TRAINING:
Independent Expenditure
Ballot Group

2023 Elections



Alaska Public Offices Commission Resources

Contact Information



APOC Anchorage (Campaign/Financial Disclosure)

Physical/Mailing Address: 2221 E. Northern Lights, Room 128 Anchorage, AK 99508-4149

Phone: (907) 276-4176 Toll-Free: 1-800-478-4176 Fax: (907) 276-7018

General Email: apoc@alaska.gov
Reports:doa.apoc.reports@alaska.gov

APOC Juneau (Lobbying)

Physical Address: 240 Main St. Room 201

Mailing Address: PO Box 110222

Juneau, AK 99811

Phone: (907) 465-4864 Toll-Free: 1-800-478-4176 Fax: (907) 276-7018

General Email: apocjnu@alaska.gov

Useful Links

Name	Website	
APOC Website:	http://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/home.html	
MyAlaska	https://my.alaska.gov	
Searching Reports	http://aws.state.ak.us/ApocReports/Home.aspx	

GROUP REPORTING DATES

Kenai Peninsula Borough 2023 Special Mayoral Election

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Report:	Covers:	Due:	
30 Day Report	October 26 – January 13	Tuesday, January 17, 2023	
7 Day Report	January 14 – February 4	Tuesday, February 7, 2023	
24 Hour Reports*	February 5 – February 13	Daily as Needed*	
105 Day Report	February 5 – May 15	Tuesday, May 30, 2023	
Year End Report	May 16 – February 1, 2024	Wednesday, February 15, 2024	

*During the 9 days before the election, contributions in excess of \$250 from a single source must be reported by date, amount, and contributor within 24 hours of receipt. This includes all monetary and non-monetary contributions, as well as contributions of more than \$250, in the aggregate, from a single contributor during the 9-day period. You may need to report each day during that period, or not at all.

Independent Expenditure/Ballot Proposition Groups: please note your group is required to file Independent Expenditure Reports (15-6) in addition to the reports listed above. Independent Expenditure Reports must be filed no later than 10 days after the expenditure has been made, unless the expenditure exceeds \$250 and is made within 9 days of the election. In that case, the report must be filed within 24 hours.

Independent Expenditure Groups (and groups that made independent expenditures in the last election cycle) must file an additional 24-hour report when receiving a contribution in excess of \$2,000 in the aggregate from a single contributor at any time during the election cycle.

Every individual, person, or group contributing a total of \$500 or more to a ballot group must file a **Statement of Contribution Form (15-5)** within 30 days of making the contribution.

Contact Information

Website: doa.alaska.gov/apoc
Information Email: apoc@alaska.gov/apoc
File Reports at: https://my.alaska.gov/apoc

GROUP REPORTING DATES ANCHORAGE 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Report:	Covers:	Due:	
30 Day Report	February 2 – March 3	Monday, March 6, 2023	
7 Day Report	March 4 – March 25	Tuesday, March 28, 2023	
24 Hour Reports*	March 26 – April 3	Daily as Needed*	
105 Day Report	March 26 – July 3	Tuesday, July 18, 2023	
Year End Report	July 4 – February 1, 2024	Wednesday, February 15, 2024	

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Contact Information

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Information Email: apoc@alaska.gov/apoc
File Reports at: https://my.alaska.gov/apoc

GROUP REPORTING DATES VALDEZ 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Report:	Covers:	Due:	
30 Day Report	February 2 – March 31	Monday, April 3, 2023	
7 Day Report	April 1 – April 22	Tuesday, April 25, 2023	
24 Hour Reports*	April 23 – May 1	Daily as Needed*	
105 Day Report	April 23 – July 31	Tuesday, August 15, 2023	
Year End Report	August 1 – February 1, 2024	Thursday, February 15, 2024	

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Contact Information

Website: doa.alaska.gov/apoc Information Email: apoc@alaska.gov File Reports at: https://my.alaska.gov/

GROUP REPORTING DATES STATEWIDE 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

Report:	Covers:	Due:
30 Day Report	February 2 – September 1	Tuesday, September 5, 2023
7 Day Report	September 2 – September 23	Tuesday, September 26, 2023
24 Hour Reports*	September 24 – October 2	Daily as Needed*
105 Day Report	September 24 – January 1, 2024	Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Year End Report	January 2, 2024 – February 1, 2024	Thursday, February 15, 2024

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Contact Information

Website: doa.alaska.gov/apoc
Information Email: apoc@alaska.gov/apoc
File Reports at: https://my.alaska.gov/apoc

GROUP REPORTING DATES DENALI & MAT-SU 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Report:	: Covers: Due:			
30 Day Report	February 2 – October 6	Monday, October 9, 2023		
7 Day Report	October 7 – October 28	Tuesday, October 31, 2023		
24 Hour Reports*	October 29 – November 6	Daily as Needed*		
Year End Report	October 29 – February 1, 2024	Thursday, February 15, 2024		
105 Day Report	February 2, 2024 – February 5, 2024	Tuesday, February 20, 2024		

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Alaska Campaign Annual Contribution Limits – AS 15.13

FROM	TO CANDIDATE	TO GROUP & NON- GROUP ENTITY	TO POLITICAL PARTY	TO IE GROUP, INITIATIVE APPLICATION GROUP, & BALLOT GROUP
Authority	AS 15.13.070	AS 15.13.070	AS 15.13.070	AS 15.13.065(c)
Individual (AK resident)	Unlimited	Unlimited	\$5,000	Unlimited
Individual (non-resident)	Unlimited	Unlimited	\$5,000	Unlimited
Corporations, Business Organizations, Unions	Prohibited AS 15.13.074(f)	Prohibited AS 15.13.074(f)	Prohibited AS 15.13.074(f)	Unlimited
Group (based in Alaska)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	Unlimited
Group (based outside Alaska)	Prohibited	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC*	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC*	Unlimited
Nongroup Entity (based in Alaska)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	Unlimited
Nongroup Entity (based outside Alaska)	Prohibited	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC	Unlimited
Political Party	Municipal \$5,000 House \$10,000 Senate \$15,000 Lt. Gov./Gov. \$100,000	\$1,000	Unlimited	Unlimited
Foreign Nationals	Prohibited Foreign nationals are prohibited from making expenditures or contributions in Alaska elections only to the extent prohibited or permitted by Federal law. AS 15.13.068.			

^{*} Groups based outside Alaska must ensure their received contributions comply with Alaska limitations before making contributions to groups based in Alaska or to a political party. Groups based in Alaska may not receive contributions from a group based outside Alaska whose received contributions do not comply with Alaska limitations, as such contributions are prohibited.

Individuals, Persons, and Groups may be required to fill out Form 15-5 Statements of Contribution and/or Form 15-6 Statements of Independent Expenditure where applicable. Please see our Forms page.

Independent Expenditure Training



Topics

This presentation will cover:

Background Information

- What is an independent expenditure?
- Who must file an independent expenditure form?
- What must be included on an independent expenditure form?
- When is my independent expenditure form due?
- Will I be required to file the same information on other APOC reports?
- Paid for By Requirements

Independent Expenditure Form 15-6

Statement of Contribution Form 15-5

Additional Tips to Remember

What is an Independent Expenditure?

- Expenditures made to influence the results of a candidate election when the expenditure is made completely independent of the candidate
- Expenditures made to influence the results of a statewide or municipal ballot proposition or question
- Expenditures made in support of or in opposition to an initiative proposal application filed with the lieutenant governor

Who must file an independent expenditure form?

expenditure form... "Person" means everyone! Every "person" who makes an independent expenditure must file an independent

- Natural individuals
- Registered groups
- **Partnerships**
- Sole Proprietors
- Corporations
- Labor Organizations
- Any other company, firm, association, organization, non-profit, or any thing else you can think of

independent expenditure form? What must be included on an

- 1. The name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the individual filing the report
- 2. An itemized list of all expenditures made, incurred or authorized
- 3. The name of the candidate, ballot proposition or initiative proposal application supported or opposed by each expenditure
- 4. A statement indicating whether the expenditure is in support or opposition
- 5. The name and address of each officer and director of the person making the independent expenditure

What else must be included on an independent expenditure form?

- 6. The date of each contribution and the amount contributed
- 7. The aggregate amount of all contributions made to the person making the independent expenditure
- the calendar year: the principal occupation and employer of the contributor) 8. If the contributor is an individual, the name and address of the contributor (and if the individual contributes in excess of \$50 in the aggregate during
- contributor *and* the name and address of each officer and director of the 9. If the contributor is not an individual, the name and address of the contributor

independent expenditure report? What is the due date for filing an

An independent expenditure report must be filed no later than 10 days after the expenditure has been made unless the expenditure exceeds \$250 and is made within 9 days of the election. In that case, the report must be filed

within 24 hours

Remember:

An expenditure is made when the deal is made;

Not when invoiced, not when paid

It depends on what you are and what you are involved in!

1. Statewide Initiative filed with the Lt. Governor

- regular Campaign Disclosure Reports such as 30-day, 7-day and year-end reports will continue to support or oppose the initiative, in addition to your Independent initiative is on the ballot. Thereafter, if the group does not file a final report and Expenditure Reports, you will be required to report the same information on If you are a group, you will be required to file Quarterly Reports until the
- If you are an individual, you will be required to file Quarterly Reports until the election is over or you file a final report
- required to file Quarterly Reports until the election is over or you file a final If you are an entity (anything other than a group or individual), you will be report

- 2. Statewide Referendum, Recall or any other proposition, question or measure certified for a statewide or municipal ballot
- required to report the same information on regular Campaign Disclosure Reports such If you are a group, in addition to your Independent Expenditure Reports, you will be as 30-day, 7-day and year-end reports
- If you are an individual, you will not be required to report the same information on other reports
- If you are an entity, (anything other than a group or individual), you will not be required to report the same information on other reports

3. Candidate Elections

- If you are a group, in addition to your Independent Expenditure Reports, you will be required to report the same information on regular Campaign Disclosure Reports such as 30-day, 7-day and year-end reports
- If you are an individual, you will not be required to report the same information on other reports
- If you are an entity, (anything other than a group or individual), you will not be required to report the same information on other reports

3. Candidate Elections (cont'd)

- make independent expenditures in the current election cycle, you must report expenditure in a candidate election in the previous election cycle, is currently hours of receipt. You are also required to certify and report the true source, Effective February 28, 2021: If your group or entity made an independent a contribution that exceeds \$2,000 (aggregate or singularly) within 24 making independent expenditures in the current election cycle or plans to and all intermediaries, if any, of the contribution as defined by AS
- You are required to obtain the true source of the above contributions if you cannot obtain the true source information, then the contribution must be returned or forfeited to the state.

3. Candidate Elections (cont'd) 24 Hour Reporting Requirements

Candidate Independent Expenditure Groups

- Contributions that exceed \$2,000 (24 Hour Campaign Disclosure Report)
- Independent expenditures that exceed \$250 and are made within 9 days of the election (24 Hour Independent Expenditure Report)
- Contributions that exceed \$250 and are received within 9 days of the election (24 Hour Campaign Disclosure Report)

Independent Expenditure Entities

- Contributions that exceed \$2,000 (24 Hour Campaign Disclosure Report)
- Independent expenditures that exceed \$250 and are made within 9 days of the election (24 Hour Independent Expenditure Report)

Paid for By Requirements

For communications that contain a print or video component, you must include

AS 15.13.090(a):

- "This communication was paid for by" (Person's name and address, or principal place of business)
- The name and title of the person's principal officer
- A statement from the principal officer approving the message
- Must list the top three contributors by name, and city and state of residence or principal place of business in order of most to least

A video communication that contains an audio component must have everything listed above in writing on the screen, plus the following statements read in a manner that is easily heard AS 15.13.090(d):

- This communication was paid for by (group's name)
- Must name the top three contributors by saying "the top 3 contributors of (group) are (names of the top 3 contributors)"

Paid for By Requirements Continued

A purely audio message (such as a radio advertisement) requires the same audio tags as discussed previously concerning a video communication containing an audio component

(mailing/literature/advertisement) is not authorized, paid for, or approved by the candidate" Independent expenditures for or against candidates must also include (AS 15.13.135): "This NOTICE TO VOTERS is required by Alaska law. (I/we) certify that this

Identifiers must be:

- Audible: long enough to be heard and at same volume as the rest of the communication
- identifier on all video communications must remain on screen throughout the entire Visual: Separate from other text and of a size visible to be read. The paid for by

communication is an individual, recognized political party, or has no contributors **Please note:** The top 3 contributors are not required if the person paying for the

Independent Expenditure Statutes and Regulations

• Alaska Statutes (15.13)

- 040(d)~ Reports required
- (e)~What Report must contain
- 050~ Register before expenditure
- 052~ Political activities account required
 - 090~ Paid for Bys
- 110(e)~ Referendum & recall sponsors
- (g)~ Initiatives
- (h)~ I.E. Reports (when due)
- $(k) \sim Candidate I.E. 24 hour reporting expectation$
- 135~ I.E. for or against candidates (special additional paid for by for candidate independent expenditures)
- 140~ I.E. for or against ballot propositions
- 400(4)~ Definition of a contribution
- (7)~ Definition of an expenditure
- (11)~ Definition of an independent expenditure
 - (19)~ Definition of a true source

Regulations

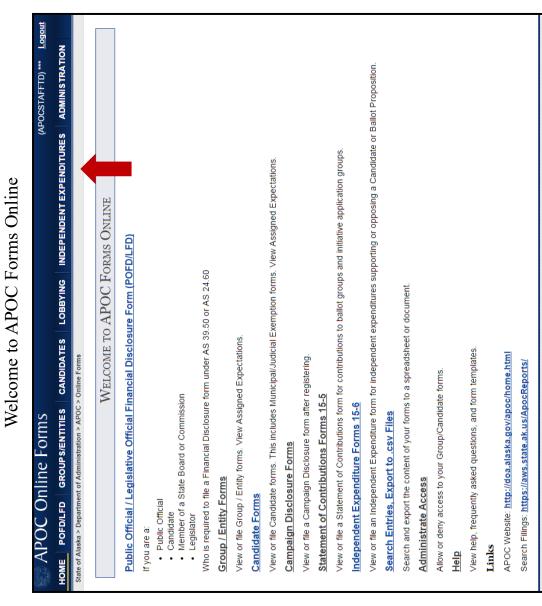
• 2 AAC 50.270 Independent expenditure regulation

