



CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

October 2019

Volume 4



Filing Reminder!

eCRIS after hours support is available during the October 2019 filing period.



NEWSLETTER

New Guidebook for Traditional Political Committees

Our Compliance staff has recently released a new [guidebook](#) for traditional political committees. Traditional political committees are political committees that may make contributions to and coordinated expenditures with candidates and other committees, as opposed to independent expenditure political committees, which are a type of political committee that may only make independent expenditures, and not contributions to or coordinated expenditures with candidates or committees. The Commission will be issuing a separate guidebook for spending on independent expenditures and referenda.



Running for Office in 2020?

If you have recently registered a committee for the 2020 election cycle or plan to do so soon, please contact our Candidate Services Unit at 860-256-2985 to set up a meeting with our staff and, if you are planning to collect contributions online, to have your website promptly reviewed. We are here to help your campaign start off on the right foot!





NEWSLETTER

Revised Contributor Certification Forms

This past August, the Commission posted revised contributor certification forms for the following types of candidates / committees: (1) General Assembly candidates participating in the Citizens' Election Program ("CEP") (Form A); (2) statewide office candidates participating in the CEP (Form B); (3) General Assembly candidates not participating in the CEP (Form C); (4) statewide office candidates not participating in the CEP (Form D); (5) judge of probate candidates (Form J); and (6) independent expenditure political committees (Forms IEa and IEb).

The majority of the changes made to the forms were based on feedback from treasurers on how to obtain more helpful information about the contributor and to make the forms more user-friendly. The modifications include changing the "Phone Number" field to a "Phone Number / Email Address" field in order to provide an additional mode of contact, putting in fields to document the receipt of in-kind contributions in addition to monetary contributions, and making some minor improvements to the instructions included on the forms.

These changes were already made to the party committee and municipal committee contributor certification forms last year, in May 2018.

To ensure you are using the most recent version, please go to our website and download the appropriate form and confirm that the revised date appearing on the top of the form matches the revised date of the one you are using. If you receive any contributions accompanied by an outdated contributor certification form, they are still acceptable as long as the revised date on that form is 2016 or later. But going forward, please you use the most recent versions we now have available. Thank you!





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Quarterly and Pre-Election Filings Due in October

The October quarterly filing is due Thursday, October 10, 2019, and is required of all town committees, political committees, and candidate committees and slate committees registered for the 2019 and 2020 election cycles.

All town committees in towns where the municipal election falls in November must also file the 7th day preceding the election filing due October 29, 2019, regardless of financial activity. If a political committee has received contributions or made or incurred expenditures in connection with a November election, it too will need to file this report. The report is also required of candidate committees and slate committees of candidates who will be on the November 2019 ballot. Please note that this filing is due two days after the end of the period that must be covered by the filing.

State central committees do not have to do the October quarterly filing but do have to submit the twelfth day preceding the election filing, which is due October 24, 2019, regardless of whether they had any activity.

For committees registered with the SEEC, the above mentioned filings must be electronically submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the deadline date. If you are exempt from using eCRIS, your paper filing must be in our office by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date.

Open municipal exploratory, candidate, and slate committees, as well as political committees registered at the local level, file with their town clerk's office. The filing must be postmarked on or before the deadline date or dropped off with the town clerk's office by close of business on the deadline date.

As always, check the posted [2019 Filing Calendars](#) on our website for more details.





NEWSLETTER

2018 Post-Election Review Process – What Happens Now?

If you were selected for a post-election review following the 2018 general election, first and foremost, **THANK YOU** for submitting your documents in a timely manner! Our Disclosure Unit is working hard to move your committee through the process.

So what comes next?

*Certain documents are required before a review of the committee can even begin. If any of these types of documents are missing, you may receive an “open item list” via email from our Director of Disclosure & Audit, Linda Waterman. This letter will ask for those specific documents we need before we can proceed with the review. (Documents may include things like bank statements, copies of cancelled checks, invoices/receipts, and copies of mailers.) These additional requested documents will be considered in the draft report that you receive.

*You will receive a draft report via mail which will address any findings based on your submission. You will have the opportunity to respond in writing to clarify any information, and any written explanations or clarifications you provide at this stage will be reflected in the final report to be considered by the Commission. Please note that while we may consider any memos or emailed explanations that your campaign has provided prior to this stage in whether or not to include a finding in the report, we do not include those explanations in the “committee response” section of the report unless you submit them as your official response to the draft report. Typically, treasurers have three weeks to respond to the draft report, but can ask for additional time if need be.

*The final report will be approved by a Commission vote. Once approved, you will receive a copy of the final report via mail.



NEWSLETTER



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Staff Spotlight

The Commission and staff wish to congratulate Elections Officer Mark Severance who welcomed a son on August 6, 2019 and Accounts Examiner Krysta Palozie (née Holmes) for her recent wedding.

Legal Investigator Alfonso Vazquez and Accounts Examiner Matt Lombardi recently left the agency to pursue other career opportunities. We thank them for their service to the agency and wish them well.