

## Campaign Finance Reports

Lake County Board of Elections 105 Main St, Ste 107 Painesville OH 44077 440-350-2700

PAC/Ballot Issue PAC Version

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### Board of Elections



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### Lake County Board of Elections Website

### From here you can:

- View Campaign Finance Reports
  - County level
  - State level
- Candidate Campaign Finance Report Guidebook
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- Campaign Finance Committee Information
  - Filing Deadline Reminder
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  - 2024 Ohio Candidate Requirement Guide
  - Ohio Campaign Finance Handbook
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  - Ohio Ethics Commission
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  - Ohio Board of Professional Conduct
  - Federal Election Commission of America
  - Campaign Finance Statues & Administrative Rules
  - Contribution Limit Report
  - Contribution Limits

### **FILING FORMS**

Ohio Campaign Finance forms are available as interactive PDFs.

The forms can be filled out on screen and printed and will assist with any necessary calculations.

Instructions for completion accompany each form.

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING FORMS** 

**PERMISSIVE FUNDS FORMS** 

**BOARDS OF ELECTIONS FORMS** 

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING FORMS

Form Number	Form Name
<u>30-A</u>	Ohio Campaign Finance Report (cover page)
30-B-1	Contributions from a Corporation or Labor Organization Supporting or Opposing Ballot Issues
30-B-2	Independent Expenditures from a Corporation or Labor Organization Supporting or Opposing Ballot Issues
30-C	Two-Day Business Report
30-D	Designation of Treasurer

## Where can I find the forms I need?

Campaign finance forms are available for download via Secretary of State website (https://www.sos.state.oh.us/campaign-finance/) or can be filled out and printed.



# Campaign Finance Forms

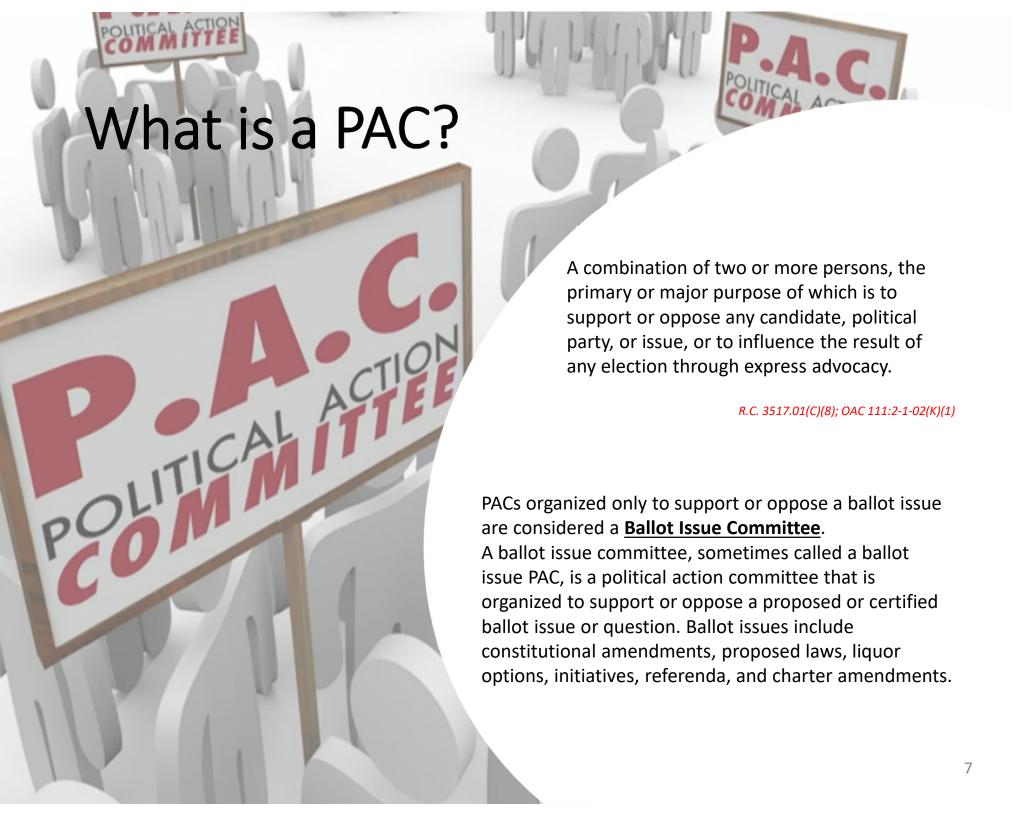
### Most frequently used forms:

- 30-D Designation of Treasurer
- 30-A Ohio Campaign Finance Report Cover Sheet
- 31-A Statement of Contributions Received
- 31-A-2 Statement of Other Income
- 31-B Statement of Expenditures
- 31-C Statement of Loans Received
- 31-E Statement of Contributions Received at a Social or Fund-Raising Event
- 31-F Statement of Expenditures for Social or Fund-Raising Event
- 31-G Contributors in Officeholder's Employ
- 31-J-1 In-kind Contributions Received
- 31-J-2 In-kind Contributions Made
- 31-N Statement of Outstanding Debts
- 31-U Ind. Exp. Made by a Campaign Comm., PAC, Political Party, etc

Checklist – BOE Audit Checklist

Note: Complete filing instructions are on page 2 of each form.

<sup>\*</sup> Please contact us if you have any questions about which forms to use.