15-6 Statement of Independent Expenditures

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6

- An Independent Expenditure is an expenditure that supports or opposes a candidate or ballot proposition
- direct or indirect consultation or cooperation with of the candidate or candidate's campaign An expenditure supporting or opposing a candidate is independent if it is made without the
- A Statement of Independent Expenditures is due within 10 days of making or accruing an expense or;
- Within 24 hours if expenditure is made within 9 days of the election and exceeds \$250
- Must use political activities account

Independent Expenditures Statement Form 15-6



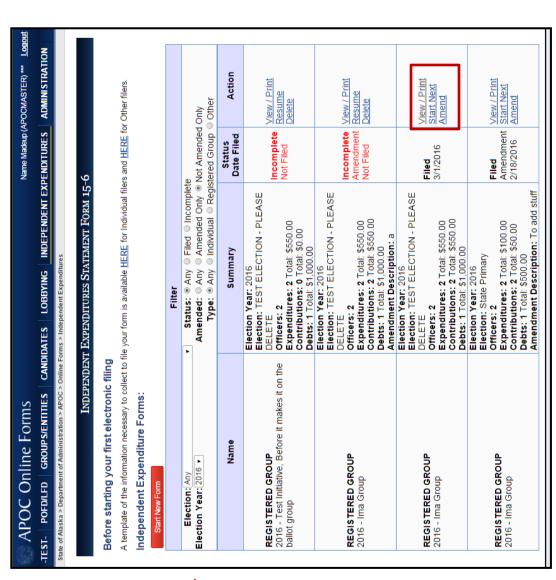
Independent Expenditures Statement Form 15-6

To narrow your view, you can utilize the filters

You can filter by:

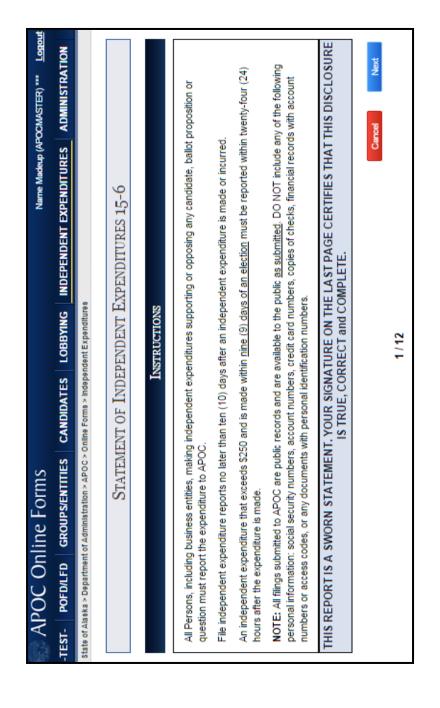
- Election
- Election Year
- Status of report
- If the report is amended
- Type of filer

Or you can hide the filter option if you do not want it to appear on the page



Instructions

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



Filer Information

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



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Filer Information

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6





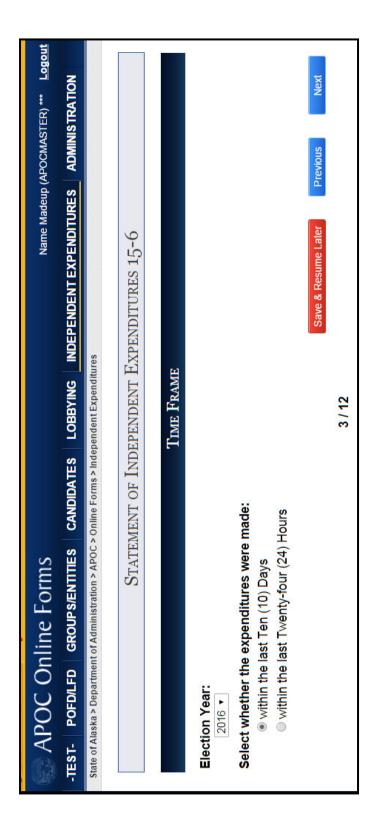
Choose person type

If the entity or group is not in the list, please do not continue, call

APOC

Time Frame

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6

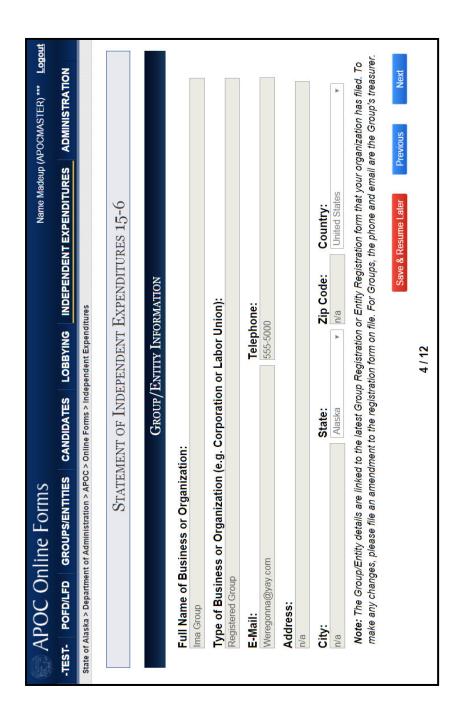


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Within 24 hours if expenditure is made within 9 days of the election and exceeds \$250

Group/Entity Information

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



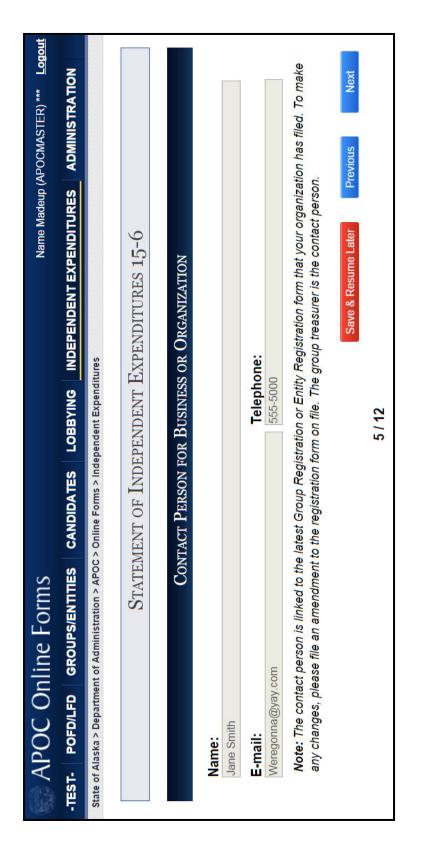
This page should automatically fill in using the registration of the entity or group that you chose earlier in the report

If the information looks incorrect, please amend the registration on file

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Contact Person For Business Or Organization

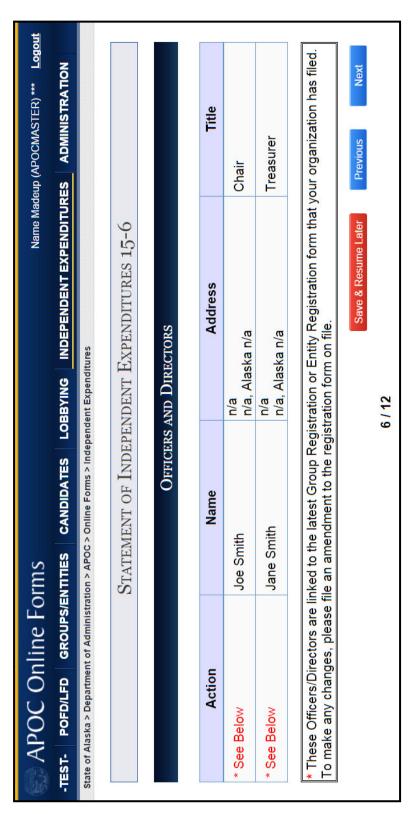
Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



This page should automatically fill in using the registration of the entity or group that you chose earlier in the report

Officers And Directors

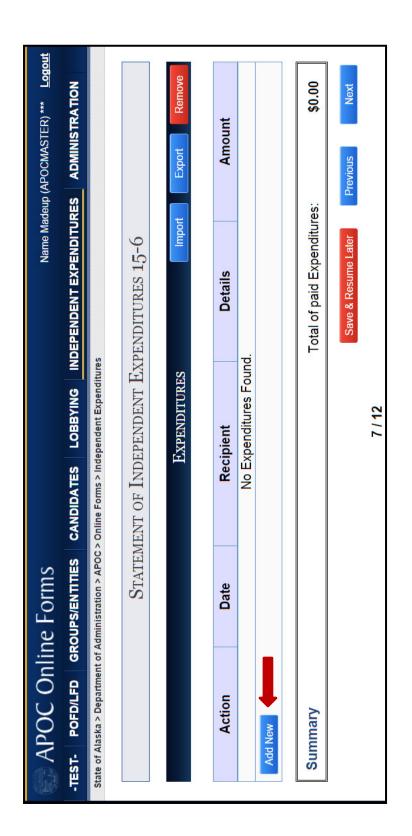
Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



This page should auto fill with information from the registration If information is incorrect, please amend the registration on file

Expenditures

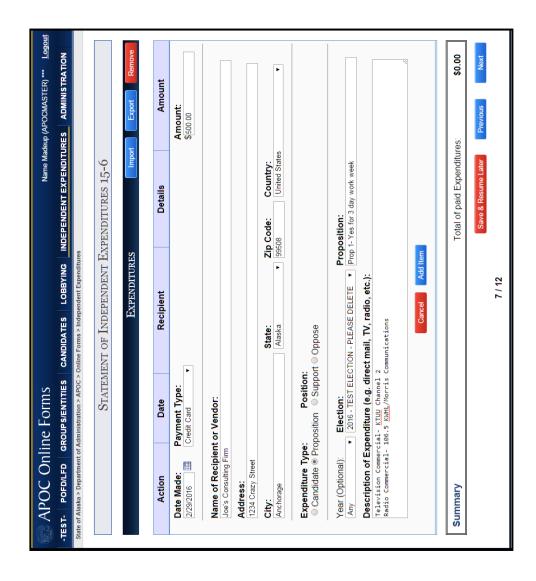
Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



To add expenditures, click on the button "Add New"

Expenditures

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



Remember:

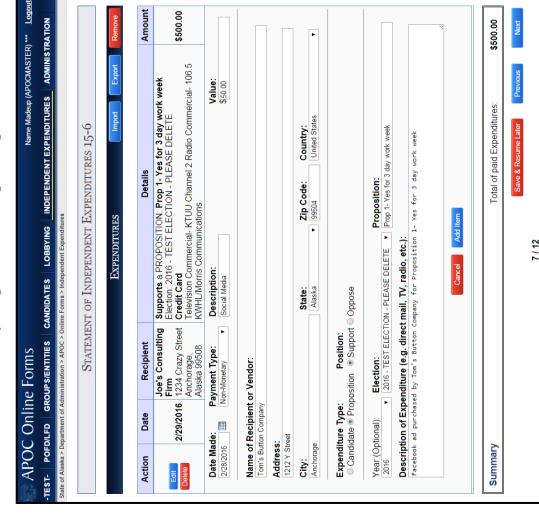
For all expenditures to an advertising agency, individual, or business that provides campaign consultation or management, services must be reported and include in detail:

- All services rendered
- Name of each business or subcontractor
 - From which goods or services were purchased/subcontracted or
 - Media advertising placed
 Amount of the expenditure

2 AAC 50.321(d)

Expenditures

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6 Non-Monetary Expenditure Reporting



sure to also report the expenditure as

expenditure, be

non-monetary

that provided the

good or service

from the person

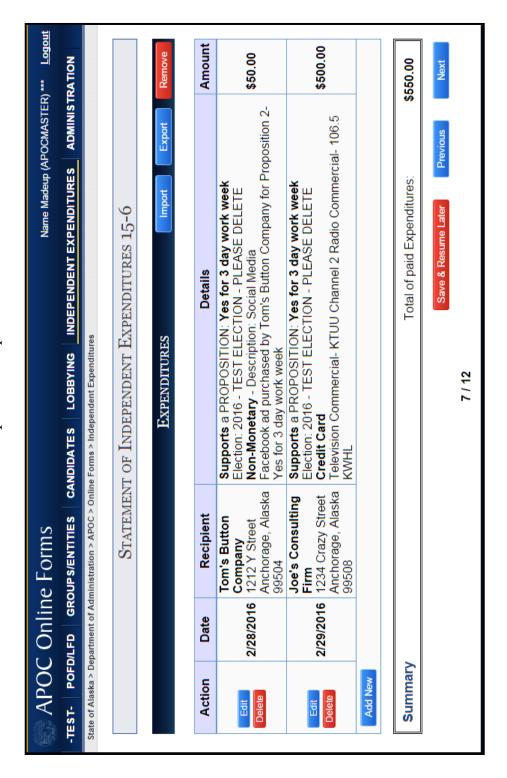
a contribution

Remember: If the

expenditure is a

30

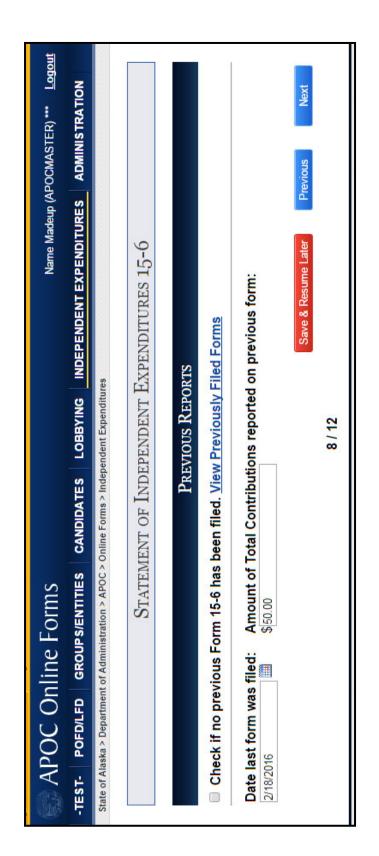
Expenditures



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Previous Reports

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



If you used the "Start Next" function, the date will populate and the total contributions will aggregate for you automatically

Remember:

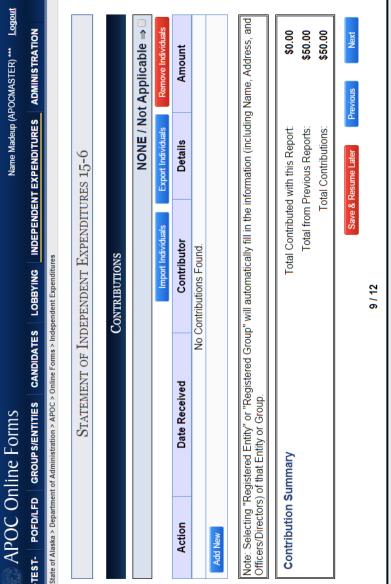
be reported from the Contributions must beginning of the campaign

