

**Missouri Ethics
Commission**

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MEC News

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MISSION

MEC serves the public interest by assisting and educating the citizens of Missouri, public officials, lobbyists and individuals participating in public elections, while consistently and uniformly enforcing campaign finance, conflict of interest and lobbying laws.

Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD)

Annual Filers:

May 2nd Deadline for filing fast approaching! PFDs can be electronically filed, mailed or hand delivered. Reports not electronically filed must contain an original signature. (Fax copies are not accepted).

- E-file by May 2nd, 5:00 p.m.
- If hand deliver must be received by our office by May 2nd, 5:00 p.m.
- If mailing, must be post-marked no later than May 1st
- Time period covered is from Jan 1st, 2010 through Dec 31st, 2010

How can I file my PFD?

- **Submit Electronically**
 1. [Log-in](#) using the filer id & password provided
 2. Complete each section
 3. Submit filing
- **File by Paper**
 1. Complete fillable form on our website, print & sign; or
 2. Print blank form, complete & sign
 3. Mail or hand-deliver form to MEC by due date

Political Subdivisions:

Verify that your designated filers have submitted their forms:

1. Go to our website
2. Log into the [Political Subdivision Filing System](#) (use your political subdivision's log-in information)
3. Check the filing status of your required filers



If you have forgotten your filer id or password required to file your PFD electronically, go to the *Personal Financial (PFD) Filing system*, select the 'Can't access your account?' link, type in your email address and select 'Continue'. Follow the directions provided.

Campaign Finance Disclosure

Upcoming Reports:

- **April Quarterly**—Due April 15th (time period thru Mar 31st). Candidates in the Mar 8th Election are not required to file an April Quarterly.
- **30 Days After Apr 5 Election**—Due May 5th (time period thru Apr 30th). If successful, must be filed before taking office.

Unsuccessful?

Candidates & Campaign Committees must terminate within 30 days after the election or upon satisfying any outstanding debt. If candidate committee has more debt than money on hand, may convert to Debt Service Committee. (money can only be used to repay committee's debt).

New Publication:

Do you meet the requirements for forming a campaign finance committee? Find out by answering the questions in our [When to Form & Register a Committee](#) brochure.

E-filing System Tips:

For help while filing, view:
Help & Hints Window
Overview & Navigational Tutorial
Section Wizard Tutorial



Spotlight on Searches

The Commission continuously strives to develop new and relevant searches for users. Some of our most commonly used searches include:

NEW: Campaign Committee Search - designed to show for a specific election, campaign committees supporting or opposing ballot measures. The Commission's plans include releasing a second search regarding PACs that report spending money related to a ballot issue.

COMING SOON—Retooled Lobbyist Expense—Public Official(s) Search - designed to show expenses lobbyists report spending on public officials and identifies Principal(s) paying for a public official's expenditures.

48 Hour Report of Contribution Over \$5,000 - designed to show contributions received over \$5,000 by any individual or committee.

Training:

To further educate others, MEC offers in-person seminars, online webinars, web tutorials and a variety of publications, including filing calendars.

We are currently developing new training materials and will update our schedule when new dates are finalized.

Check our training page frequently or email your inquiries or requests to training@mec.mo.gov.

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Lobbyist

Upcoming Report:

- **Lobbyist Monthly Expenditure Report**
- **List of Principals and Legislative Action** - Due May 30th. Include general description of legislation proposed, any actions taken by executive branch & if supported or opposed the action.

Did you know?

1. When inviting entire general assembly to an event, report as "group expenditure".
2. If paying expenditure by credit card, record when the expenditure is made, not when the credit card statement arrives.
3. It is the lobbyist's responsibility to file any changes in principals or employment. Must file electronically within one week of the change.
4. A lobbyist's expenses reported on Public Officials can be viewed on our website.

Advisory Opinions



Upon written request, the Commission issues advisory opinions about campaign finance disclosure, conflict of interest, lobbying and personal financial disclosure laws.

Recent Opinions:

2011.02.L.011—The lobbyist for a law firm which serves as a lobbyist principal is required to report expenditures paid by the law firm on behalf of public officials regardless of whether the lobbyist attended the

event for which the expenses were incurred by the firm.

2011.03.CF.002— Missouri PAC may use evidence from the Sec. of State to ensure a foreign corporation holds a valid certificate of authority.