### **Ballot Issue PACs**











May accept direct corporate and labor organization contributions. Aside from the committee's reporting requirements, corporate and labor organization contributors are required to disclose their activity by filing a Form 30-B-1, Contributions from a Corporation or Labor Organization Supporting or Opposing Ballot Issues. The corporation or labor organization must file by the same deadlines and at the same filing location as the ballot issue committee.

Ballot issue committees make no contributions to or expenditures on behalf of a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity and are not subject to contribution limits.

R.C. 3517.102(D)(2)

Corporations or labor organizations making independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a ballot issue or question must file Form 30-B-2. Independent Expenditures from a Corporation or **Labor Organization** Supporting or Opposing Ballot Issues. This form must be filed at the county board of elections for local issues or at the Secretary of State's Office for statewide issues.

Campaign Committees, PACs, PCEs, or political parties making independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a ballot issue or question must complete Form 31-U, Independent Expenditures Made by a Campaign Committee, PAC, Political Party, or Legislative Campaign Fund, as part of the committee's next required campaign finance report.

Individuals, partnerships, or other entities making more than \$100 in independent expenditures in support of or opposition to a ballot issue or question must file Form 30-E, Independent Expenditures Made by Individuals, Partnerships, or Other Entities. This form must be filed at the county board of elections for local issues or at the Secretary of State's Office for statewide issues. No report is required if \$100 or less was expended.

## You decided to start a Political Action Committee. What should you do first?

### **Choose a Treasurer**

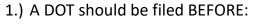
A treasurer is someone who can be trusted with the following duties:

- Understands the liabilities and responsibilities of being a treasurer
- Continually monitor and record all contributions and expenditures
- Deposit committee funds
- File reports in a timely manner
- Retain all records
  - Retention of 6 years is required

R.C. 3517.081 & 3517.10(D); OAC 111-5-14 R.C. 3517.10(C), (D); OAC 111:2-4-13



Signature



 Accepting ANY money (this includes monetary contributions or loans) or in-kind contributions

OR

Spending ANY money or assuming any debts

OR

- Prior to using a Disclaimer Statement. If choosing to use any social media or distributing any literature to promote the campaign, you must use a disclosure statement (See slides # 40-41 for more info).
- 2.) A DOT should be filed when starting a new committee or amending an existing DOT.
  - Amend the DOT if any of the following has changed:
    - Updating Treasurer/Deputy info
    - Missing information
    - An address, phone number, email address has changed
- 3.) A valid filing of the DOT means it was accepted and time/date stamped at the Board of Elections Office.

### Form 30-D Designation of Treasurer (DOT)

Frank LaR Ohio Secretary of St					)esigi	nation o	of Treas
TYPE OF FILING:   NE				91 - 1 3W010 - 20			
COMMITTEE TYPE:		PC	Polit	ical Party	Le	gislative C	Campaign F
If update, please check th							
Change of Committee Name.							
Change of Filing Location.	Prior Location was: _			200 10000 0	_		
Change of Office Sought.	Previous Office Soug	ht:		New Office	Sought:		
Change of Treasurer Info	Designation or Cl	hange of Deput	y Treasurer Info				
Change of address/phone/em	nail for: Committee	ee Tr	easurer	Deputy Treasure	er (	Candidate	•
Other Please Explain:							
All Committees							
Full Name of Committee						PAC	# (if Updated)
Street Address		C	îty		State	Zip	
Telephone		E	mail				
Treasurer		Teleph	ione	E	mail		
Street Address		C	iity		State	Zip	
Deputy Treasurer (if any)		Teleph	ione	E	mail	1	
Street Address		(	City		State	Zip	
Candidate Committee	ees Only						
Full Name of Candidate				Email			
Street Address		(	City		State	Zip	
Office Sought	Subdivision/	District		Party Affiliatio	n/Indepen	dent/Non-Par	tisan Election
Political Action Con					-		university.
PAC is sponsored by:  Cabor Organization	If Sponsored, Name the Spon	sor			- /	Acronym Used	i (if any)
Corporation	If Ballot Issue PAC, list issue						
○ Not Sponsored							
Is this a Ballot Issue PAC	PACs and PCEs Only	ny Affiliated Pa	ACs/PCEs				
0 Yes 0 He	THOS and T SES Only						
Signature of Treasurer or Deputy	Treasurer Date (MM/DD/YYY)	()	nature of Candida	to or Authoriza	d Darty	Date	(MM/DD/YYY

The following needs completed:

- 1.) "Type of filing" section
- 2.) "All Committees" section
  - a) Candidate full name or PAC committee full name
    - First and Last
  - b) Treasurer Info
    - a) Candidate can be own treasurer
    - Judicial committees; it is not recommended that Judges, nor any court employees serve as a treasurer
    - c) If applicable, add a deputy treasurer
- 3.) "Candidate Committees Only" section
- 4.) "Political Action Committees Only" (PAC) section
  Be sure to indicate if the committee is a ballot issue or
  non-ballot issue PAC and write-in the ballot issue
  - A Ballot issue PAC may accept corporate contributions but may <u>NOT</u> contribute to candidate committees
  - o) A non-ballot issue PAC may contribute to candidate committees but may **NOT** accept corporate contributions
- 5.) Signature section
  - a) The treasurer must sign and date

R.C. 33517.10(D)