Expenditure Form Since the last Independent was filed

PLEASE NOTE:

Report for a \$2,000+ contribution, file it Disclosure report under a regular Entity/Group: if filing a 24 Hour Candidate IE Campaign

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



Remember:

reported on the next Expenditure Form Disclosure Report All contributions reported on the must also be Independent Campaign

Remember:

transaction in the If you reported a the contribution expense section, report it here in non-monetary you must also

section

To add contributions, click on the link "Add New"

not as an IE Report

If there are no contributions to add, click the box in the top right "NONE/Not Applicable" then Click "Next"

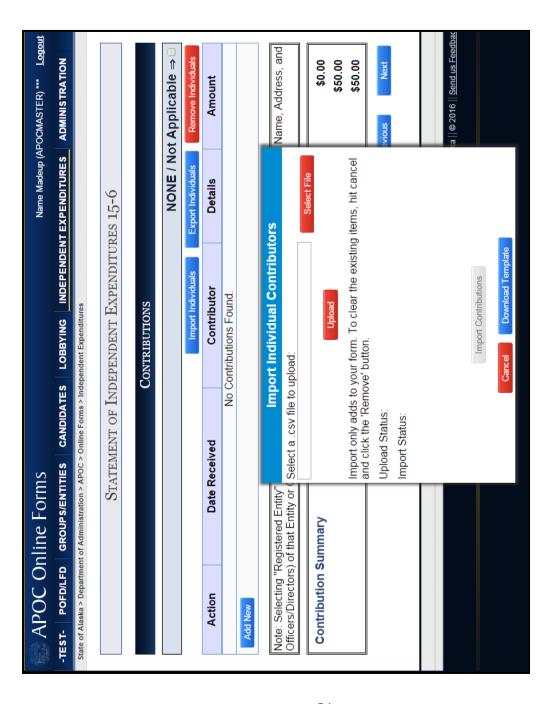
Contributions- Import Individual Contributors

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6

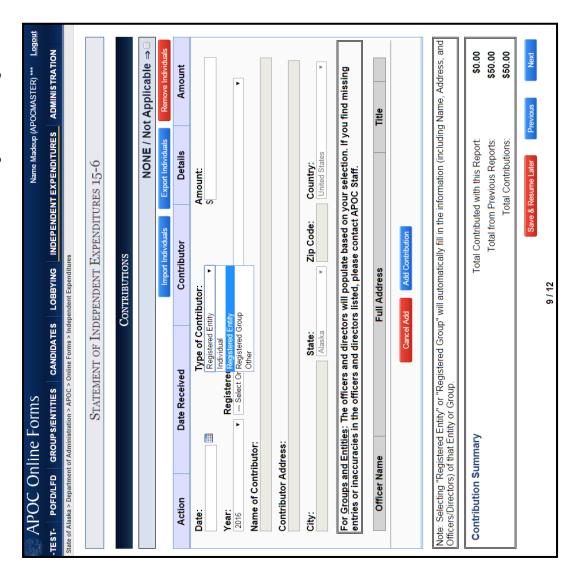
contribution information: To import

- Individuals Import
 - Select file 2. Select file3. Upload

saved to the APOC The information spreadsheet will automatically upload



Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



Insert:

* Date

* Type of Contributor

* Amount

* Name of Contributor

* Contributor Address

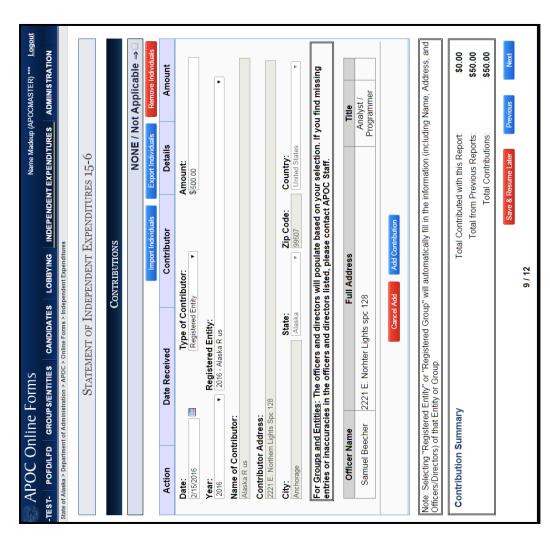
For Individual Contributors who contribute in excess of \$50 in the aggregate during a calendar year, must also include:

* Principal Occupation* Employer Name* Employer Address

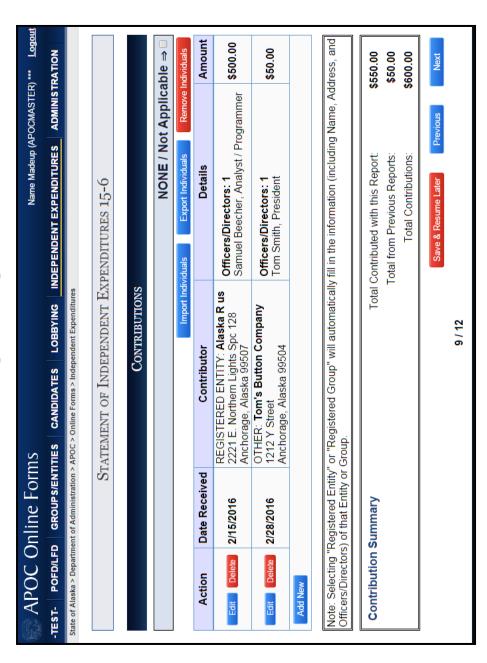
Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6

Selecting the Registered Entity or Registered Group will automatically fill in the information (including Name, Address and Officers/Directors) of that Entity or Group

If the contributor is not a registered group or entity, you are responsible for getting this information

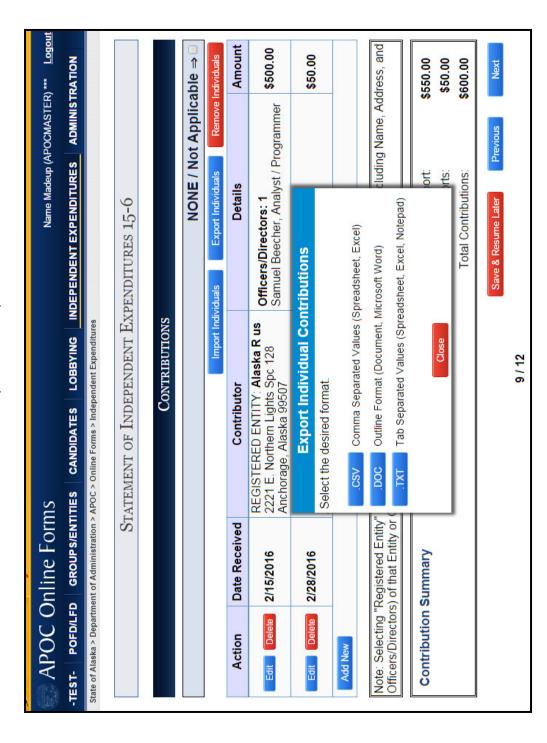


Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



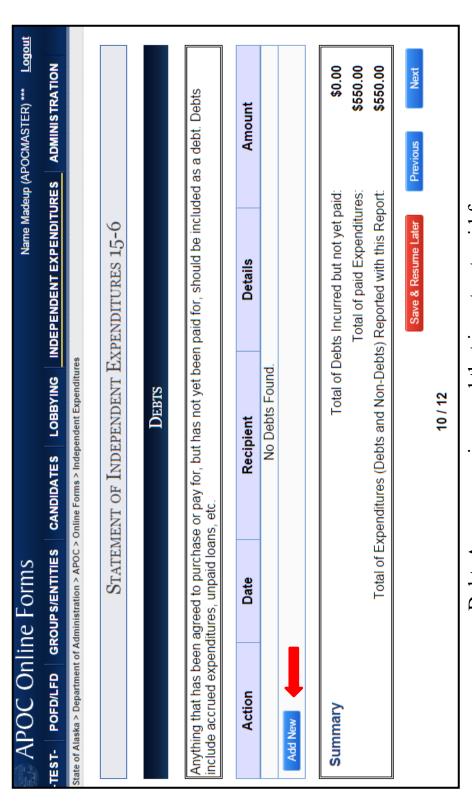
Once all contributions have been entered and reviewed for accuracy, click the "Next" button

Contributions- Export Individual Contributors



Debts

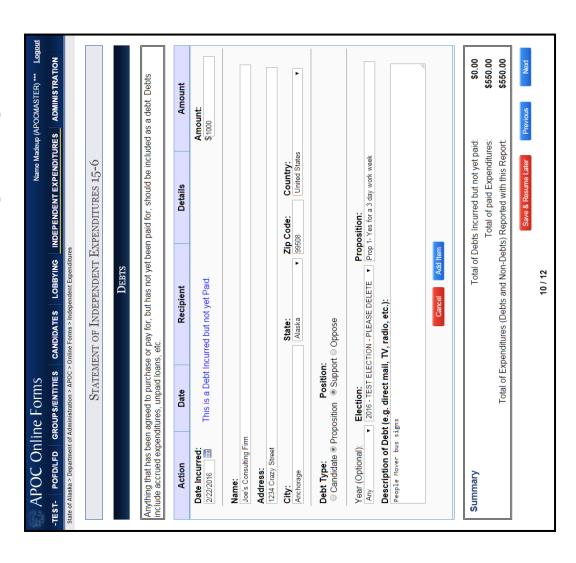
Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



Debt: An expense incurred that is not yet paid for To add debt(s), click on the button "Add New" If there are no debts to add, click "Next"

Debts

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6

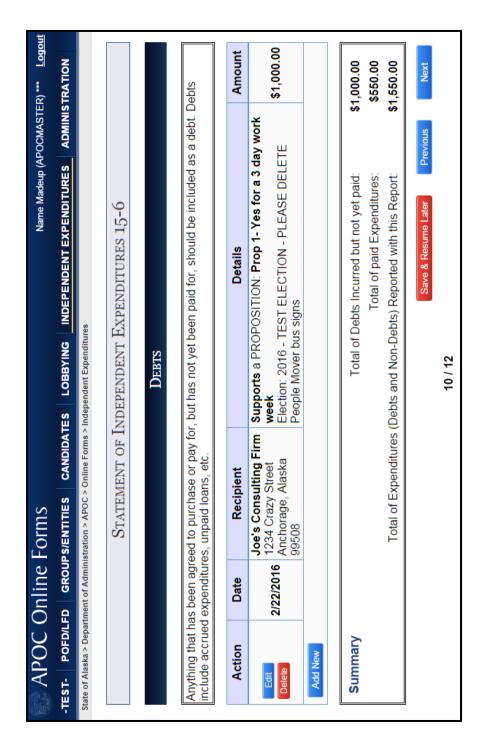


Insert:

- Date Incurred
- Amount
 - Name
- Address
- Debt Type/Position
- Description of Debt

Debts

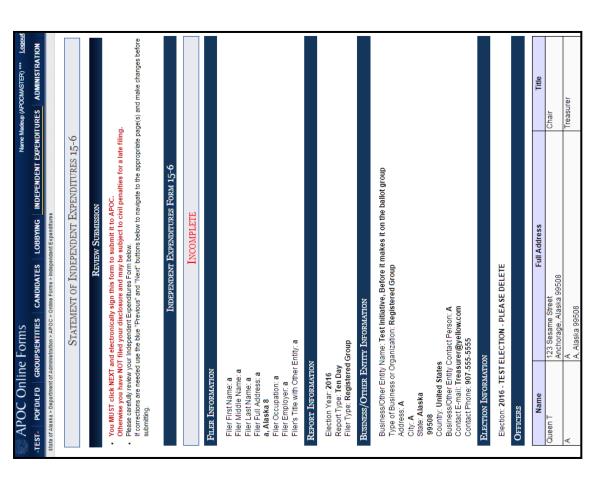
Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



Once all debt has been entered and reviewed for accuracy, click the "Next" button

Review Submission

Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6



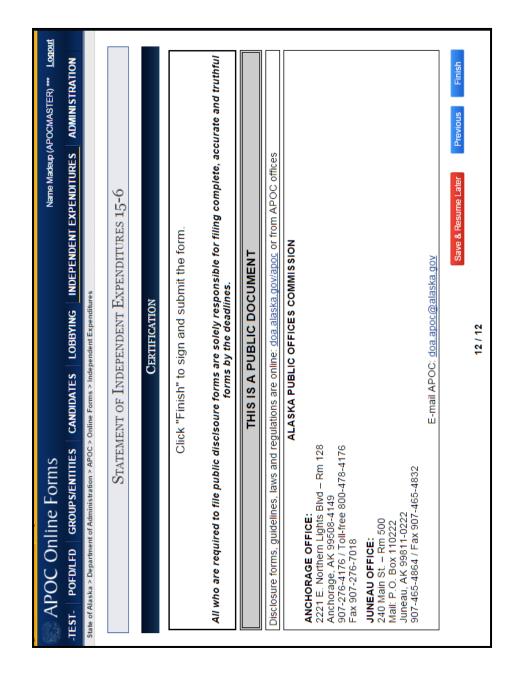
Be sure to check this Review Submission page for accuracy before moving on!

