to comply with the requirement, as determined by the Commission. Committees seeking to apply for a written waiver from the electronic filing requirement should contact Commission staff. Candidates intending to get a grant from the Citizens' Election Program must raise over \$1,000 and will therefore be required to electronically file unless granted a waiver for good cause.

Which Form to File: Committees may use the "Short Form Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement" (SEEC Form 21) when they have not received funds or made or incurred expenditures in excess of \$1,000 from their inception through the close of the reporting period covered by the statement and have not previously filed an "Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement" (SEEC Form 30). Otherwise, they must use the SEEC Form 30. Candidates participating in the Citizens' Election Program must use the SEEC Form 30 when applying for a grant and therefore are recommended to use SEEC Form 30 from the outset of their committee, even if they have not reached the \$1,000 threshold at the time of filing.

Committees should keep in mind that if they opt to file SEEC Form 21's, they will still be required to report all activity since inception if and when they receive contributions or make expenditures exceeding the \$1,000 threshold. Reaching the threshold triggers the requirement to file an itemized statement (a "long form" SEEC Form 30). In the case of eCRIS users filing their first SEEC Form 30 after having filed one or more SEEC Form 21's, the committee will be required to: (1) amend the SEEC Form 21 covering the period in which the first financial activity of the committee occurred by changing it to a SEEC Form 30 and reporting that financial activity; (2) amend all subsequent SEEC Form 21's submitted after that initial SEEC Form 21 to change them to SEEC Form 30's and report any activity in those periods and to also correct the summary totals, regardless of whether activity occurred in that particular period; and (3) after this "look back" reporting has been completed in eCRIS, submit the itemized statement (SEEC Form 30), covering the period laid out in the above calendar. If the committee is not filing by eCRIS, then its first filed itemized statement (SEEC Form 30) must cover a period that begins with the committee's date of inception as the start date.

**Type of Report**: The "Type of Report" corresponds to the financial disclosure reports required by General Statutes § 9-608 (a).

**Period Covered**: The "Period Covered" means the dates for which the committee must report all of its financial activity. The period covered must include the financial activity of the committee beginning the first day not included on the last filed financial disclosure statement and must be complete through 11:59 p.m. of the date of the last day covered. For example, if the committee filed a SEEC Form 30, Initial Itemized Statement accompanying application for public grant for this special election, its seventh day

preceding the election filing covers all activity starting at 12:00 a.m. on the first day not included on the prior report and ending at 11:59 p.m. on December 31. If the committee did not apply for a special election grant, the 7<sup>th</sup> day preceding election report covers the period beginning with the date the committee first received funds, the date the committee first made or incurred expenditures, or the date the committee registered (whichever is earliest) and ending at 11:59 p.m. on December 31. Also, if the "Short Form Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement" (SEEC Form 21) was previously used, please see above discussion in "Which Form to File."

**Filing Deadline**: The "Filing Deadline" is the last date on which the committee treasurer may submit his or her disclosure filing. In addition, the disclosure filing *may not be submitted or received* on or before the last day in the period covered. For example, the seventh day preceding the election filing may not be submitted on December 31 or earlier, since it must cover the period ending on December 31. The earliest this report may be submitted or received by the Commission's offices is January 1. Statements not timely filed will be subject to a mandatory \$100 late filing fee.

When and Where to File: Statements are to be filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission. Statements are considered timely filed if they are filed electronically via eCRIS before midnight on or before the filing deadline date or, for those permitted to file by paper, if they are *received* by the Commission's offices after the filing period has begun and by 5:00 p.m. on or before the filing deadline date if delivered by the United States Postal Service, courier service, parcel service or hand delivery. *Committees seeking confirmation of receipt should check their committee's filing status on eCRIS's*Document/Filing Search on the Commission's website.

**NOTE**: Self-funded candidates who have filed a 1B exemption (and therefore do not have a candidate committee) and have made or incurred expenditures over \$1,000 in the aggregate file the SEEC Form 23 in accordance with the same schedule as that of a candidate committee. They must report back from dollar zero, even if some of the activity occurred in a different filing period.

Candidate committees in a special election are not required to file quarterly statements.

## **Footnotes:**

- 1. For a candidate committee of a candidate participating in the Citizens' Election Program who has applied for a grant, the period covered by the seventh day preceding election report would begin with the first day not covered in the prior report (for example, the Itemized Statement accompanying application for public grant) and end on December 31.
- 2. A candidate committee of a candidate on the ballot for the January special election which still has a deficit as of April 2, 2018 must file this report on the 90th day following the election, which is due April 9. The committee must thereafter file a Deficit Report on the 7th day of each month in which there was either an increase or decrease of more than \$500 as of the last day of the month preceding the filing measured against the amount of the deficit reported on the last Deficit Report. A Termination Report may be filed in lieu of a Deficit Report if the deficit has been erased and any surplus has been distributed by the last day of the month preceding the filing of a Termination Report.
- 3. Note: There are two different termination deadlines which apply to committees of candidates on a February special election ballot depending on whether the committee has been notified of a SEEC Post-Election Review. A candidate committee which has not been notified that it will be reviewed by Commission staff must distribute or expend its surplus within 90 days following the special election (by April 9, 2018) and file a Termination Report within seven days of its surplus distribution, no later than April 16, 2018. A committee which has been notified of a Commission post-election review must distribute or expend its surplus within 120 days following the special election (by May 9, 2018) and file a Termination Report within seven days of its surplus distribution, no later than May 16, 2018. Keep in mind that any candidate committee which has distributed its surplus before these surplus deadlines must terminate within seven days of such distribution. Accordingly, such committee would have already filed its Termination Report.

If you have any questions about filing requirements, or need additional forms, have questions about how to report certain contributions and expenditures, or have questions about other campaign finance laws, please call the State Elections Enforcement Commission at (860) 256-2985 or (866) SEEC-INFO.

PLEASE NOTE: Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this calendar is accurate. If any information in this calendar conflicts with the provisions of the Statutes, the Statutes shall prevail.