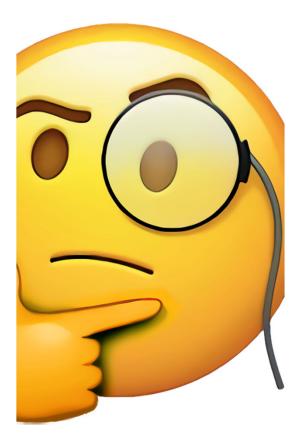




# Benefits to having a bank account

- § Consider where you have already established a personal bank account(s).
- § Please check for any monthly fees and clarify their purposes.
- § The committee account **MUST** be **SEPARATE** from a personal or business account.
- § Opt-in for a debit card feature.
- § Verify that online access is available for cancelled checks and bank statements.
- § All documents must be retained for six (6) years.
- § Some banks require:
  - 1.) The committees date-stamped/BOE stamped DOT.
  - 2.) EIN number obtained from the IRS prior to opening an account.

# When do I need to turn in a report?



### 2025 Due Dates & Coverage

**Election Related Filings: Primary** 

#### **Pre-election:**

Reporting period: 01/01/2025 - 04/16/2025 with report due in office by 4 pm on 04/24/2025

#### **Post-election:**

Reporting period: 04/17/2025 - 06/06/2025 with report due in office by 4 pm on 06/13/2025

### **Election Related Filings: General**

#### **Pre-election:**

Reporting period: 06/07/2025 - 10/15/2025 with report due in office by 4 pm on 10/23/2025

### **Post-election:**

Reporting period: 10/16/2025 - 12/05/2025 with report due in office by 4 pm on 12/12/2025

### Non-Election Related Filings: Semi-Annual & Annual

#### Semi-Annual:

Reporting period: 01/01/2025 - 6/30/2025 with report due in office by 4 pm 07/31/2025

#### Annual:

Reporting period: 01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025 with report due in office by 4 pm 01/31/2026

R.C. 3517.10(A)(4); OAC 111:2-4-04

A semiannual report is not required if the PAC was required to file a post-primary election report in that year (because the PACs issue appeared on the ballot).

An annual report must be filed by a PAC that was not required to file a post-general election report.

If you still are not sure if you need to file a report, please call or email.

R.C. 3517.10(A)(4); R.C. 3517.10(A)(3); OAC 111:2-4-04



## How do I know which report?

## **General Rules**

The treasurer and any appointed deputy treasurer are legally responsible for campaign finance reporting requirements.

A treasurer needs to ensure that the balance on hand on the cover page equals the balance on the committee's bank statement. Further ensuring the account is balanced in a timely fashion.

A treasurer also needs to acknowledge any affiliations with corporations and possibly another PAC/PCE.

Checks used to make contributions or expenditures must contain the full name and address of the PAC.

The treasurer must regularly and promptly reconcile bank statements with the committee's reports.

If all the necessary contributions and expenditures (including service charges, interest, and voided checks), balance the figures should be the same.



#### **Ohio Campaign Finance Report**

ORC 3517.10

	Committee Name			Office Sought			District
	Street Address	City		State	Zip		
•							
	Candidate Name OR PAC Registration Number	Treasurer Name			Election Date	e (MM/DD/	YYY)
	Type of Report (choose one):						
	Annual Semiannual Pre-Primary	Post-Pri	mary Pre	-General 🔲	Post-General		
	Statewide Candidates Only:					Year	
2	☐ July Monthly ☐ August Monthly ☐ Se	eptember Monti	nly				
	Amended Report Termination		Short Form R	eport (R.C. 351	7.10(H))		
	☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ Check this box if the co	Property and the second		box if the comn report. See atta		ns.	
	Amount brought forward from last report						
	2. Total monetary contributions (From Forms	31-A and 31-I	-			1	
	3. Total other income (From Form 31-A-2)	o o i - A and o i -	-,			1	
						1	
	4. Total funds available (sum of lines 1, 2, 3)					1	
	5. Total monetary expenditures (From Forms	31-B and 31-F	)			1	
3	6. Balance on hand (line 4 minus line 5)					]	
)	7. Value of in-kind contributions received (Fig. 1)	rom Form 31-J	-1)				
	8. Value of in-kind contributions made (From	Form 31-J-2)					
	9. Outstanding loans owed by committee (Fr	rom Form 31-C	)			1	
	10. Outstanding debts owed by committee (i	From Form 31-	N)			1	
	11. Outstanding loans owed to committee (F	rom Form 31-	()				
	12. Value of independent expenditures made	From Form	31-U)				
	THE STATEMENT IS MADE UNDER DENAL						
4	WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICA	TION IS GUIL	IT OF A FELO	NT OF THE FIF	TH DEGREE.		
	Signature of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer			Date (N	MM/DD/YYYY)		
	Contribution Pages Expenditure Pages	Other F	Pages	Total Pages	Last	t I Indote	d 09/2017
					Las	Opdate	09/2017

## Form 30-A Cover Sheet

### 1) Committee Information

Candidate and PAC Committees complete this section in its entirety.

2) Type of Report

Check which report is being filed and the year. If <u>amending</u> or <u>terminating</u>, check the appropriate box.