Review Submission Continued

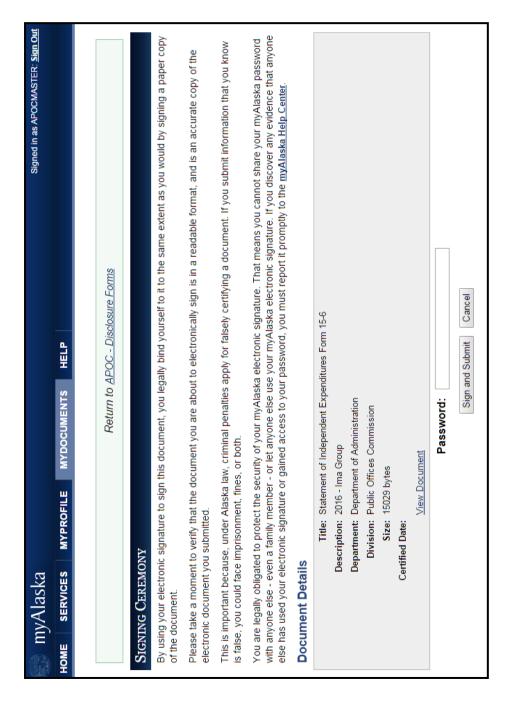
		Full Address	Title	
	123 Sesame Street Anchorage, Alaska 99508		Chair	
	A A, Alaska 99508		Treasurer	
	Payment	Candidate /		
	Type	Proposition		Allount
	Non-Monetary Description: Social Media	SUPPORT: Prop 1-Yes for 3 day work week Election: TEST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE Facebook ad purchased by Tom's Button Company for Proposition 1-Yes for 3 day work week	E mpany for	\$50.00
0	Credit Card	SUPPORT: Prop 1-Yes for 3 day work week Eletdon: TEST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE Television Commercial- KTUU Channel 2 Radio Commercial- 106.5 KWHL/Morris Communications	dio Commercial-	\$500.00
		Contributor Details	Amount	ıt
	No Col	No Contributions / Nothing to Report		
	Recipient	Candidate /	_	Amount
Joe's Consulting F 1234 Crazy Street Anchorage, Alaska	-irm 99508	SUPPORT: Prop 1- Yes for a 3 day work week Election: TEST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE People Mover bus signs		\$1,000.00
		Number of Expenditures Reported with this Report.2 Total of paid Expenditures:	Report:2 ditures:	\$550.00
		Previous Contributions:	utions:	\$50.00
		Number of Contributions Reported with this Report of Total of Contributions Reported with this Report Contribution Amounts:	Keport0 Report nounts:	\$0.00 \$50.00
1		Number of Officers:2	fficers:2	
		Number of Debts Reported with this Report1 Total of Debts Incurred but not yet paid:		\$1,000.00
		Save & Resume Later	Previous	Next
		71/11		

43

Certification

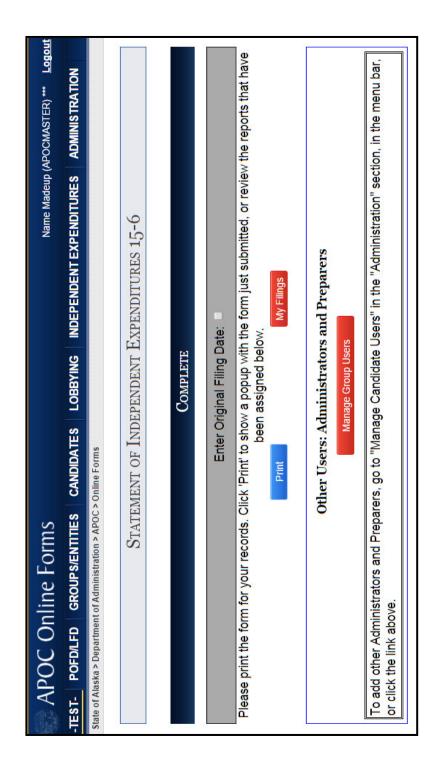


Certification

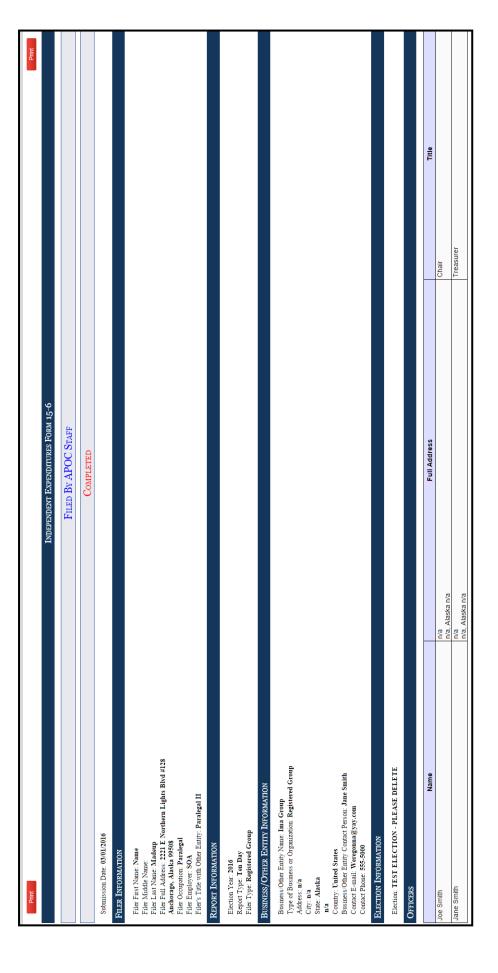


45

Complete Page



Print Page



Print Page Statement of Independent Expenditures 15-6

Name	t Paym Non-Monetary Typ Description: Social Med Credit Card	, Alaska n/a , Alaska n/a	Full Address	Chair		
Tom's But 1227 SE Anthorage Joes Com 1224 Crazy Com 1224 Crazy Com 1224 Crazy Anthorage Anthorage Anthorage Anthorage Anthorage Date	Paym Non-Monetary Description: Social Med Credit Card	, Alaska n/a , Alaska n/a		Chair		
Tom's But 1227 Y St Anchorage Joes Com 1234 Crash Anchorage Anchor	Paym Non-Monetary Description: Social Med Credit Card	, Alaska n/a				
e Tom's But 12.1 V Str. Anthorage Anthorage Anthorage TriONS	Non-Monetary Description: Soci			Treasurer		
Tom's But 1227 Y St Antchorage Jos's Con 1234 Craz) Antchorage Antchorage Antchorage Antchorage Antchorage Date	Non-Monetary Description: Soci					
10m's But 12 V St	Non-Monetary Description. Soc Credit Card		Candidate / Proposition			Amount
Joe's Con 1234 C/azy Anthorage TTONS Date		SUPPORT: Election: TE Facebook a	SUPPORT: Yes for 3 day work week Election TEST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE Election at SIST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE	Хей		\$50.00
TIONS Date		SUPPORT: Election: TE Television C	SUPPORT: Yes for 3 day work week Election TEST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE Elevision Commercial KTU Chamer 2 Radio Commercial 106 5 KWHL			\$500.00
Date						
	Contributor		Details			Amount
	itered Entity ka R us			_	\$50	\$500.00
	2221 E. Northern Lights Spc 128	N radizada laumeo	Name Full Address	Analyse / Drogrammer		
- Cure	Alaska socot	o de la composición dela composición de la composición de la composición de la composición dela composición de la composición de la composición del composición de la composic	ובבדו בי ויסווויכו בוקונים פטר	Mayst Flogramme	\$50,00	00
1212 Y Stree	Name: Tom's Button Company 1212 Y Street	Name	ame Full Address		Title	
Anchorage, A	Anchorage, Alaska 99504	Tom Smith	1212 Y Street Anchorage, AK 99504	President		
Debts						
Date	Recipient		Candidate / Proposition		Am	Amount
02/22/2016 Joe's Co 1234 Cra Anchorag	Joe's Consulting Firm 1234 Crazy Street Anchorage, Alaska 99508	SUPPOF Election: People M	SUPPORT: Yes for 3 day work week Beleuton: TEST ELECTION - PLEASE DELETE People Mover Bus Signs		\$1,000.00	
REPORT SUMMARY						
			Number of Ex	Number of Expenditures Reported with this Report.2 Total of paid Expenditures:		\$550.00
			Number of Co Total of Co	Previous Contributions: Number of Contributions Reported with this Report 2 Total of Contributions Reported with this Report Cumulative Contribution Amounts:		\$50.00 \$550.00 \$600.00
				Number of Officers:2		
			Numbe Tot	Number of Debts Reported with this Report 1 Total of Debts Incurred but not yet paid:		\$1,000.00
Print						Print

Statement of Contributions Form 15-5

Contributors to a ballot group or state-wide initiative proposal group

- more to a ballot group or state-wide initiative proposal group must Every individual, person or group contributing a total of \$500 or file a Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form
- The statement must be filed within 30 days of making the contribution

Statement of Contributions Form 15-5

currently, or plans to make independent expenditures Contributors to an entity or group that has, is to support or oppose a candidate

statement of contributions report, within 24 hours of making the contribution, disclosing all true sources of the funds contributed. \$2,000 to an independent expenditure entity or group must file a Once a true source has been identified, that true source need not Every individual, person or group who contributes in excess of independent expenditure entity or group unless the true source be identified again for subsequent contributions to the same contributes again.

Statement of Contributions Form 15-5

Please see the next two pages as templates that may be provided to contributors informing them of this requirement

Please remember - it is the contributor's responsibility to file this form!

Contributor Notification Template (Ballot Group/Due within 30 Days) Statement of Contributions Form 15-5

Steps to file the required Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form with APOC

Thank you for the contribution!

Please be aware that if you contribute \$500 or more to our group, you must file a Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form under AS 15.13.040(k)

For your reference, here are the steps to complete a Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form:

- 1. Go to www.Alaska.gov
- 2. Click on the "myAlaska" link at the top of the page
 - 3. Sign in to myAlaska
- 4. Under the "Services" header, Click "View Your Services"
- 5. Under the "Services for Individuals" header, click "APOC- Disclosure Forms"
 - 6. This will bring you to the "Welcome to APOC Forms Online" Page
- 7. Click on the "Statement of Contributions Forms 15-5" Link (5th link down) 8. Click the large, red button "Start New Form"

Please remember, this statement must be filed within 30 days of making the contribution. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact APOC.

Alaska Public Offices Commission (907) 276-4176/ (800) 478-4176 2221 E Northern Lights Rm 128 Anchorage, AK 99508

Contributor Notification Template (IE Entity/Group - Due in 24 hours) Statement of Contributions Form 15-5

Steps to file the required Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form with APOC

Thank you for the contribution!

Please be aware that if you contribute \$2,000 or more to our [entity/group], you must file a Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form under AS 15.13.040(r).

For your reference, here are the steps to complete a Statement of Contribution 15-5 Form:

- 1. Go to www.Alaska.gov
- 2. Click on the "myAlaska" link at the top of the page
 - 3. Sign in to myAlaska
- 4. Under the "Services" header, Click "View Your Services"
- 5. Under the "Services for Individuals" header, click "APOC- Disclosure Forms"
 - 6. This will bring you to the "Welcome to APOC Forms Online" Page
- 7. Click on the "Statement of Contributions Forms 15-5" Link (5th link down) 8. Click the large, red button "Start New Form"

This statement must be filed within 24 hours of making the contribution. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact APOC.

Alaska Public Offices Commission (907) 276-4176/ (800) 478-4176 2221 E Northern Lights Rm 128 Anchorage, AK 99508

Civil Penalties

Civil penalties can be assessed for late filed or incomplete reports

Up to \$50 per day for

- Independent Expenditure Form 15-6
- Statement of Contribution Form 15-5 (Contributions to a ballot group/state-wide initiative proposal group)

Up to \$1,000 per day for

- Candidate IE Groups/Entities– 24 Hour Report
- Statement of Contribution Form 15-5 (Contributions to a Candidate IE Group or Entity)

APOC Contact Information

Anchorage Office

2221 E Northern Lights Blvd, Rm 128 Anchorage, AK 99508 (907) 276-4176/(800) 478-4176

Juneau Office

(9070 276-7018- Fax

240 Main Street #201

P.O. Box 110222 Juneau, AK 99811

(907) 465-4864

(907) 465-4832- Fax

Information email: apoc@alaska.gov

Reports email: doa.apoc.reports@alaska.gov

ALASKA STATE STATUTES

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE LAW



AS 15.13

Revised

May 2021

CHAPTER 15.13 STATE ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

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expenditures

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30.	<u>Duties of the commission</u>		polling and calls to convince
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Cross references. – For legislative findings and purpose concerning the 1996 amendments made by ch 48, SLA 1996 that relate to this chapter, see § 1, ch 48, SLA 1996 in the Temporary and Special Acts. For construction of the 1996 amendments, see § 29, ch. 48, SLA 1996 in the Temporary and Special Acts. For severability of the provisions of ch. 48, SLA 1996, see § 31, ch. 48, SLA 1996 in the Temporary and Special Acts. For provisions relating to certain persons holding unused campaign contributions on January 1, 1997, see § 32, ch. 48, SLA 1996 in the Temporary and Special Acts.

Administrative Code. – For Alaska Public Offices Commission: conflict of interest, campaign disclosure, legislative financial disclosure, and regulation of lobbying, see 2 AAC 50.

Legislative history reports. – For governor's transmittal letter for chapter 108, SLA 2003 (Senate Bill 119), which added or amended various provisions in this chapter, see 2003 Senate Journal 407 – 408. For governor's transmittal letter for ch. 47 SLA 2007 (HB 109), which amended various provisions of this chapter, see 2007 House Journal 109 – 110.

Collateral references. – 25 Am. Jur. 2d, Elections, § 1 et seq. 29 C.J.S., Elections, §§ 2-4, 6, 118(7), 216(1)-216(5).

Chapter 15.13. STATE ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

Sec. 15.13.010. Applicability.

- (a) This chapter applies
- (1) in every election for governor, lieutenant governor, a member of the state legislature, a delegate to a constitutional convention, or judge seeking judicial retention;
- (2) to every candidate for election to a municipal office in a municipality with a population of more than 1,000 inhabitants according to the latest United States census figures or estimates of population certified as correct for administrative purposes by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development unless the municipality has exempted itself from the provisions of this chapter; a municipality may exempt its elected municipal officers from the requirements of this chapter if a majority of the voters voting on the question at a regular election, as defined by AS 29.71.800(20), or a special municipality-wide election called for that purpose, votes to exempt its elected municipal officers from the requirements of this chapter; the question of exemption from the requirements of this chapter may be submitted by the governing body by ordinance or by initiative election.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided, this chapter applies to contributions, expenditures, and communications made for the purpose of influencing the outcome of a ballot proposition or question as well as those made to influence the nomination or election of a candidate.
- (c) This chapter does not prohibit a municipality from regulating by ordinance election campaign contributions and expenditures in municipal elections, or from regulating those campaign contributions and expenditures more strictly than provided in this chapter.
- (d) This chapter does not limit the authority of a person to make contributions to influence the outcome of a voter proposition submitted to the public for a vote at a municipal election. In this subsection, in addition to its meaning under AS 15.13.065(c), "proposition" means a municipal reclassification, proposal to adopt or amend a home rule charter, a unification proposal, a boundary change proposal, or the approval of an ordinance when approval by public vote is a requirement for the ordinance.

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Sec. 15.13.011. Inapplicability to presidential primary. [Repealed, Sec. 1 ch 2 SLA 1984].

