



CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

October 2026

Volume 4



October Quarterly Filing due October 13, 2026

The filing period for the October quarterly report (October 10 Filing) commenced October 1, 2026 and ends October 13, 2026. It is not due on the 10th because of the long holiday weekend.



NEWSLETTER



New Look Reports!

We have just completed upgrading eCRIS reports. There is no change in the way you access, generate, or file your reports, however you may notice improvements in performance, formatting, and style! Not to worry—all reporting functionality remains the same. Should you have any questions, please contact your eCRIS [Help Desk](#).

Weekly Supplemental Filings For Candidates in CEP Races

Every General Assembly and statewide candidate committee in a general election race in which there is at least one candidate participating in the CEP must file weekly supplemental statements with the Commission beginning with the second Thursday following the October quarterly filing through the Thursday before the election. CEP candidate committees of candidates who are unopposed must only submit the final weekly supplemental filing. As mentioned above, candidate committees in general elections races with **no** candidates participating in the CEP do not file the weekly supplemental filings but rather the 7th day preceding election filing. *Please be sure you are selecting the Final Weekly Supplemental Filing for your last filing and not the 7th Day Preceding General Election Filing. The dates covered by these reports are different.*

The weekly supplemental filing deadlines are as follows:

Name of Report	Period Covered	Filing Deadline
First Weekly Supplemental Filing (General Election)	10/01/26 – 10/20/26	10/22/26
Final Weekly Supplemental Filing (General Election)*	10/21/26 – 10/27/26	10/29/26



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Upcoming Quarterly and Pre-Election Filings Due in October

Please note that the below-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.

October Quarterly Filing (Town Committees, Political Committees, Candidate Committees)

The filing period for the October quarterly report (**October 10 Filing**) commenced Thursday, October 1, 2026 and ends Tuesday, October 13, 2026. All town committees, political committees, and candidate committees* must file this report regardless of financial activity. The filing must cover the period starting with the first day after the period covered by the last filing through September 30, 2026.

***Important Note:** Candidate committees of candidates who never make it onto the ballot but remain open are required to file the October quarterly report. The only candidate committees that are not required to file are those of candidates who were unsuccessful in a primary and are not eligible to appear on the general election ballot.

12th Day Preceding Election Filing (State Central Committees)

State central committees do not have to file the October quarterly filing but do have to submit the twelfth day preceding the election filing, which is due October 22, 2026, regardless of whether they had any activity.

7th Day Preceding Election Filing (Town Committees, Political Committees, Judge of Probate Candidate Committees, Statewide Office and General Assembly Candidate Committees in Non-CEP Races)

In addition to the October quarterly filing, all town committees, political committees, judge of probate candidate committees, and statewide office and General Assembly candidate committees in a race where there is **no** candidate participating in the CEP must also file the 7th day preceding election filing due October 27, 2026, regardless of financial activity.

Filing Tip for Town Committees and Political Committees: When preparing to file the seventh day preceding election filing, please be sure to select “7th Day Preceding General Election” filing in your standard dropdown menu. The report, “Independent Expenditure General Election” filing in the nonstandard dropdown menu is not the proper report name for this filing.



NEWSLETTER

REMINDER – 24-Hour Independent Expenditure Reporting

The Commission reminds committees, groups, and individuals seeking to make independent expenditures for General Assembly and statewide candidates in excess of \$1,000 that we are now in the period in which such expenditures, whether made or incurred, must be reported within 24 hours. The 24-hour filing requirement does not apply to groups and individuals spending only on upcoming referenda.

For more information, please see our [webpage](#) on independent expenditure reporting or give us a call at 860-256-2940.

Notice to All Ongoing Political Committees – Biennial Re-Registration Due November 15, 2026

All ongoing political committees that file with the Commission must file by November 15, 2026:

- An amended registration (SEEC Form 3 (traditional political committees) or SEEC Form 8 (independent expenditure political committees)) if there have been any changes since its last registration; OR
- A SEEC Form 3NC (traditional political committees) or SEEC Form 8NC (independent expenditure political committees) if there have been **no** changes, additions or deletions since the committee's last registration.

The failure of a committee to file one of these two forms by November 15th will result in the committee being **prohibited from accepting** lobbyist contributions during the 2027 and 2028 legislative sessions and **prohibited from making** contributions to committees covered by the sessional lobbyist provision during these sessions as well. Committees will be receiving further instructions via email soon and are encouraged to email seec@ct.gov with any questions.



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Final CEP Deadlines Coming Up!