- 3) Activity (lines 1 12) relates to the monetary activity during the reporting period and amounts correlate from the form groups.
- 4) Original signature of treasurer or deputy treasurer and date

### **Contributions & Expenditures**

The process of disclosure

How to identify the distinction

















Page \_\_\_\_

#### Statement of Contributions Received

Form 31-A

ORC 3517.10

## 31-A Statement of Contributions Received

- A PAC must disclose the value of all contributions it receives. All contributions must be separately itemized, except for those received at a fund-raising event. Each entry must include:
  - Complete name and address
  - Date of the contribution
  - Amount of the contribution
- Grand total of contributions are transferred to Form 30-A, Line 2.
- Must be reported separately, no couples may be listed. A good rule of thumb is to list the person signing the check.
- If the PAC files electronically and receives a contribution in excess of \$100, they must include the name of the contributor's current employer, or business name if self-employed.
- Consult the contribution limit chart available on-line for amounts that a PAC may contribute or accept.
- Corp's are prohibited from contributing to PAC's. This
  applies to the provision of corporate funds or property to
  a candidate or campaign committee.\*\*

		Registration	Number, if PAC
		Registration	Manney, II FAG
Employ	er/Occupation/Lat	bor Organization*	Form (Cash, Check, etc.
State	Zip Code	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
*			
		Registration	Number, if PAC
Employ	er/Occupation/Lat	bor Organization*	Form (Cash, Check, etc.
Chata	To Code	In anumnas	Amount
State	Zip Code	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
	J	Registration	Number, if PAC
		Registration	Million, II PAG
Employ	er/Occupation/Lat	bor Organization*	Form (Cash, Check, etc.
	•	-	
State	Zip Code	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
State	Zip Code	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
State	Zip Code		Amount Number, if PAC
State	Zip Code		
_			Number, if PAC
Employ	er/Occupation/Lat	Registration l	Number, if PAC Form (Cash, Check, etc.)
_		Registration	Number, if PAC
Employ	er/Occupation/Lat	Registration loor Organization*  Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Form (Cash, Check, etc.  Amount
Employ	er/Occupation/Lat	Registration loor Organization*  Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Number, if PAC Form (Cash, Check, etc.)
Employs State	er/Occupation/Lat	Registration   Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  Registration	Form (Cash, Check, etc.  Amount
Employs State	er/Occupation/Lal	Registration   Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  Registration	Form (Cash, Check, etc.)  Amount  Number, if PAC
Employs State	er/Occupation/Lal	Registration   Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  Registration	Form (Cash, Check, etc.)  Amount  Number, if PAC

ndividuals over \$100 to statewide and general assembly candidates. If contributor is and the name of the individual's business, if any, rather than employer should be listed. If two or payroll deduction and exceed the aggregate of \$100, the labor organization of which the ny, must also appear. [R.C. 3517.10(B)(4)]

Dage Total	
rage Iotal	



### Contributions (Non-ballot issue)

Corporations are prohibited from contributing to political action committees. This prohibition applies to the provision of corporate funds or property to a candidate or campaign committee.

R.C. 3599.03

Professional associations (e.g., physicians, architects & dentists) under R.C. 1785, limited liability companies under R.C. 1705, or partnerships as defined by R.C. 1776 through 1783, are not "corporations" under R.C. 3599.03. These entities are considered either partnerships or unincorporated business associations.

R.C. 3517.10(I); OAC 111:2-4-20; OEC Adv. 96ELC-03

Contributions received from partnerships or unincorporated associations must reflect both the name of the entity and the individual contributing. Incorporated professional associations and limited liability companies are considered unincorporated associations or, if applicable, partnerships.

R.C. 3517.10(I); OAC 111:2-4-20; OEC Adv. 96ELC-03

To determine the status of a business or a corporation registered in Ohio, you may contact the Secretary of State's Business Services Division at 877.767.3453. Also, the complete database of business entity filings is available and can be searched at the Secretary of State's website. Follow the links for Businesses and Business Search. This link can also be found from our website under Campaign Finance.

### Deposit of Contributions or Other Income

The ballot issue committee must deposit all contributions in an account within 30 days of receipt or return the contribution to the donor. A contribution that is clearly illegal must be returned and not deposited. A contribution that appears on its face to be legal (e.g., not from a foreign national, corporation, or deposited but the contribution limits) may be deposited and used by the committee.

Contributions that appear questionable may be deposited but not spent. The treasurer must make a good-faith effort to determine the legality of the contribution. If, within 30 days of receipt, it cannot be determined that the contribution is legal, then it must be returned.

If a contribution is kept that is later found to be illegal, then the committee must refund it within 10 days of the discovery.

OAC 111:2-4-11



	Event Date	Page
- F C	ntributions	Dessived

### Statement of Contributions Received at a Social or Fund-Raising Event

I.C. 3517.10(B)

Full Name of Committee				
Full Name of Contributor			Registration Number, if PAC	
Ton Warns of Contribution			rtogistation rtunion, ii r rto	
Street Address	Employer/Occupat	tion/Labor Organization*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
City	State	Zip Code	Form (Cash, Check, Etc	
Full Name of Contributor			Registration Number, if PAC	
Street Address	Employer/Occupat	ion/Labor Organization*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
City	State	Zip Code	Form (Cash, Check, Etc	
Full Name of Contributor			Registration Number, if PAC	
Street Address	Employer/Occupat	tion/Labor Organization*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
City	State	Zip Code	Form (Cash, Check, Etc	
Full Name of Contributor			Registration Number, if PAC	
Tall Name of Contributor	200		rogistration (tunion, ii r no	
Street Address	Employer/Occupat	tion/Labor Organization*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
City	State	Zip Code	Form (Cash, Check, Etc	
Full Name of Contributor			Registration Number, if PAC	
Street Address	Employer/Occupat	tion/Labor Organization*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
City	State	Zip Code	Form (Cash, Check, Etc	