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 15.13.020. Alaska Public Offices Commission.

- (a) There is created in the Department of Administration the Alaska Public Offices Commission consisting of five members. The governor shall appoint all members of the commission in the manner prescribed in (b) and (c) of this section, subject to confirmation by a majority of the legislature meeting in joint session.
- (b) The governor shall appoint two members of each of the two political parties or political groups with the largest number of registered voters at the time of the most recent preceding general election at which a governor was elected. The two appointees from each of these two parties or groups shall be chosen from a list of four names to be submitted by the central committee of each party or group.
- (c) The four members selected under (b) of this section shall, by a majority vote, nominate to the governor an individual to serve as the fifth member of the commission. The governor shall either appoint the nominee to the commission, or shall reject the nominee and request those four members to nominate another individual to serve as the fifth member of the commission.
- (d) Members of the commission serve staggered terms of five years, or until a successor is appointed and qualifies. The terms of no two members who are members of the same political party or political group may expire in consecutive years. A member may not serve more than one term. However, a person appointed to fill the unexpired term of a predecessor may be appointed to a successive full five-year term.
 - (e) A member of the commission, during tenure, may not
 - (1) hold or campaign for elective office;
 - (2) be an officer of a political party, political committee, or group;
- (3) permit the member's name to be used, or make any contributions whatsoever, in support of or in opposition to a candidate or proposition or question that appears on any ballot in the state including but not limited to that of a municipality; however, contributions may be made to a candidate for the office of President of the United States;
- (4) participate in any way in an election campaign or participate in or contribute to any political party; or
 - (5) lobby, employ or assist a lobbyist.
- (f) Members of the commission shall receive compensation of \$50 a day while attending commission meetings and shall be entitled to travel expenses and per diem authorized by law for members of other boards and commissions.

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- (g) The members shall elect a chairperson. Three members of the commission constitute a quorum. A vacancy does not impair the powers of the remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the commission.
- (h) A vacancy on the commission shall be filled through the appropriate appointing method for the position within 30 days after the occurrence of the vacancy. Except as provided in AS 39.05.080 (4), the appointee shall serve for the remaining term of the appointee's predecessor.
- (i) The commission may employ an executive director and other employees it considers necessary. Neither the executive director nor an employee may have a vote.
- (j) The commission shall establish an office, which may be called a regional office, in each senate district in the state to keep on file for public inspection copies of all reports filed with the commission by candidates for statewide office and by candidates for legislative office in that district; however, where one municipality contains more than one house district, only one commission office shall be established in that municipality. The regional office shall make all forms and pertinent material available to candidates. All reports shall be filed by candidates, groups, and individuals directly with the commission's central district office. The commission shall ensure that copies of all reports by statewide and legislative candidates in each senate district are forwarded promptly to that district or regional office.
- (k) The commission shall ensure that copies of reports filed by candidates for municipal office are made available for public inspection in the appropriate municipality.

Sec. 15.13.030. Duties of the commission.

The commission shall

- (1) develop and provide all forms for the reports and statements required to be made under this chapter, AS 24.45, and AS 39.50;
- (2) prepare and publish a manual setting out uniform methods of bookkeeping and reporting for use by persons required to make reports and statements under this chapter and otherwise assist all persons in complying with the requirements of this chapter;
- (3) receive and hold open for public inspection reports and statements required to be made under this chapter and, upon request, furnish copies at cost to interested persons;
 - (4) compile and maintain a current list of all filed reports and statements;
- (5) prepare a summary of each report filed under <u>AS 15.13.110</u> and make copies of this summary available to interested persons at their actual cost;
- (6) notify, by registered or certified mail, all persons who are delinquent in filing reports and statements required to be made under this chapter;
- (7) examine, investigate, and compare all reports, statements, and actions required by this chapter, AS 24.45, and AS 39.50;

- (8) prepare and publish a biennial report concerning the activities of the commission, the effectiveness of this chapter, its enforcement by the attorney general's office, and recommendations and proposals for change; the commission shall notify the legislature that the report is available;
- (9) adopt regulations necessary to implement and clarify the provisions of AS 24.45, AS 39.50, and this chapter, subject to the provisions of AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act); and
- (10) consider a written request for an advisory opinion concerning the application of this chapter, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, or AS 39.50.

Sec. 15.13.040. Contributions, expenditures, and supplying of services to be reported.

- (a) Except as provided in (g) and (l) of this section, each candidate shall make a full report, upon a form prescribed by the commission,
 - (1) listing
 - (A) the date and amount of all expenditures made by the candidate;
- (B) the total amount of all contributions, including all funds contributed by the candidate;
 - (C) the name, address, date, and amount contributed by each contributor; and
- (D) for contributions in excess of \$50 in the aggregate during a calendar year, the principal occupation and employer of the contributor; and
- (2) filed in accordance with AS 15.13.110 and certified correct by the candidate or campaign treasurer.
- (b) Each group shall make a full report upon a form prescribed by the commission, listing
 - (1) the name and address of each officer and director;
- (2) the aggregate amount of all contributions made to it; and, for all contributions in excess of \$100 in the aggregate a year, the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the contributor, and the date and amount contributed by each contributor; for purposes of this paragraph, "contributor" means the true source of the funds, property, or services being contributed; and
- (3) the date and amount of all contributions made by it and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by it.
- (c) The report required under (b) of this section shall be filed in accordance with AS 15.13.110 and shall be certified as correct by the group's treasurer.
- (d) Every person making an independent expenditure shall make a full report of expenditures made and contributions received, upon a form prescribed by the commission, unless exempt from reporting.

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- (e) Each person required to report under (d) of this section shall file a full report in accordance with <u>AS 15.13.110</u>(h) on a form prescribed by the commission. The report must contain
- (1) the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the individual filing the report;
 - (2) an itemized list of all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by the person;
- (3) the name of the candidate or the title of the ballot proposition or question supported or opposed by each expenditure and whether the expenditure is made to support or oppose the candidate or ballot proposition or question;
 - (4) the name and address of each officer and director, when applicable;
- (5) the aggregate amount of all contributions made to the person, if any, for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election; for all contributions, the date of the contribution and amount contributed by each contributor; and, for a contributor
- (A) who is an individual, the name and address of the contributor and, for contributions in excess of \$50 in the aggregate during a calendar year, the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the contributor; or
- (B) that is not an individual, the name and address of the contributor and the name and address of each officer and director of the contributor.
- (f) During each year in which an election occurs, all businesses, persons, or groups that furnish any of the following services, facilities, or supplies to a candidate or group shall maintain a record of each transaction: newspapers, radio, television, advertising, advertising agency services, accounting, billboards, printing, secretarial, public opinion polls, or research and professional campaign consultation or management, media production or preparation, or computer services. Records of provision of services, facilities, or supplies shall be available for inspection by the commission.
- (g) The provisions of (a) and (l) of this section do not apply to a delegate to a constitutional convention, a judge seeking judicial retention, or a candidate for election to a municipal office under AS 15.13.010, if that delegate, judge, or candidate
- (1) indicates, on a form prescribed by the commission, an intent not to raise and not to expend more than \$5,000 in seeking election to office, including both the primary and general elections;
- (2) accepts contributions totaling not more than \$5,000 in seeking election to office, including both the primary and general elections; and
- (3) makes expenditures totaling not more than \$5,000 in seeking election to office, including both the primary and general elections.

- (h) The provisions of (d) of this section do not apply to one or more expenditures made by an individual acting independently of any other person if the expenditures
 - (1) cumulatively do not exceed \$500 during a calendar year; and
- (2) are made only for billboards, signs, or printed material concerning a ballot proposition as that term is defined by AS 15.13.065(c).
- (i) The permission of the owner of real or personal property to post political signs, including bumper stickers, or to use space for an event or to store campaign-related materials is not considered to be a contribution to a candidate under this chapter unless the owner customarily charges a fee or receives payment for that activity. The fact that the owner customarily charges a fee or receives payment for posting signs that are not political signs is not determinative of whether the owner customarily does so for political signs.
- (j) Except as provided in (l) of this section, each nongroup entity shall make a full report in accordance with AS 15.13.110 upon a form prescribed by the commission and certified by the nongroup entity's treasurer, listing
 - (1) the name and address of each officer and director of the nongroup entity;
- (2) the aggregate amount of all contributions made to the nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election;
- (3) for all contributions described in (2) of this subsection, the name, address, date, and amount contributed by each contributor, for all contributions described in (2) of this subsection in excess of \$250 in the aggregate during a calendar year, the principal occupation and employer of the contributor, and for all contributions described in (2) of this subsection in excess of \$2,000 in the aggregate during a calendar year, the true source of such contributions and all intermediaries, if any, who transferred such funds, and a certification from the treasurer that the report discloses all of the information required by this paragraph; and
- (4) the date and amount of all contributions made by the nongroup entity, and, except as provided for certain independent expenditures in AS 15.13.135 (a), all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by the nongroup entity, for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election; a nongroup entity shall report contributions made to a different nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election and expenditures made on behalf of a different nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election as soon as the total contributions and expenditures to that nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election reach \$500 in a year and for all subsequent contributions and expenditures to that nongroup entity in a year whenever the total contributions and expenditures to that nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election that have not been reported under this paragraph reach \$500.
- (k) Every individual, person, nongroup entity, or group contributing a total of \$500 or more to a group organized for the principal purpose of influencing the outcome of a proposition, and every individual, person, nongroup entity, or group contributing a total of \$500 or more to a group organized for the principal purpose of filing an initiative proposal

application under AS 15.45.020 or that has filed an initiative proposal application under AS 15.45.020, shall report the contribution or contributions on a form prescribed by the commission not later than 30 days after the contribution that requires the contributor to report under this subsection is made. The report must include the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the individual filing the report and the amount of the contribution, as well as the total amount of contributions made to that group by that individual, person, nongroup entity, or group during the calendar year.

- (l) Notwithstanding (a), (b), and (j) of this section, for any fund-raising activity in which contributions are in amounts or values that do not exceed \$50 a person, the candidate, group, or nongroup entity shall report contributions and expenditures and supplying of services under this subsection as follows:
 - (1) a report under this subsection must
 - (A) describe the fund-raising activity;
- (B) include the number of persons making contributions and the total proceeds from the activity;
- (C) report all contributions made for the fund-raising activity that do not exceed \$50 a person in amount or value; if a contribution for the fund-raising activity exceeds \$50, the contribution shall be reported under (a), (b), and (j) of this section;
 - (2) for purposes of this subsection,
- (A) "contribution" means a cash donation, a purchase such as the purchase of a ticket, the purchase of goods or services offered for sale at a fund-raising activity, or a donation of goods or services for the fund-raising activity;
- (B) "fund-raising activity" means an activity, event, or sale of goods undertaken by a candidate, group, or nongroup entity in which contributions are \$50 a person or less in amount or value.
- (m) Information required under this chapter shall be submitted to the commission electronically, except that the following information may be submitted in clear and legible black typeface or hand-printed in dark ink on paper in a format approved by the commission or on forms provided by the commission:
 - (1) information submitted by
- (A) a candidate for election to a borough or city office of mayor, membership on a borough assembly, city council, or school board, or any state office, who
 - (i) meets the requirements of (g)(1) (3) of this section; or
- (ii) does not have reasonable access to the technology necessary to file electronically; in this sub-subparagraph, a candidate is considered not to have reasonable access to the technology necessary to file electronically if the candidate does not own a personal computer or does not have broadband Internet access at the candidate's residence; in this sub-subparagraph, "broadband Internet access" means high-speed Internet access that is always on and that is faster than traditional dial-up access; or

- (B) a candidate for municipal office for a municipality with a population of less than 15,000; in this subparagraph, "municipal office" means the office of an elected borough or city
 - (i) mayor; or
 - (ii) assembly, council, or school board member;
- (2) any information if the commission determines that circumstances warrant an exception to the electronic submission requirement.
- (n) The commission shall print the forms to be provided under this chapter so that the front and back of each page have the same orientation when the page is rotated on the vertical axis of the page.
- (o) Information required by this chapter that is submitted to the commission on paper and not electronically shall be electronically scanned and published on the Internet by the commission, in a format accessible to the general public, within two working days after the commission receives the information.
- (p) Notwithstanding the requirement in (a) of this section that a candidate shall make a full report upon a form prescribed by the commission, the commission shall accept information submitted electronically by a candidate if the information is
- (1) entered onto a version of a form accessed on the Internet website of the commission; or
- (2) in the form of an electronic spreadsheet or data file that contains field names and data types that conform to a standard defined by the commission.
- (q) For purposes of (b), (e), and (j) of this section, "contributor" means the true source of the funds, property, or services being contributed.
- (r) Every individual, person, nongroup entity, or group that contributes more than \$2,000 in the aggregate in a calendar year to an entity that made one or more independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections in the previous election cycle, that is making one or more independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections in the current election cycle, or that the contributor knows or has reason to know is likely to make independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections in the current election cycle shall report making the contribution or contributions on a form prescribed by the commission not later than 24 hours after the contribution that requires the contributor to report under this subsection is made. The report must include the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the individual filing the report and the amount of the contribution, as well as the total amount of contributions made to that entity by that individual, person, nongroup entity, or group during the calendar year. For purposes of this subsection, the reporting contributor is required to report and certify the true sources of the contribution, and intermediaries, if any, as defined by AS 15.13.400(18). This contributor is also required to provide the identity of the true source to the recipient of the contribution simultaneously with providing the contribution itself.

- (s) For purposes of (e) of this section,
- (1) "director" means a member of the board of directors of a corporation or any person performing a similar function with respect to any organization;
- (2) "officer" means a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, principal financial officer, or comptroller of a corporation, or any person routinely performing functions similar to those of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, principal financial officer, or comptroller with respect to any organization.

Sec. 15.13.045. Investigations, hearings.

- (a) The commission may issue subpoenas, administer oaths, hold hearings, and conduct investigations.
- (b) In conjunction with (a) of this section, the commission may compel the attendance of witnesses and production of papers, books, records, accounts, documents, and testimony, and may have the deposition of witnesses taken in a manner prescribed by court rule or law for the taking of depositions in civil actions when consistent with the powers and duties assigned to the commission by this chapter.
- (c) The commission may examine the papers, books, records, accounts, and documents of any person subject to this chapter to ascertain the correctness of a report filed with the commission, or in conjunction with an investigation or inspection conducted under (a) of this section.
- (d) Subpoenas may be issued and shall be served in the manner prescribed by AS 44.62.430 and court rule. The failure, refusal, or neglect to obey a subpoena is punishable as contempt in the manner prescribed by law or court rule. The superior court may compel obedience to the commission's subpoena in the same manner as prescribed for obedience to a subpoena issued by the court.