If you plan to participate in the Citizens' Election Program and have not yet applied for a grant, please be aware that there are two sets of deadlines coming up.

First, the final grant reduction deadlines have arrived:

Grant Reduction Deadlines – 5:00 p.m. on the following dates:	Reduction Amount
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through Mon., Oct. 5, 2026	Committee will receive fifty-five percent (55%) of the grant for which they otherwise qualified.
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through Fri., Oct. 9, 2026	Committee will receive forty percent (40%) of the grant for which they otherwise qualified.

Second, the final grant application deadlines have also arrived. **The final application deadline for a general election grant is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2026.** Below are the remaining application deadlines and meeting dates for a general election grant:

Application Deadlines – 5:00 p.m. on the following:	Commission Meeting Dates (General Assembly campaigns)
Wednesday, October 7*	Thursday, October 15
Friday, October 9**	Friday, October 16

*Statewide committees applying by **Wednesday, October 7** will appear on the October 16 agenda.

Committees that apply on Friday, **October 9, 2026 will not be able to reapply if their application does not meet the required thresholds for receiving a grant.

Grant applications must be **received** by Commission staff by the deadline and contain the SEEC CEP Form 15 as well as the SEEC Form 30 in support of the grant application and back-up documentation for contributions believed sufficient to meet the required thresholds. SEEC Form 12 should also be included if it has not already been provided and, if applicable, a buffer check or petition signature information for unaffiliated or minor party candidates.

Expenditure-Side Online CEP Training Modules Available!

As spending heats up, please remember that we have online training modules available for your viewing. There are several designed to help committees comply with the expenditure and wrapping up phases of the campaign and they can be found [here](#):

(1) Compensation, Reimbursements, and Consultants;

(2) Committee Expenditures;

(3) Expenditures by Other Sources; and

(4) Post-Election Reviews and Termination.

If you have any questions that come up while you are viewing the trainings, please contact your elections officer. As always, we are here to help!



NEWSLETTER



SEEC SAYS GOODBYE TO OUR LONGEST SERVING COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Stephen T. Penny has stepped down from the Commission after thirteen years of dedicated service, including seven years as Chair. During his tenure, Commissioner Penny oversaw numerous complex enforcement matters and guided the agency through significant developments in campaign finance law. Few individuals have done more to advance the Commission's work than Commissioner Penny. For thirteen years, Commissioner Penny has been a pillar of integrity and a driving force behind our efforts to ensure honest and transparent elections. His contributions have immeasurably improved this agency and the public it serves, and we owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude. Commissioner Penny is currently a law partner at Penny, Botticello & O'Brien, P.C., in Manchester.



NEWSLETTER

SEEC Welcomes a New Commissioner

On August 17, 2026, Attorney Cornelius P. McCarthy was appointed to serve on the State Elections Enforcement Commission by Senate President Pro Tempore Martin M. Looney. Mr. McCarthy's term will run through June 30, 2028. Mr. McCarthy succeeds current SEEC Chair, Stephen T. Penny.

Mr. McCarthy is a trial and appellate litigator admitted to the bar in California, New York, and Connecticut, and is currently counsel at Chehebar Deveney & Phillips LLP. An attorney since 1983, Mr. McCarthy has successfully tried cases in state and federal courts in areas including contract, securities, partnership, commercial, entertainment, telecommunications, and constitutional law. A former Assistant United States Attorney and clerk to the Honorable Ralph K. Winter of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Attorney McCarthy brings extensive private practice and public service experience to his work on the Commission. Mr. McCarthy has also been a frequent commentator on public policy issues, including campaign finance. His deep understanding of constitutional law and decades of courtroom experience will be invaluable to SEEC's work upholding the integrity of Connecticut's elections.

A Note About Documenting Online Advertising

Treasurers are required to assure that online advertisements were actually placed and that a permissible expenditure was made. Obtaining copies of invoices or receipts that were issued by the online platform are the easiest and best way to do this. For those committees utilizing a campaign worker, including a consultant, to purchase advertising from any online platform, this is especially important.

An online platform is any public-facing website, web application, or digital application, including social media such as Facebook or Twitter, ad networks, and search engines – basically those ads for which you are paying money that crop up and disappear and can't be seen or checked on by the treasurers who have to approve the expenditures.



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Staff Spotlight

This was one of the busiest SEEC summers ever and we needed some help! Enter Julia Bavasso and Everett Padro, two extraordinary workers who came in and helped us manage another successful CEP season. Alas, all good things... but our sincere gratitude for their terrific work.