### Form 31-E Statement of Contributions Received at a Social Event or Fund-Raising Event

- Utilize this form when accepting contributions at an event on a specific date. Comparable to other contributions enter the person's name, address, date of contribution, method of payment, and the dollar amount.
- Do not combine events. Ensure each event is transferred separately for *Form 31-A* as a line item:

Ex: "Contributions from *Form 31-E* event 00/00/20XX"

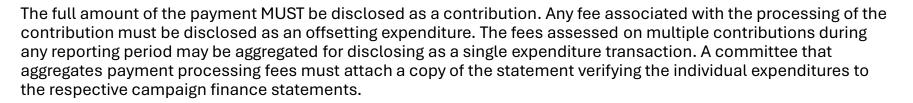
- Contributions of \$50 or less per person received at a specific fund-raising event may be aggregated on a single line item.
- A person may NOT contribute more than \$100 per election in cash. Any amount over the \$100 limit MUST be refunded. Proper paperwork (appropriate forms) must be utilized.

R.C. 3517.01(C);OAC 111:2-4-17

## Contributions Received via Online Payment Processors

Online payment processing applications must provide for complete reporting of all contribution disclosure requirements, including:

- Full name of contributor:
- Complete street address of contributor;
- Date of contribution;
- Full amount of contribution as authorized by contributor; and
- Contributor's employer (or, if self-employed, occupation and business name), if applicable.



### Example #1:

\$100 contribution + \$2.50 fee charged to the donor = \$102.50 total contribution.

The \$102.50 is listed on Form 31-A or 31-E and the fee charged to the committee is listed on Form 31-B or 31-F.

Fees charged by third-party vendors may be aggregated on a single line item so long as the monthly statement from that vendor is included with the report. Fees assessed may not always be the same amount presented to the contributor.

Monthly fees to utilize third-party vendors may also be aggregated on a single line item as long as a monthly statement or bank statement support the expenses.







The use of raffles or other games of chance to raise money for a campaign committee, political action committee, political party, or any other political entity, while not specifically prohibited in the campaign finance statutes, is discouraged for many reasons.

A campaign treasurer must keep a strict account of all contributions received – regardless the amount of the contribution. Second, the raffle or other games or schemes of chance in which persons pay to play may be a lottery prohibited by Article XV, Section 6 of the Ohio Constitution or may constitute gambling in violation of R.C. 2915. In addition, political fund-raising events involving a raffle or other scheme or game of chance held on the premise of a liquor permit holder may involve a violation of OAC 4301:1-1-53 of the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control.

Many fund-raising events award door prizes to some persons who attend. Giving door prizes of minimal value, such as flower arrangements, is unlikely to constitute a violation because the persons participating would have contributed regardless of the possibility of receiving a prize. But if the value of the door prize is significant enough to encourage contributors to purchase an entrance ticket in order to win the prize, then a violation may have occurred.

Questions or information on raffles and other schemes or games of chance should be referred to the county prosecutor in the county where the activity occurs.



## Frank LaRose Stitement of Other Income Form 31-A-2 R.C. 3517.10(8)

Full Name of Contributor		Registration N	lumber, if PAC
Street Address	Type*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Form (Cash, Check, etc.)
	Refund		
City	State	Zip Code	Amount
	ОН		
Full Name of Contributor		Registration N	lumber, if PAC
Street Address	Type*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Form (Cash, Check, etc.)
	Refund		
City	State	Zip Code	Amount
	OH		
Full Name of Contributor		Registration N	lumber, if PAC
Street Address	Type*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Form (Cash, Check, etc.)
	Refund		
City	State	Zip Code	Amount
	ОН	110	
Full Name of Contributor		Registration N	lumber, if PAC
Street Address	Type*	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Form (Cash, Check, etc.)

## Form 31-A-2 Statement of Other Income

A check from a contributor that was not honored by the bank should be itemized on the Statement of Expenditures.

If loans are received during a reporting period, their total is transferred to this form from the Statement of Loans Received form.

The total of all the Statement of Other Income pages should appear on line three of the cover page.

Ensure all information is provided in each block per line item.

## Form 31-J-1 In-Kind Contributions Received

- In-Kind Contributions Received are non-monetary contribution of goods or services for which compensation is not expected.
- Examples: decorations, catering, food, beverages, stationery, mailings/postage, signs & office supplies, etc.
- Made in coordination or cooperation with the PAC.
- Do not accept corporate contributions, unless the receiving committee is a ballot issue PAC. \*\*
- Value of item or service should be fair market value.
- Indicate if in-kind contribution was related to a fundraiser.
- Total amount counts toward contribution limits.
- Receipts and other supporting documentation not required but should be retained.
- Total of In-Kind Contributions Received are transferred to Form 30-A, Line 7.