Sec. 15.13.050. Registration before expenditure.

- (a) Before making an expenditure in support of or in opposition to a candidate or before making an expenditure in support of or in opposition to a ballot proposition or question or to an initiative proposal application filed with the lieutenant governor under AS 15.45.020, each person other than an individual shall register, on forms provided by the commission, with the commission.
- (b) If a group intends to support only one candidate or to contribute to or expend on behalf of one candidate 33 1/3 percent or more of its funds, the name of the candidate shall be a part of the name of the group. If the group intends to oppose only one candidate or to contribute its funds in opposition to or make expenditures in opposition to a candidate, the group's name must clearly state that it opposes that candidate by using a word such as "opposes," "opposing," "in opposition to," or "against" in the group's name. Promptly upon receiving the registration, the commission shall notify the candidate of the group's organization and intent. A candidate may register more than one group to support the

candidate; however, multiple groups controlled by a single candidate shall be treated as a single group for purposes of the contribution limit in AS 15.13.070 (b)(1).

(c) If a group intends to make more than 50 percent of its contributions or expenditures in support of or in opposition to a single initiative on the ballot, the title or common name of the initiative must be a part of the name of the group. If the group intends to make more than 50 percent of its contributions or expenditures in opposition to a single initiative on the ballot, the group's name must clearly state that the group opposes that initiative by using a word such as "opposes," "opposing," "in opposition to," or "against" in the group's name.

Sec. 15.13.052. Independent expenditures; political activities accounts.

- (a) Before making an independent expenditure in support of or in opposition to a candidate or before making an independent expenditure in support of or in opposition to a ballot proposition or question, each person other than an individual, candidate, or nongroup entity with an annual operating budget of \$250 or less shall establish a political activities account. The political activities account may be a separate account in the person's general treasury. The political activities account must be administered using generally accepted accounting principles. All funds used by the person to make independent expenditures must be drawn from the person's political activities account.
- (b) Records necessary to substantiate that the requirements of (a) of this section have been met must be made available for inspection by the commission.
- (c) Each person who has established a political activities account under this section shall preserve all records necessary to substantiate the person's compliance with the requirements of this section for each of the six preceding years.

Sec. 15.13.060. Campaign treasurers.

- (a) Each candidate and group shall appoint a campaign treasurer who is responsible for receiving, holding, and disbursing all contributions and expenditures, and for filing all reports and statements required by law. A candidate may be a campaign treasurer.
- (b) Each group shall file the name and address of its campaign treasurer with the commission at the time it registers with the commission under <u>AS 15.13.050</u>.
- (c) Each candidate for state office shall file the name and address of the campaign treasurer with the commission, or submit, in writing, the name and address of the campaign treasurer to the director for filing with the commission, no later than 15 days after the date of filing the declaration of candidacy or the nominating petition. Each candidate for municipal office shall file the name and address of the campaign treasurer with the commission no later than seven days after the date of filing the declaration of candidacy or the nominating petition. If the candidate does not designate a campaign treasurer, the candidate is the campaign treasurer.
- (d) In the case of the death, resignation, or removal of a campaign treasurer, the candidate shall appoint a successor as soon as practicable and file the successor's name and

address with the commission within 48 hours of the appointment. The candidate is disqualified if found to have been in wilful violation of this subsection.

- (e) A campaign treasurer may appoint as many deputy campaign treasurers as necessary. The candidate shall file the names and addresses of the deputy campaign treasurers with the commission.
- (f) The candidate is responsible for the performance of the campaign treasurer, and any default or violation by the treasurer also shall be considered a default or violation by the candidate if the candidate knew or had reason to know of the default or violation.

Sec. 15.13.065. Contributions.

- (a) Individuals, groups, nongroup entities, and political parties may make contributions to a candidate. An individual, group, or nongroup entity may make a contribution to a group, to a nongroup entity, or to a political party.
- (b) A political party may contribute to a subordinate unit of the political party, and a subordinate unit of a political party may contribute to the political party of which it is a subordinate unit.
- (c) Except for reports required by <u>AS 15.13.040</u> and 15.13.110 and except for the requirements of <u>AS 15.13.050</u>, 15.13.060, and 15.13.112 15.13.114, the provisions of <u>AS 15.13.010</u> 15.13.116 do not apply to limit the authority of a person to make contributions to influence the outcome of a ballot proposition. In this subsection, in addition to its meaning in <u>AS 15.80.010</u>, "proposition" includes
 - (1) an issue placed on a ballot to determine whether
 - (A) a constitutional convention shall be called;
 - (B) a debt shall be contracted;
 - (C) an advisory question shall be approved or rejected; or
 - (D) a municipality shall be incorporated;
- (2) an initiative proposal application filed with the lieutenant governor under AS 15.45.020.

Sec. 15.13.067. Who may make expenditures.

Only the following may make an expenditure that is not an independent expenditure in an election for candidates for elective office:

- (1) the candidate;
- (2) an individual;
- (3) a group that has registered under AS 15.13.050; and
- (4) a nongroup entity that has registered under AS 15.13.050.

Sec. 15.13.068. Expenditures and contributions by foreign-influenced corporations and foreign nationals.

- (a) A foreign-influenced corporation or foreign national may not, directly or indirectly, in connection with an election under this chapter, make a contribution or expenditure or make an express or implied promise to make a contribution or expenditure.
- (b) The provisions of this section prohibit a foreign-influenced corporation or foreign national from making a contribution or expenditure in connection with a state election only to the extent
- (1) federal law prohibits the foreign-influenced corporation or foreign national from making a contribution or expenditure in connection with a state election; and
 - (2) permitted by federal law.
- (c) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a foreign-influenced corporation may make a contribution to a person who makes covered expenditures or contributions if that person segregates contributions from foreign nationals and foreign-influenced corporations into a separate bank account that may not be used, directly or indirectly, to finance covered expenditures or contributions.
- (d) In this section, when determining the percentage of a corporation's shares outstanding or equity owned by two or more foreign nationals,
- (1) ownership in a mutual or pension fund that holds securities is not a form of ownership or control in such securities unless the foreign national or foreign owner can exercise control or participate in the management of the fund;
- (2) for privately held corporations, a corporation shall determine its percentage of foreign ownership at the time it obligates funds to make covered expenditures or contributions;
- (3) a publicly held corporation shall determine whether it is a foreign-influenced corporation based on its aggregate foreign ownership percentage at the close of trading on the last business day of the calendar quarter preceding the date the corporation makes or obligates funds to make a covered expenditure or contribution, unless the corporation has actual knowledge of its foreign ownership percentage at the time it makes or becomes obligated to make the covered expenditure or contribution; for the purposes of this paragraph, the corporation shall rely on facts, including information
 - (A) in the corporation's shareholder register;
- (B) in possession of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or another governmental agency that is available to the general public;
- (C) known to the corporation as a result of litigation, financing transactions, or proxies voted at annual or other meetings; and
 - (D) known to the corporation from another source.
 - (e) In this section,
- (1) "corporation" means any corporation, company, limited liability company, limited partnership, business trust, business association, or other similar entity;

- (2) "covered expenditure" means an independent expenditure, electioneering expenditure, or express communication, but does not include a media communication, membership communication, shareholder communication, or expenditure as defined in AS 15.13.400;
 - (3) "election" means any state or local election, including a special or runoff election;
- (4) "electioneering expenditure" means a purchase or transfer of, or a promise or agreement to purchase or transfer, money or a thing of value to enable or facilitate the broadcast or other distribution of a communication that
 - (A) clearly refers to a candidate for an election under (B) of this paragraph;
- (B) occurs in a 60-day period immediately preceding a general, special, or runoff election or within the 30 days preceding a primary or preference election, or a convention or caucus of a political party legally permitted to nominate a candidate for an election under this chapter; and
- (C) may be received by 500 or more persons in the jurisdiction the candidate seeks to represent;
 - (5) "foreign-influenced corporation" means a corporation for which
- (A) a foreign national or foreign owner holds, owns, controls, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of equity or voting shares in an amount equal to or greater than five percent of all corporate voting shares outstanding or all corporate equity;
- (B) two or more foreign nationals or foreign owners combined hold, own, control, or have direct or indirect beneficial ownership of equity or voting shares in an amount equal to or greater than 20 percent of all corporate voting shares outstanding or all corporate equity; or
- (C) a foreign national or foreign owner participates directly or indirectly in decisions relating to covered expenditures or contributions;
 - (6) "foreign national" means
- (A) an individual who is not a United States citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence under 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20);
- (B) a foreign government, every political subdivision of a foreign government, every official, agent, or representative of a foreign government, and every agency, corporation, or instrumentality of the foreign government or of a political subdivision of a foreign government;
- (C) a person outside of the United States, unless it is established that the person is an individual and a citizen of and domiciled in the United States, or that the person is not an individual and is organized under or created by the laws of the United States or of any state or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and has its principal place of business in the United States; or
- (D) a partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other combination of persons organized under the laws of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country;
- (7) "foreign owner" means a person for whom a foreign national holds, owns, controls, or otherwise has directly or indirectly acquired beneficial ownership of equity or voting shares in a corporation in an amount equal to or greater than 50 percent of all corporate voting shares outstanding or all corporate equity;

- (8) "media communication" means a communication
- (A) in a news story, commentary, or editorial distributed through the facilities of a radio station, television station, cable television system, or satellite system, newspaper, magazine, or other periodical publication, unless the facilities are owned or controlled by a political party, political committee, or candidate; or
- (B) that constitutes a public debate or forum that includes at least two opposing candidates for an office or one advocate and one opponent of an issue, or that solely promotes such a debate or forum and is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or forum, provided that the staging organization
- (i) is a charitable organization that does not make other covered expenditures and does not otherwise support or oppose any political candidate, political party, ballot propositions or questions, or initiative proposals or is a newspaper, radio station, television station, cable television system, or satellite system, newspaper, magazine, or other periodical publication, or other recognized news medium; and
- (ii) does not structure the debate to promote or advance one candidate or issue position over another;
- (9) "membership communication" means a direct and private communication between a membership organization or union and one or more members of the organization or union, if the membership organization or union
 - (A) has members with authority to administer the membership organization or union;
- (B) expressly states the qualifications and requirements for membership in articles, bylaws, or other formal organizational documents; and
- (C) is not organized primarily for the purpose of making covered expenditures or influencing elections, ballot propositions, ballot questions, or ballot initiative proposals;
- (10) "shareholder communication" means a direct and private communication between a corporation and shareholders, executives, or administrative personnel of the corporation.

Sec. 15.13.069. Certain expenditures that comply with charitable gaming provisions permitted.

Notwithstanding another provision of this title, a charitable gaming permittee that is a qualified organization under <u>AS 05.15.690</u> may use the net proceeds of a raffle or lottery to make expenditures for the purposes permitted under <u>AS 05.15.150</u> (a)(3).

Sec. 15.13.070. Limitations on amount of political contributions.

- (a) An individual or group may make contributions, subject only to the limitations of this chapter and AS 24.45, including the limitations on the maximum amounts set out in this section.
 - (b) An individual may contribute not more than

- (1) \$500 per year to a nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate, to a candidate, to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate, or to a group that is not a political party;
 - (2) \$5,000 per year to a political party.
 - (c) A group that is not a political party may contribute not more than \$1,000 per year
 - (1) to a candidate, or to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate;
 - (2) to another group, to a nongroup entity, or to a political party.
- (d) A political party may contribute to a candidate, or to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign, for the following offices an amount not to exceed
 - (1) \$100,000 per year, if the election is for governor or lieutenant governor;
 - (2) \$15,000 per year, if the election is for the state senate;
 - (3) \$10,000 per year, if the election is for the state house of representatives; and
 - (4) \$5,000 per year, if the election is for
 - (A) delegate to a constitutional convention;
 - (B) judge seeking retention; or
 - (C) municipal office.
- (e) This section does not prohibit a candidate from using up to a total of \$1,000 from campaign contributions in a year to pay the cost of
- (1) attendance by a candidate or guests of the candidate at an event or other function sponsored by a political party or by a subordinate unit of a political party;
- (2) membership in a political party, subordinate unit of a political party, or other entity within a political party, or subscription to a publication from a political party; or
- (3) co-sponsorship of an event or other function sponsored by a political party or by a subordinate unit of a political party.
- (f) A nongroup entity may contribute not more than \$1,000 a year to another nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate, to a candidate, to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate, to a group, or to a political party.
- (g) Where contributions are made to a joint campaign for governor and lieutenant governor,
 - (1) an individual may contribute not more than \$1,000 per year; and
 - (2) a group may contribute not more than \$2,000 per year.

Sec. 15.13.072. Restrictions on solicitation and acceptance of contributions.

- (a) A candidate or an individual who has filed with the commission the document necessary to permit that individual to incur election-related expenses under AS 15.13.100 may not solicit or accept a contribution from
 - (1) a person not authorized by law to make a contribution;
- (2) an individual who is not a resident of the state at the time the contribution is made, except as provided in (e) of this section;
- (3) a group organized under the laws of another state, resident in another state, or whose participants are not residents of this state at the time the contribution is made; or
- (4) a person registered as a lobbyist if the contribution violates AS 15.13.074(g) or AS 24.45.121 (a)(8).
- (b) A candidate or an individual who has filed with the commission the document necessary to permit the individual to incur election-related expenses under <u>AS 15.13.100</u>, or a group, may not solicit or accept a cash contribution that exceeds \$100.
- (c) An individual, or one acting directly or indirectly on behalf of that individual, may not solicit or accept a contribution
- (1) before the date for which contributions may be made as determined under AS 15.13.074(c); or
- (2) later than the day after which contributions may not be made as determined under AS 15.13.074 (c).
- (d) While the legislature is convened in a regular or special legislative session, a legislator or legislative employee may not solicit or accept a contribution to be used for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election under this chapter unless
- (1) it is an election in which the legislator or legislative employee is a candidate and the contribution is for that legislator's or legislative employee's campaign;
- (2) the solicitation or acceptance occurs during the 90 days immediately preceding that election; and
- (3) the solicitation or acceptance occurs in a place other than the capital city or a municipality in which the legislature is convened in special session if the legislature is convened in a municipality other than the capital city.
- (e) A candidate or an individual who has filed with the commission the document necessary to permit that individual to incur election-related expenses under <u>AS</u> <u>15.13.100</u> may solicit or accept contributions from an individual who is not a resident of the state at the time the contribution is made if the amounts contributed by individuals who are not residents do not exceed
- (1) \$20,000 a calendar year, if the candidate or individual is seeking the office of governor or lieutenant governor;

- (2) \$5,000 a calendar year, if the candidate or individual is seeking the office of state senator;
- (3) \$3,000 a calendar year, if the candidate or individual is seeking the office of state representative or municipal or other office.
- (f) A group or political party may solicit or accept contributions from an individual who is not a resident of the state at the time the contribution is made, but the amounts accepted from individuals who are not residents may not exceed 10 percent of total contributions made to the group or political party during the calendar or group year in which the contributions are received.
- (g) A candidate or an individual who has filed with the commission the document necessary to permit that individual to incur election-related expenses under AS 15.13.100 for election or reelection to the office of governor or lieutenant governor may not solicit or accept a contribution in the capital city while the legislature is convened in a regular or special legislative session.
- (h) A nongroup entity may solicit or accept contributions for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate from an individual who is not a resident of the state at the time the contribution is made or from an entity organized under the laws of another state, resident in another state, or whose participants are not residents of this state at the time the contribution is made. The amounts accepted by the nongroup entity from these individuals and entities for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate may not exceed 10 percent of total contributions made to the nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate during the calendar year in which the contributions are received.

