## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

# CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

September 21, 2009

# **CURRENT REPORT DUE:**

#### REPORTING DATES

REPORT	CLOSE OF BOOKS <sup>1</sup>	REG./CERT. & OVERNIGHT MAILING DEADLINE	FILING DEADLINE
October Quarterly	09/30/09	10/15/09	10/15/09

#### WHO MUST FILE

Principal campaign committees of congressional candidates <sup>2</sup> (including unopposed candidates and candidates whose names do not appear on the ballot) must file an April Quarterly Report. <sup>3</sup> Before a committee can stop filing with the FEC, it must file a termination report with the Commission. Committees must continue to file reports until the Commission notifies them in writing that their termination report has been accepted. See 11 CFR 102.3.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Commission provides reminders of upcoming filing dates as a courtesy to help committees comply with the filing deadlines set forth in the Act and Commission regulations. Committee treasurers must comply with all applicable filing deadlines established by law, and the lack of prior notice does not constitute an excuse for failing to comply with any filing deadline.

Supplemental Filing Information is available on page 2 of this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A reporting period always begins the day after the closing date of the last report filed. If the committee is new and has not previously filed a report, the first report must cover all activity that occurred before the committee registered up through the close of books for the first report due.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Generally, an individual becomes a candidate for federal office (and thus triggers registration and reporting obligations) when his or her campaign exceeds \$5,000 in either contributions or expenditures. If the campaign has not crossed the \$5,000 threshold, it is not required to file reports. See also 11 CFR 100.3(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>If a candidate has more than one authorized committee, the principal campaign committee must also file a consolidated report on Form 3Z [PDF].

#### SUPPLEMENTAL FILING INFORMATION

#### REPORTING SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 2009

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REPORT	CLOSE OF BOOKS <sup>1</sup>	OVERNIGHT MAILING DEADLINE	FILING DEADLINE
Year-End	12/31/09	01/31/10	$01/31/10^{\frac{4}{}}$

#### METHODS OF FILING REPORTS

# **Electronic Filing**

Reports filed electronically must be received and validated by the Commission by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the filing deadline.

- Web Page: Electronic Filing Page
- <u>Campaign Guide for Congressional Candidates and Committees (Candidate Guide),</u> pp. 82-84 [PDF]

# Paper Filing -- Meeting the Filing Deadline

Paper report filing options – Registered, Certified or Overnight or First Class Mail.

- Web Page: <u>Link to Paper Forms</u> (for downloading and printing)
- Candidate Guide, p. 81 [PDF]

## **COMPLIANCE**

#### **Treasurer Responsibility**

Committee treasurers are responsible for both the timeliness and the accuracy of all reports. They may be subject to monetary penalties if reports are inaccurate or are not filed on time.

- Statement of Policy Regarding Treasurers Subject to Enforcement Proceeding [PDF]
- *Candidate Guide*, p. 7 [PDF]

## **Administrative Fine Program**

Failure to file reports on time may be subject to civil money penalties up to \$16,000 (or more for repeat late- or non-filers). <sup>5</sup>

- Web Page: Administrative Fine Program Page
- Candidate Guide, pp. 81-82 [PDF]

### 2009 REPORTING SCHEDULE

- Web Page: 2009 Reporting Dates Page
- The *Record* January 2009 issue [PDF]
- Candidate Guide, pp. 79-80 [PDF]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See footnote #1, p. 1 of this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Notice that this filing deadline falls on a weekend. Filing deadlines are not extended when they fall on nonworking days. Accordingly, reports filed by methods other than Registered, Certified or Overnight Mail, or electronically, must be received before the Commission's (or for Senate candidates, the Secretary of the Senate's) close of business on the last business day before the deadline.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Penalties for late-or non-filing of 48-hour notices are based on the amount of contributions not timely disclosed. As a result, these penalties may exceed \$16,000, even for first-time violations.