ull Name of Committee

full Name of Contribute

treet Address

### Page\_\_\_

In-Kind Contributions Received

Full Name of Contributor			Employer, Occupati	ion, Labor Organization*	Registration Number,	if PAC
Street Address	Descrip	otion of Item or S	Service		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Fair Market Value
City		State	Zip Code	Received at Fundraisi	ng Event?	
Full Name of Contributor			Employer, Occupati	ion, Labor Organization*	Registration Number,	if PAC
Street Address	Descrip	otion of Item or S	Service		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Fair Market Value
City	•	State	Zip Code	Received at Fundraisi  Yes No	ng Event?	•
Full Name of Contributor			Employer, Occupati	ion, Labor Organization*	Registration Number,	if PAC
Street Address	Descrip	otion of Item or S	Service		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Fair Market Value
City		State	Zip Code	Received at Fundraisi	ng Event?	•
Full Name of Contributor			Employer, Occupati	ion, Labor Organization*	Registration Number,	if PAC
Street Address	Descrip	otion of Item or S	Service		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Fair Market Value
City	-	State	Zip Code	Received at Fundraisi	ng Event?	•

scription of Item or Service

Page Total \$		

Received at Fundraising Event?

Yes No

ORC 3517.01(C)(16)

<sup>\*\*</sup>More information later

Required for contributions from individuals over \$100 to statewide and general assembly candidates. If contributor is self-employed, the occupation and name of the individual's business, if any, rather than employer should be listed. If two or more employees can employees are members, if any, must also appear, (R.C. 3517.10[94], CC. 3517.10[94].



## 31-J-1 In-Kind Contributions Received

In-kind contributions totaling \$400 or less from one contributor at a single fundraising activity are not required to be itemized. These contributions should be reported as a single line item with an aggregate amount on Form 31-J-1, Statement of In-Kind Contributions Received. In all events, the treasurer must keep itemized records of all contributions, in case such records requested by the auditing authority.

## 31-J-2 In-Kind Contributions Made

An in-kind contribution made occurs when a committee gives items or services to another committee or pays the bill for items or services for another committee's benefit. An in-kind contribution made is considered a campaign disbursement and should be reported as such on *Form 31-J-2*. If the in-kind contribution made involved the outlay of money, then a corresponding expenditure entry should appear on *Form 31-B*, or if related to an event, *Form 31-F*.

R.C. 3517.01(C)(16)

R.C. 3517.01(C)(16) R.C. 3517.01

### Expenditures...

Form 31-B Statement of Expenditures

Form 31-F Statement of Expenditures for Social or Fund-Raising Event

### **Permissible Campaign Expenses**

- "Legitimate" means conforming to recognized principles or accepted rules and standards.
- "Verifiable" means able to be proven true, confirmed, or authenticated.
- "Ordinary" means taking place according to customary occurrences or procedures.
- "Necessary" means appropriate and helpful to accomplishing a particular end.

In addition, the Ohio Elections Commission has made clear that these expenses must be reasonable in cost and form.

- An expenditure is any transaction that results in funds leaving your committee's bank account.
- These funds must be stated on Form 31-B or 31-F.

OEC Adv. 87ELC-4

## Permitted Use of Funds

- A ballot issue committee may use its contributions only in ways that match the definition of expenditure, as defined in *R.C. 3517.01(C)(6)*, or to refund excess or illegal contributions. A ballot issue committee may spend money in a manner intended to influence an election or to make a charitable contribution. Charitable contributions are those made to a charity designated as exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsections 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to any charity approved by advisory opinion of the Ohio Elections Commission.
- Because a ballot issue committee may accept corporate contributions, a ballot issue committee may not contribute to a candidate's campaign committee, a political party, legislative campaign fund, PAC, or PCE.
- Questions about a ballot issue committee's use of public property or tax monies to support or oppose an issue or question should be referred to the prosecutor or auditor of that jurisdiction.

R.C. 3517.08(G)

## 100% 70% 50% 25% 06 02 30% 25% 45%

## What can I spend the money on....?

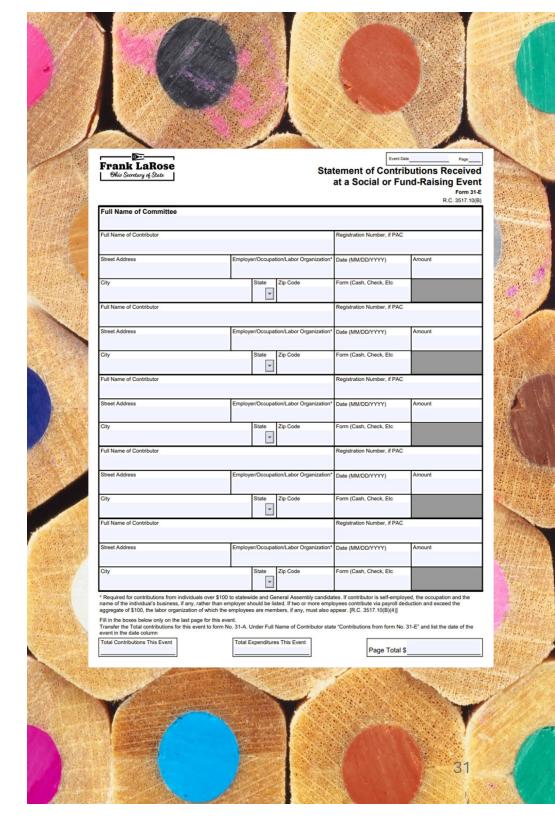
- May use the funds to influence the results of an election
  - Spending money
  - In-kind contributions
- Bank related expenses, i.e. monthly fees, purchasing checks
- Processing fees for on-line services, i.e. website maintenance, third party processors for contributions
- Expenses related to the performance of official duties that the PAC would not otherwise incur
- To influence the result of an election
  - Yard signs, bumper stickers, TV/Radio ads, consultants, fundraising expenses, staff, mileage reimbursements, office supplies/space
- Charitable contributions
  - 501 (c)(3)
- Loan payments

## 31-B Statement of Expenditures

The primary elements for complete disclosure of expenditures are:

- The name of the payee;
- The address of the payee;
- The date of the expenditure;
- The amount of the expenditure; and
- A detailed purpose of the expenditure.