Sec. 15.13.074. Prohibited contributions.

- (a) A person, group, or nongroup entity may not make a contribution if the making of the contribution would violate this chapter.
- (b) A person or group may not make a contribution anonymously, using a fictitious name, or using the name of another. Individuals, persons, nongroup entities, or groups subject to AS 15.13.040(r) may not contribute or accept \$2,000 or more of dark money as that term is defined in AS 15.13.400(5), and may not make a contribution while acting as an intermediary without disclosing the true source of the contribution as defined in AS 15.13.400(19).
 - (c) A person or group may not make a contribution
- (1) to a candidate or an individual who files with the commission the document necessary to permit that individual to incur certain election-related expenses as authorized by AS 15.13.100 when the office is to be filled at a general election before the date that is 18 months before the general election;
- (2) to a candidate or an individual who files with the commission the document necessary to permit that individual to incur certain election-related expenses as authorized by

- AS 15.13.100 for an office that is to be filled at a special election or municipal election before the date that is 18 months before the date of the regular municipal election or that is before the date of the proclamation of the special election at which the candidate or individual seeks election to public office; or
 - (3) to any candidate later than the 45th day
- (A) after the date of the primary or special primary election if the candidate was not chosen to appear on the general or special election ballot at the primary or special primary election; or
- (B) after the date of the general or special election, or after the date of a municipal or municipal runoff election.
- (d) A person or group may not make a contribution to a candidate or a person or group who is prohibited by AS 15.13.072 (c) from accepting it.
 - (e) A person or group may not make a cash contribution that exceeds \$100.
- (f) A corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, entity recognized as tax-exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) (Internal Revenue Code), organization, business trust or surety, labor union, or publicly funded entity that does not satisfy the definition of group or nongroup entity in <u>AS 15.13.400</u> may not make a contribution to a candidate, group, or nongroup entity.
- (g) An individual required to register as a lobbyist under AS 24.45 may not make a contribution to a candidate for the legislature at any time the individual is subject to the registration requirement under AS 24.45 and for one year after the date of the individual's initial registration or its renewal. However, the individual may make a contribution under this section to a candidate for the legislature in a district in which the individual is eligible to vote or will be eligible to vote on the date of the election. An individual who is subject to the restrictions of this subsection shall report to the commission, on a form provided by the commission, each contribution made while required to register as a lobbyist under AS 24.45. Upon request of the commission, the information required under this subsection shall be submitted electronically. This subsection does not apply to a representational lobbyist as defined in regulations of the commission.
- (h) Notwithstanding AS 15.13.070, a candidate for governor or lieutenant governor and a group that is not a political party and that, under the definition of the term "group," is presumed to be controlled by a candidate for governor or lieutenant governor, may not make a contribution to a candidate for another office, to a person who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate for other office, or to another group of amounts received by that candidate or controlled group as contributions between January 1 and the date of the general election of the year of a general election for an election for governor and lieutenant governor. This subsection does not prohibit
- (1) the group described in this subsection from making contributions to the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor whom the group supports; or

- (2) the governor or lieutenant governor, or the group described in this subsection, from making contributions under AS 15.13.116 (a)(2)(A).
- (i) A nongroup entity may not solicit or accept a contribution to be used for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election unless the potential contributor is notified that the contribution may be used for that purpose.

Sec. 15.13.076. Authorized recipients of contributions.

A contribution to a

- (1) candidate may be received only by
- (A) the candidate; or
- (B) the candidate's campaign treasurer or a deputy campaign treasurer;
- (2) group may be received only by the group's campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer.

Sec. 15.13.078. Contributions and loans from the candidate.

- (a) The provisions of this chapter do not prohibit the individual who is a candidate from giving any amount of the candidate's own money or other thing of value to the campaign of the candidate. Donations made by the candidate to the candidate's own campaign shall be reported as contributions in accordance with AS 15.13.040 and 15.13.110.
- (b) The provisions of this chapter do not prohibit the individual who is a candidate from lending any amount to the campaign of the candidate. Loans made by the candidate shall be reported as contributions in accordance with <u>AS 15.13.040</u> and 15.13.110. However, the candidate may not
- (1) recover, under this section and AS 15.13.116 (a)(4), the amount of a loan made by the candidate to the candidate's own campaign that exceeds
 - (A) \$25,000, if the candidate ran for governor or lieutenant governor;
 - (B) \$10,000, if the candidate ran for
 - (i) the legislature; or
 - (ii) delegate to a constitutional convention;
 - (C) \$10,000, if the candidate was a judge seeking retention;
 - (D) \$5,000, if the candidate ran in a municipal election; or
- (2) repay a loan that the candidate has made to the candidate's own campaign unless, within five days of making the loan, the candidate notifies the commission, on a form provided by the commission, of the candidate's intention to repay the loan under AS 15.13.116 (a)(4).
- (c) On and after the date determined under AS 15.13.110 as the last day of the period ending three days before the due date of the report required to be filed under AS 15.13.110(a)(1) and until the date of the election for which the report is filed, a candidate

may not give or loan to the candidate's campaign the candidate's money or other thing of value of the candidate in an amount that exceeds \$5,000.

(d) The provisions of this section apply only to the individual who is a candidate, as that term is defined by AS 15.13.400(1)(A), and do not apply to authorize a contribution or loan under this section by an individual described in the definition of the term "candidate" under AS 15.13.400(1)(B).

Sec. 15.13.080. Statement by or on behalf of contributor. [Repealed, Sec. 11 ch 1 TSSLA 2002].

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 15.13.082. Limitations on expenditures.

- (a) A candidate or group may not make an expenditure in cash that exceeds \$100 unless the candidate, or the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, obtains a written receipt from the person to whom the expenditure is made.
- (b) A person, other than an individual exempt from reporting under AS 15.13.040 (h), may not make an expenditure unless the source of the expenditure has been disclosed as required by this chapter.
- (c) If a candidate receives a contribution in the form of cash, check, money order, or other negotiable instrument and is subject to being reported to the commission under this chapter, the candidate may neither expend the contribution nor, in the case of a negotiable instrument, convert it to cash unless the candidate, campaign treasurer, or deputy campaign treasurer first records the following information for disclosure to the commission:
 - (1) the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the contributor; and
 - (2) the date and amount of the contribution.

Sec. 15.13.084. Prohibited expenditures.

A person may not make an expenditure

- (1) anonymously, unless the expenditure is
- (A) paid for by an individual acting independently of any person;
- (B) made to influence the outcome of a ballot proposition as that term is defined by AS 15.13.065 (c); and
 - (C) made for
 - (i) a billboard or sign; or
- (ii) printed material, other than an advertisement made in a newspaper or other periodical;
 - (2) using a fictitious name or using the name of another.

Sec. 15.13.086. Authorized makers of expenditures.

An expenditure

- (1) authorized by or in behalf of a candidate may be made only by
- (A) the candidate; or
- (B) the candidate's campaign treasurer or a deputy campaign treasurer;
- (2) authorized by AS 15.13.067 (3) by or in behalf of a group may be made only by the group's campaign treasurer.

Sec. 15.13.090. Identification of communication.

- (a) All communications shall be clearly identified by the words "paid for by" followed by the name and address of the person paying for the communication. In addition, except as provided by (d) of this section, a person shall clearly
 - (1) provide the person's address or the person's principal place of business;
 - (2) for a person other than an individual or candidate, include
 - (A) the name and title of the person's principal officer;
 - (B) a statement from the principal officer approving the communication; and
- (C) unless the person is a political party, identification of the name and city and state of residence or principal place of business, as applicable, of each of the person's three largest contributors under AS 15.13.040(e)(5), if any, during the 12-month period before the date of the communication.
 - (b) The provisions of (a) of this section do not apply when the communication
 - (1) is paid for by an individual acting independently of any other person;
- (2) is made to influence the outcome of a ballot proposition as that term is defined by AS 15.13.065 (c); and
 - (3) is made for
 - (A) a billboard or sign; or
- (B) printed material other than an advertisement made in a newspaper or other periodical.
- (c) To satisfy the requirements of (a)(1) of this section and, if applicable, (a)(2)(C) of this section, a communication that includes a print or video component must have the following statement or statements placed in the communication so as to be easily discernible, and, in a broadcast, cable, satellite, Internet or other digital communication, the statement must remain onscreen throughout the entirety of the communication; the second statement is not required if the person paying for the communication has no contributors or is a political party:

This communication was paid for by (person's name and city and state of principal place of business).

The top contributors of (person's name) are (the name and city and state of residence or principal place of business, as applicable, of the largest contributors to the person under AS 15.13.090(a)(2)(C)).

(d) Notwithstanding the requirements of (a) of this section, in a communication transmitted through radio or other audio media and in a communication that includes an audio component, the following statements must be read in a manner that is easily heard; the second statement is not required if the person paying for the communication has no contributors or is a political party:

This communication was paid for by (person's name).

The top contributors of (person's name) are (the name of the largest contributors to the person under AS 15.13.090(a)(2)(C)).

- (e) Contributors required to be identified under (a)(2)(C) of this section must be listed in order of the amount of their contributions. If more than three of the largest contributors to a person paying for a communication contribute equal amounts, the person may select which of the contributors of equal amounts to identify under (a)(2)(C) of this section. In no case shall a person be required to identify more than three contributors under (a)(2)(C) of this section.
- (f) The provisions of this subsection apply to a person who makes an independent expenditure for a communication described in (a) of this section. If the person paying for the communication is not a natural person, the provisions also apply to the responsible officer or officers of the corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, organization, labor organization, business trust, or society who approve the independent expenditure for the communication. A person who makes a communication under this subsection may not, with actual malice, include within or as a part of the communication a false statement of material fact about a candidate for election to public office that constitutes defamation of the candidate. For purposes of this subsection, a statement constitutes defamation of the candidate if the statement
 - (1) exposes the candidate to strong disapproval, contempt, ridicule, or reproach; or
 - (2) tends to deprive the candidate of the benefit of public confidence.
- (g) To satisfy the requirements of (a)(1) of this section and, if applicable, (a)(2)(C) of this section, a communication paid for by an outside-funded entity as that term is defined in AS 15.13.400(15) that includes a print or video component must have the following statement placed in the communication so as to be easily discernible, and, in a broadcast, cable, satellite, Internet or other digital communication, the statement must remain onscreen throughout the entirety of the communication; the statement is not required if the outside entity paying for the communication has no contributors or is a political party: "A MAJORITY OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO (OUTSIDE-FUNDED ENTITY'S NAME) CAME FROM OUTSIDE THE STATE OF ALASKA."

Sec. 15.13.095. False statements in telephone polling and calls to convince.

- (a) A candidate who is damaged as the result of a false statement about the candidate made with knowledge that it was false, or with reckless disregard for whether it was false or not, made as part of a telephone poll or an organized series of calls, and made with the intent to convince potential voters concerning the outcome of an election in which the candidate is running may recover damages in an action in superior court under this section against the individual who made the telephone call, the individual's employer, and the person who contracted for or authorized the poll or calls to convince. However, the employer of the individual or the person who contracted for or authorized the poll or calls to convince is liable to the defamed candidate only if the employer or person authorized the statement to be made, knowing that it was false or with reckless disregard for whether it was false or not, as part of the poll or calls to convince.
- (b) The court may award damages, including punitive damages. If the court finds that the result of the statement places the integrity of the election process in substantial doubt, the eligibility of the successful candidate to hold the office to which elected shall be determined as provided in AS 15.56.110 (b) or, in the case of a candidate for governor or lieutenant governor, by impeachment under art. II, sec. 20, Constitution of the State of Alaska.

Sec. 15.13.100. Expenditures before filing.

A political campaign expenditure may not be made or incurred by a person in an election or by a person or group with the person's knowledge and on the person's behalf before the date upon which the person files for nomination for the office which the person seeks, except for personal travel expenses or for opinion surveys or polls. These expenditures must be included in the first report required under this chapter after filing for office.

Sec. 15.13.110. Filing of reports.

- (a) Each candidate, group, and nongroup entity shall make a full report in accordance with AS 15.13.040 for the period ending three days before the due date of the report and beginning on the last day covered by the most recent previous report. If the report is a first report, it must cover the period from the beginning of the campaign to the date three days before the due date of the report. If the report is a report due February 15, it must cover the period beginning on the last day covered by the most recent previous report or on the day that the campaign started, whichever is later, and ending on February 1 of that year. The report shall be filed
- (1) 30 days before the election; however, this report is not required if the deadline for filing a nominating petition or declaration of candidacy is within 30 days of the election;
 - (2) one week before the election;
 - (3) 105 days after a special election; and
- (4) February 15 for expenditures made and contributions received that were not reported previously, including, if applicable, all amounts expended from a public office expense term

account established under AS 15.13.116(a)(8) and all amounts expended from a municipal office account under AS 15.13.116 (a)(9), or when expenditures were not made or contributions were not received during the previous year.

