

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES

September 21, 2012

CURRENT REPORTS DUE:

MONTHLY FILERS: If on January 1, 2012, the committee has received or anticipates receiving contributions aggregating \$100,000, or has made or anticipates making expenditures aggregating \$100,000, then the committee files monthly reports in 2012. See 11 CFR 104.5(b)(1)(i).

REPORT	CLOSE OF BOOKS ¹	REG./CERT. & OVERNIGHT MAILING DEADLINE	FILING DEADLINE
October Monthly	09/30/12	10/20/12	10/20/12 =

QUARTERLY FILERS: If on January 1, 2012, the committee has not received or does not anticipate receiving contributions aggregating \$100,000, or has not made or does not anticipate making expenditures aggregating \$100,000, the committee files quarterly reports in 2012. If the committee reaches \$100,000 threshold during election year, the committee begins filing monthly reports at the next reporting period. See 11 CFR 104.5(b)(1)(ii).

REPORT	CLOSE OF BOOKS ¹	REG./CERT. & OVERNIGHT MAILING DEADLINE	FILING DEADLINE
October Quarterly	09/30/12	10/15/12	10/15/12

Note: Quarterly filers must also file a pre-election report for each election in which the candidate seeks nomination or election.

Click here for Supplemental Filing Information

See Page 2 for Reporting Schedule for Remainder of 2012

¹ 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.

² 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 close of business on the last business day before the deadline.

REPORTING SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 2012

QUARTERLY FILERS

REPORT	CLOSE OF BOOKS ¹	REG./CERT. & OVERNIGHT MAILING DEADLINE	FILING DEADLINE
Pre-General ²	10/17/12	10/22/12	10/25/12
48-Hour Notices	Period: 10/18/12 – 11/03/12 (<u>click here for filing info</u>)		
Post-General ²	11/26/12	12/06/12	12/06/12
Year-End	12/31/12	01/31/13	01/31/13

MONTHLY FILERS

REPORT	CLOSE OF BOOKS ¹	REG./CERT. & OVERNIGHT MAILING DEADLINE	FILING DEADLINE
Pre-General	10/17/12	10/22/12	10/25/12
48-Hour Notices	Period: 10/18/12 – 11/03/12 (<u>click here for filing info</u>)		
Post-General	11/26/12	12/06/12	12/06/12
Year-End	12/31/12	01/31/13	01/31/13

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¹A 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.

² Committees not required to file on a monthly schedule during 2012, and whose candidates are not participating in the general election, need not file the Pre- and Post-General Election Reports. These committees, however, must continue to file on a quarterly basis.

2012 SUPPLEMENTAL FILING INFORMATION PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES

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.

WHO MUST FILE

All principal campaign committees of Presidential candidates ¹ must file either Quarterly or Monthly reports in 2012. See <u>11 CFR 104.5(b)</u>. A committee must file monthly if actual or anticipated contributions or expenditures total more than \$100,000 within the 2012 presidential election cycle. Before a committee can stop filing with the FEC, it must file a termination report with the Commission. See <u>11 CFR 102.3</u>. Committees must continue to file reports until the Commission notifies them in writing that their termination report has been accepted.

ELECTION YEAR FILING FREQUENCY Quarterly Filers

If on January 1, 2012, the committee has not received or does not anticipate receiving contributions aggregating \$100,000, or has not made or does not anticipate making expenditures aggregating \$100,000, the committee files quarterly reports in 2012. See 11 CFR 104.5(b)(1)(ii). Note that quarterly filers must also file a pre-election report for each election in which the candidate seeks nomination or election. See 11 CFR 104.5(b)(1)(ii).

- Web Page: 2012 Reporting Dates Page
- The Record:
 - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
 - o January 2012 issue [PDF]

Monthly Filers

If on January 1, 2012, the committee has received or anticipates receiving contributions aggregating \$100,000, or has made or anticipates making expenditures aggregating \$100,000, the committee files monthly reports in 2012. See 11 CFR 104.5(b)(1)(i).

- Web Page: 2012 Reporting Dates Page
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 - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
 - o January 2012 issue [PDF]

¹ 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 received or expenditures made. If the campaign has not crossed the \$5,000 threshold, it is not required to file reports. See 11 CFR 100.3(a). See also 11 CFR 104.5(a).

48-HOUR NOTICES OF CONTRIBUTIONS 2

The principal campaign committee must file notices if any authorized committees receive any contribution (including in-kind gifts or advances of goods or services; loans from the candidate or other non-bank sources; and guarantees or endorsements of bank loans to the candidate or committee) of \$1,000 or more per source, during the period less than 20 days but more than 48 hours before any election in which the candidate is running. See 11 CFR 104.5(f).

The notices must reach the Federal Election Commission within 48 hours of the committee's receipt of the contribution(s). Campaign committees that file electronically MUST submit their 48-hour notices electronically. See 11 CFR 104.5(f) and 104.18(c).

• Web Page: <u>Electronic Filing Page</u>

• Web Page: <u>Link to Paper Forms</u> (for downloading and printing)

• Web Page: <u>Link to Web Form 6</u> (for online submission)

• Form 6 Fax number: (202) 219-0174

• Campaign Guide: <u>Candidate Guide</u>, p. 81 [PDF]

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. See 11 CFR 104.5(e). See also 11 CFR 104.18 and 100.19.

• Web Page: Electronic Filing Page

Paper Filing -- Meeting the Filing Deadline

Paper report filing options – Registered, Certified or Overnight or First Class Mail. See 11 CFR 104.5(e). See also 11 CFR 100.19.

• Web Page: <u>Link to Paper Forms</u> (for downloading and printing)

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. See 11 CFR 104.14(d).

- <u>Statement of Policy Regarding Treasurers Subject to Enforcement Proceeding</u> [PDF]
- Brochure: <u>Committee Treasurers</u>

Administrative Fine Program

Failure to file reports on time may be subject to civil money penalties up to \$17,600 (or more for repeat late- and non-filers). See generally, 11 CFR Part 111 Subpart B. See also 11 CFR 111.43.

• Web Page: Administrative Fine Program Page

² Presidential primary campaigns filing monthly need not file 48 Hour Notices.

³ 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 \$17,600, even for first-time violations.

2012 REPORTING SCHEDULE

- Web Page: 2012 Reporting Dates Page
- The Record:
 - o FEC Record Blog: Reporting
 - o January 2012 issue [PDF]

DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYIST BUNDLING ACTIVITY

Campaign committees must file <u>FEC Form 3L</u> [PDF] if they receive two or more bundled contributions from lobbyists/registrants or lobbyist/registrant PACs that aggregate in excess of \$16,700 during the applicable reporting period (<u>see page 1 of this notice</u>). See <u>11 CFR 104.22</u> and <u>110.17(f)</u>.

- The Record: March 2009 issue [PDF]
- *Candidate Guide, Appendix F*, pp. 155-161 [PDF]

CHANGE IN FILING FREQUENCY

Committees able to change their reporting schedule (for example, from monthly to quarterly) who wish to do so must notify the Commission in writing and may change their filing frequency no more than once per calendar year. See 11 CFR 104.5(b)(2).

• Web Page: Filing Frequency by Type of Committee

FOR INFORMATION, CALL: (800) 424-9530 or (202) 694-1100