In some cases, more information or more detailed itemization may be required.



### 31-F Statement of **Expenditures for Social or Fund-Raising Event**

Just like Form 31-B, all information must remain consistent.

Acceptable supporting documentation for the expenses: receipts, cancelled checks, and/or bank statements.

Transfer the total sum for each event separately to Form 31-B.

Ex: "Expenses from Form 31-E event 00/00/20XX"

NO CASH EXPENSES. NO BANK ACCOUNT TRANSFERS.





#### Statement of Expenditures for Social or Fund-Raising Event

o Whom Paid		Date dutings of the	Amount
o Whom Paid		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
Street Address	Purpose		<b>'</b>
Sity	State Zip Code	Check Number	
o Whom Paid		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
Street Address	Purpose	•	•
City	State Zip Code	Check Number	
o Whom Paid		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
Street Address	Purpose		•
Sity	State Zip Code	Check Number	
o Whom Paid	, ,	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
Street Address	Purpose	•	<u>'</u>
Dity	State Zip Code	Check Number	
o Whom Paid		Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Amount
Street Address	Purpose	<u>'</u>	•
Sity	State Zip Code	Check Number	

Page Total \$	

### Loans vs. Debts



### <u>LOAN</u>

Money that is given to the campaign and expects to be reimbursed.

### **DEBT**

Items purchased for the campaign and expect to be reimbursed but will not be reimbursed this reporting period.



R.C. 3517.13(O); OAC 111:2-1-03

## More info on loans

- Disclosed on Form 31-C Statement of Loans Received.
- Keeps a running tally of outstanding loans.
- Shows previous outstanding loans.
- New loans are transferred to Form 31-A-2 as other income; reference slide #25.
- Must be included with every report until paid back in full or forgiven.
- Payments to the loans are transferred to Form 31-B as expenditures. Supporting documentation in the form of a cancelled check and/or bank statement.
- As long as a loan remains outstanding, each report filed by the campaign committee must disclose the obligation until it is paid or forgiven.
- Total outstanding balance is reported on Form 30-A, line 9.

<b>──</b>							Page	
Frank LaRose					St	atement of L	oans Received	
Ohio Secretary of State							Form 31-C	
							R.C. 3517.10	
Full Name of Committee								
From Whom Received						Prior Amount	Amt. Incurred this Period	
Street Address							Outstanding Balance	
City	State	Zip Code			retree de la constant			
	~		Loans Red	Loans Received This Period		Payments This Period		
Date Loan was Originally	Incurred (I	MM/DD/YYYY)	Date of Loan (MM/	DD/YYYY)	Amount	Date of Payment (MM/	DDYYYY) Amount	
						1		
Registration Number, if PAC			Date of Loan (MM/	DD/YYYY)	Amount	Date of Payment (MM/	DD(YYYY) Amount	
Employer/Occupation/Labor Organ	nization*		Date of Loan (MM/	DD/YYYY)	Amount	Date of Payment (MM/	ppyyyy) Amount	
From Whom Received						Prior Amount	Amt. Incurred this Period	
110111111111111111111111111111111111111						11101741100111	Tank mound and t died	
Street Address							Outstanding Balance	
Steet Address							Oddatalong Dataloo	
City	State	Zip Code						
City	State	Zip Code	Loans Received This Period			Payments This Period		
Date Loan was Originally	Incurred (I	MM/DD/YYYY)	Date of Loan (MM/	DD/YYYY)	Amount	Date of Payment (MM/	DD(YYYY) Amount	
Registration Number, if PAC			Date of Loan (MM/	DD/YYYY)	Amount	Date of Payment (MM/	DD/YYYY) Amount	
Employer/Occupation/Labor Organization*		Date of Loan (MM/DD/YYYY) Amount		Amount	Date of Payment (MM/DD/YYYY) Amount			
			J					
<ul> <li>Required for contributions from ir name of the individual's business,</li> </ul>	if any, rath	er than employer s	should be listed. If tw	0 0			ccupation and the	
aggregate of \$100, the labor organ	nization of v	which the employe	es are members, if a	iny, must al	DIREC	TIONS!		
If a loan is forgiven, write "Forgiver (Form No. 31-A-2). Transfer total of							Other Income ding Balance to the	
Cover page (Form No. 30-A).	,						and comments to the	
Total Prior Amount \$								
Total Received This Period \$				(also record on Form 31-				
Total Payments Received to	hie Daria	4 \$		(-1	-d F 01 5			
rotal rayments neceived to	ina Feilo			(also reco	rd on Form 31-E	9)		
Total Outstanding Ralance	c			***				

## And more on debts

Disclosed on Form 31-N Statement of Loans Received

New debts are transferred to line 10 on the cover page, Form 30-A

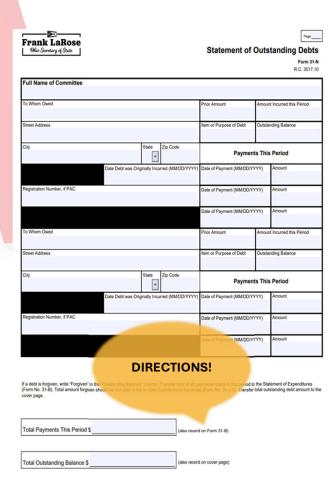
Payments made are transferred to Form 31-B; reference slide #31

When a campaign committee has received a good or service that is 60 days or more payable at the time of a reporting deadline, it must disclose the transaction within that report.

The debt, and any activity relating to it, must be in each report until the debt is repaid or forgiven by the contributor.

The debt remains on the report until it is paid.

If the debt is forgiven, the amount forgiven is considered an in-kind contribution.





## **Amending a Report**

File an amendment only when necessary. When the original report is:

- 1.) Incomplete
  - a.) mistakes need correcting
  - b.) obtains additional information
  - c.) when ordered by the PAC's auditing authority
  - d.) missing information
- 2.) Inaccurate
  - a.) wrong balance brought forward
  - b.) wrong dates

Do NOT file an amendment if:

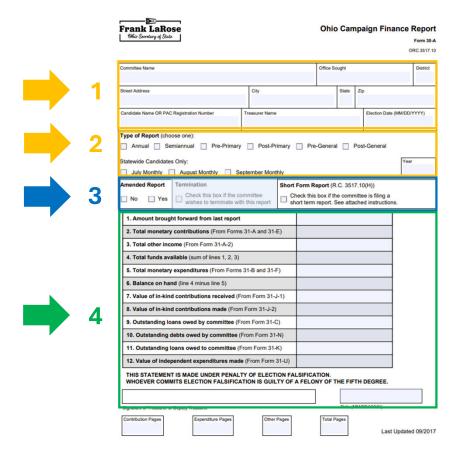
- 1.) Voided expenditures
- 2.) NSF returned contributions
- 3.) Corporate or excess contribution refund

## Terminating a Campaign

Complete sections 1 & 2 with campaign info

Check the box in 2<sup>nd</sup> block indicating termination

Section 4 will have amounts carried over from the report forms if there is money in the account



A committee must have a zero-dollar balance and no outstanding loans or debts before it can terminate. When these criteria have been met, a committee must file a final report listing all activity, if any, that has occurred since the previous report.

All reports received at the BOE office MUST be time stamped by 4 p.m. on the due date set forth by ORC.

If utilizing USPS, FedEx, UPS please be aware that these services may NOT guarantee delivery by the 4 p.m. filing deadline as prescribed by ORC.

Refer to slide #11 for due dates.

### **FILING REPORTS**



R.C. 3517.10(A); (A)(1); (A)(2);(A)(3); (A)(4); OAC 11:2-4-04

# Corrections & Amendments

- The committee must file an amended report when a correction is necessary, additional information is obtained by the committee, or when ordered by the PAC's auditing authority.
- The amendment should include either a report cover page or a cover letter specifying the name of the committee that is filing and what report is being amended.
- When an error is found, or when checks are received that could not earlier be attached to a report, the committee should file an amendment immediately. When an auditing authority requests more information or a correction to a report, the committee has 21 days to provide the information or correction.





### **DISCLAIMERS**

### What is a Disclaimer

A disclaimer is the portion of a political message that identifies the name of the entity that paid for the item on which the disclaimer appears. A readable disclaimer must appear on almost everything that is created to influence an election, including electronic messages.

R.C. 3517.105, 3517.20; OEC Advs. 96ELC-10 and 2012ELC-04

A complete disclaimer for a campaign committee includes the phrase, "Paid for by," followed by the name of the campaign committee, in a conspicuous place.

# Chapter 12: Disclaimers Campaign Finance Handbook

For further information about disclaimers, please consult this chapter in the handbook.

List of items not required to include a disclaimer. Pg 12-2

OAC 111:2-4-18

Radio and television advertisements must contain a proper disclaimer. Pg 12-4

Telephone banks/pre-recorded phone messages
Refer to the handbook. Pg 12-4

R.C. 3517.20(A)(12)

### Social media & Email messages

Social media posts and emails are generally subject to the disclaimer requirement. However, individual status updates or messages posted on social media websites need not contain a disclaimer so long as the committee home page properly identifies the committee. Pg 12-5

OEC Adv. 96ELC-10; OAC 111:2-4-18

### Multi-piece mailings

If more than one piece of printed material is mailed as a single packet, then only one of the pieces of the packet – whether on the envelope or on a piece within the envelope – must contain the disclaimer of the entity responsible for the communication. Pg 12-5

R.C. 3517.20(C)



## A few last things...

### **Membership**

Membership in a PAC is determined by the rules and bylaws of the PAC. For the purpose of disclaimer requirements, a person is a member of a political action committee if the person makes one or more contributions to the PAC.

R.C. 3517.105, 3517.20; OAC 111:2-1-02

### **Late Reports**

When a required report is filed late, the county board of elections or the Secretary of State may refer the matter to the Ohio Elections Commission.

- 21-day notice is first formal attempt to contact candidate and treasurer via certified mail
- Referral to Ohio Elections Commission
- Chapter 15 Ohio Elections Commission in the Candidate
   Handbook
   R.C. 3517.11(C)