- (b) Each contribution that exceeds \$250 and that is made within nine days of the election shall be reported to the commission by date, amount, and contributor within 24 hours of receipt by the candidate, group, campaign treasurer, or deputy campaign treasurer. Each contribution to a nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election that exceeds \$250 and that is made within nine days of the election shall be reported to the commission by date, amount, and contributor within 24 hours of receipt by the nongroup entity.
- (c) All reports required by this chapter shall be filed with the commission's central office and shall be kept open to public inspection. The commission shall keep a report filed on paper under AS 15.13.040(m) open to public inspection by scanning the report and posting a copy of the scanned image on the commission's Internet website within two working days after the report is filed. The commission shall prepare a summary of each report, which shall be made available to the public at cost upon request. Each summary must use uniform categories of reporting. Summaries for reports filed
 - (1) electronically shall be made available within 30 days after the report is filed; and
 - (2) on paper shall be made available within 30 days after each election.
 - (d) [Repealed, Sec. 35 ch 126 SLA 1994].
- (e) A group formed to sponsor a referendum or a recall shall report 30 days after its first filing with the lieutenant governor. Thereafter, each group shall report within 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter on the contributions received and expenditures made during the preceding calendar quarter until reports are due under (a) of this section.
- (f) During the year in which the election is scheduled, each of the following shall file the campaign disclosure reports in the manner and at the times required by this section:
- (1) a person who, under the regulations adopted by the commission to implement AS 15.13.100, indicates an intention to become a candidate for elective state executive or legislative office;
- (2) a person who campaigns as a write-in candidate for elective state executive or legislative office at the general election; and
- (3) a group or nongroup entity that receives contributions or makes expenditures on behalf of or in opposition to a person described in (1) or (2) of this subsection, except as provided for certain independent expenditures by nongroup entities in AS 15.13.135(a).
- (g) An initiative committee, person, group, or nongroup entity receiving contributions exceeding \$500 or making expenditures exceeding \$500 in a calendar year in support of or in opposition to an initiative on the ballot in a statewide election or an initiative proposal application filed with the lieutenant governor under <u>AS 15.45.020</u> shall file a report within 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter on the contributions received and expenditures

made during the preceding calendar quarter until reports are due under (a) and (b) of this section. If the report is a first report, it must cover the period beginning on the day an initiative proposal application is filed under <u>AS 15.45.020</u> and ending three days before the due date of the report.

- (h) An independent expenditure report required under AS 15.13.040(e) shall be filed with the commission not later than 10 days after an independent expenditure has been made. However, an independent expenditure that exceeds \$250 and that is made within nine days of an election shall be reported to the commission not later than 24 hours after the expenditure is made.
- (i) During a campaign period, the commission may not change the manner or format in which reports required of a candidate under this chapter must be filed. In this subsection, "campaign period" means the period beginning on the date that a candidate becomes eligible to receive campaign contributions under this chapter and ending on the date that a final report for that same campaign must be filed.
- (j) Before the primary election, a candidate seeking nomination by petition under AS 15.25.140 15.25.200 for the office of governor, lieutenant governor, state senator, or state representative shall file the reports under (a)(1) and (2) of this section.
- (k) Once contributions from an individual, person, nongroup entity, or group to an entity that made one or more independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections in the previous election cycle, that is making one or more independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections in the current election cycle, or that the contributor knows or has reason to know is likely to make independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections in the current election cycle exceed \$2,000 in a single year, that entity shall report that contribution, and all subsequent contributions, not later than 24 hours after receipt. For purposes of this subsection, the entity is required to certify and report the true source, and all intermediaries, if any, of the contribution as defined by AS 15.13.400(18).

Sec. 15.13.111. Preservation of records.

- (a) Each person required to report under this chapter shall preserve all records necessary to substantiate information required to be reported under this chapter for a period of six years from the date of the election for which the information was required to be reported, unless the records have been submitted to the commission under (c) of this section.
- (b) Information preserved under (a) of this section must be made available for inspection by the commission.
- (c) A candidate for state elected office who was not elected or a person who has left state elected office may submit the records required to be preserved under (a) of this section to the commission electronically. Records submitted under this subsection shall be preserved by the commission for a period of six years from the date of the election for which the information was required to be reported.

Sec. 15.13.112. Uses of campaign contributions held by candidate or group.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided, campaign contributions held by a candidate or group may be used only to pay the expenses of the candidate or group, and the campaign expenses incurred by the candidate or group, that reasonably relate to election campaign activities, and in those cases only as authorized by this chapter.
 - (b) Campaign contributions held by a candidate or group may not be
 - (1) used to give a personal benefit to the candidate or to another person;
 - (2) converted to personal income of the candidate;
 - (3) loaned to a person;
- (4) knowingly used to pay more than the fair market value for goods or services purchased for the campaign;
 - (5) used to pay a criminal fine;
- (6) used to pay civil penalties; however, campaign contributions held by a candidate or group may be used to pay a civil penalty assessed under this chapter if authorized by the commission or a court after it first determines that
- (A) the candidate, campaign treasurer, and deputy campaign treasurer did not cause or participate in the violation for which the civil penalty is imposed and exercised a reasonable level of oversight over the campaign; and
- (B) the candidate, campaign treasurer, and deputy campaign treasurer cooperated in the revelation of the violation and in its immediate correction; or
- (7) used to make contributions to another candidate or to a group; however, it is not a violation of this paragraph if, in circumstances in which a candidate or group participates in a shared campaign activity, the candidate or group participating in the activity
 - (A) uses campaign contributions of the candidate or group for payment of
 - (i) all of the shared campaign activity expense; or
 - (ii) more than the candidate's or group's pro rata share of the activity expense; and
- (B) receives, within seven days after payment of the expense, complete reimbursement of the amount of campaign contributions used for payments made on behalf of another candidate or group participating in the activity.
- (c) A candidate may use up to a total of \$1,000 in campaign contributions in a year to pay the cost of
- (1) attending, or paying the cost for guests of the candidate to attend, an event or other function sponsored by a political party or subordinate unit of a political party;
- (2) membership in a political party, subordinate unit of a political party, or other entity within a political party, or subscription to a publication from a political party; and

(3) co-sponsorship of an event or other function sponsored by a political party or by a subordinate unit of a political party.

Sec. 15.13.114. Disposition of prohibited contributions.

- (a) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity that receives and accepts a contribution given in violation of AS 15.13.072 or 15.13.074 shall immediately, upon discovery that the contribution is prohibited, return it to the contributor. A candidate, group, or nongroup entity that receives and accepts a contribution in excess of the limitation on contributions set out in AS 15.13.070 shall immediately, upon discovery of the prohibited excess contribution, return the excess to the contributor. If the contribution or excess amount cannot be returned in the same form, the equivalent value of the contribution or excess amount shall be returned.
- (b) An anonymous contribution is forfeited to the state unless the contributor is identified within five days of its receipt. Money that forfeits to the state under this subsection shall be delivered immediately to the Department of Revenue for deposit in the general fund.

Sec. 15.13.116. Disbursement of campaign assets after election.

- (a) A candidate who, after the date of the general, special, municipal, or municipal runoff election or after the date the candidate withdraws as a candidate, whichever comes first, holds unused campaign contributions shall distribute the amount held on February 1 for a general election or within 90 days after a special election. The distribution may only be made to
- (1) pay bills incurred for expenditures reasonably related to the campaign and the winding up of the affairs of the campaign, including a victory or thank you party, thank you advertisements, and thank you gifts to campaign employees and volunteers, and to pay expenditures associated with post-election fund raising that may be needed to raise funds to pay off campaign debts;
 - (2) make donations, without condition, to
 - (A) a political party;
 - (B) the state's general fund;
 - (C) a municipality of the state; or
 - (D) the federal government;
- (3) make donations, without condition, to organizations qualified as charitable organizations under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) if the organization is not controlled by the candidate or a member of the candidate's immediate family;
- (4) repay loans from the candidate to the candidate's own campaign under AS 15.13.078(b);

- (5) repay contributions to contributors, but only if repayment of the contribution is made pro rata in approximate proportion to the contributions made using one of the following, as the candidate determines:
 - (A) to all contributors;
 - (B) to contributors who have contributed most recently; or
 - (C) to contributors who have made larger contributions;
- (6) establish a fund for, and from that fund to pay, attorney fees or costs incurred in the prosecution or defense of an administrative or civil judicial action that directly concerns a challenge to the victory or defeat of the candidate in the election;
- (7) transfer all or a portion of the unused campaign contributions to an account for a future election campaign; a transfer under this paragraph is limited to
 - (A) \$50,000, if the transfer is made by a candidate for governor or lieutenant governor;
 - (B) \$10,000, if the transfer is made by a candidate for the state senate;
- (C) \$5,000, if the transfer is made by a candidate for the state house of representatives; and
- (D) \$5,000, if the transfer is made by a candidate for an office not described in (A) (C) of this paragraph;
- (8) transfer all or a portion of the unused campaign contributions to a public office expense term account; a transfer under this paragraph is subject to the following:
- (A) the authority to transfer is limited to candidates who are elected to the state legislature;
- (B) the public office expense term account established under this paragraph may be used only for expenses associated with the candidate's serving as a member of the legislature;
- (C) all amounts expended from the public office expense term account shall be annually accounted for under AS 15.13.110 (a)(4);
- (D) a transfer under this paragraph is limited to \$5,000 multiplied by the number of years in the term to which the candidate is elected plus any accumulated interest; and
- (E) unused campaign contributions transferred under this paragraph must be disposed of as provided in (2), (3), or (5) of this subsection at the end of the term of office immediately following the campaign for which the contributions were received; and
- (9) transfer all or a portion of the unused campaign contributions to a municipal office account; a transfer under this paragraph is subject to the following:
- (A) the authority to transfer is limited to candidates who are elected to municipal office, including a municipal school board;

- (B) the municipal office account established under this paragraph may be used only for expenses associated with the candidate's serving as mayor or as a member of the assembly, city council, or school board;
- (C) all amounts expended from the municipal office account shall be annually accounted for under AS 15.13.110 (a)(4);
 - (D) a transfer under this paragraph is limited to \$5,000; and
- (E) unused campaign contributions transferred under this paragraph must be disposed of as provided in (2), (3), or (5) of this subsection at the end of the term of office immediately following the campaign for which the contributions were received.
- (b) After a general, special, municipal, or municipal runoff election, a candidate may retain the ownership of one computer and one printer and of personal property, except money, that was acquired by and for use in the campaign. The current fair market value of the property retained, exclusive of the computer and printer, may not exceed \$5,000. All other property shall be disposed of, or sold and the sale proceeds disposed of, in accordance with (a) or (c) of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
- (1) a candidate may (A) retain a bulk mailing permit that was paid for with campaign funds, and (B) use personal funds, campaign funds, or unused campaign contributions transferred to a public office expense term account under (a)(8) of this section to pay the continuing charges for the permit after the election; money used to continue the life of the permit is not considered to be a contribution under this chapter; in addition to any other use permitted under this chapter, during the candidate's term of office, the candidate may use the bulk mailing permit for mailings associated with service in the office to which the candidate was elected; during the candidate's term of office, if the candidate files a declaration of candidacy or the document necessary to permit the candidate to incur election-related expenses under AS 15.13.100 for the same or a different elective office, the candidate may also use the bulk mailing permit in that election campaign;
- (2) a candidate may retain campaign photographs and use the photographs for any purpose associated with service in the office to which the candidate was elected;
 - (3) a candidate may retain seasonal greeting cards purchased with campaign funds; and
- (4) campaign signs prepared for an election that has already taken place have no monetary value and may be retained or disposed of at the candidate's discretion.
- (c) Property remaining after disbursements are made under (a) (b) of this section is forfeited to the state. Within 30 days, the candidate shall deliver the property to the Department of Revenue. The Department of Revenue shall deposit any money received into the general fund and dispose of any other property in accordance with law.
 - (d) [Repealed, Sec. 4 ch 44 SLA 2012].

Sec. 15.13.120. [Renumbered as <u>AS 15.13.380</u>].

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 15.13.122. [Renumbered as <u>AS 15.13.385</u>].

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 15.13.125. [Renumbered as <u>AS 15.13.390</u>].

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 15.13.130. Definitions. [Repealed, Sec. 28 ch 48 SLA 1996].

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 15.13.135. Independent expenditures for or against candidates.

- (a) An independent expenditure supporting or opposing a candidate for election to public office, except an independent expenditure made by a nongroup entity with an annual operating budget of \$250 or less, shall be reported in accordance with <u>AS 15.13.040</u> and 15.13.100 15.13.110 and other requirements of this chapter.
- (b) A person who makes independent expenditures for a mass mailing, for distribution of campaign literature of any sort, for a television, radio, newspaper, or magazine advertisement, or any other communication that supports or opposes a candidate for election to public office
 - (1) shall comply with AS 15.13.090; and
- (2) shall place the following statement in the mailing, literature, advertisement, or other communication so that it is readily and easily discernible:

This NOTICE TO VOTERS is required by Alaska law. (I/we) certify that this (mailing/literature/advertisement) is not authorized, paid for, or approved by the candidate.

Sec. 15.13.140. Independent expenditures for or against ballot proposition or question.

- (a) [Repealed, Sec. 19 ch 36 SLA 2010].
- (b) An independent expenditure for or against a ballot proposition or question
- (1) shall be reported in accordance with <u>AS 15.13.040</u> and 15.13.100 15.13.110 and other requirements of this chapter; and
 - (2) may not be made if the expenditure is prohibited by <u>AS 15.13.145</u>.

Sec. 15.13.145. Money of the state and its political subdivisions.

- (a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this section, each of the following may not use money held by the entity to influence the outcome of the election of a candidate to a state or municipal office:
 - (1) the state, its agencies, and its corporations;
 - (2) the University of Alaska and its Board of Regents;

- (3) municipalities, school districts, and regional educational attendance areas, or another political subdivision of the state; and
 - (4) an officer or employee of an entity identified in (1) (3) of this subsection.
- (b) Money held by an entity identified in (a)(1) (3) of this section may be used to influence the outcome of an election concerning a ballot proposition or question, but only if the funds have been specifically appropriated for that purpose by a state law or a municipal ordinance.
 - (c) Money held by an entity identified in (a)(1) (3) of this section may be used
- (1) to disseminate information about the time and place of an election and to hold an election;
- (2) to provide the public with nonpartisan information about a ballot proposition or question or about all the candidates seeking election to a particular public office.
- (d) When expenditure of money is authorized by (b) or (c) of this section and is used to influence the outcome of an election, the expenditures shall be reported to the commission in the same manner as an individual is required to report under <u>AS 15.13.040</u>.

Sec. 15.13.150. Election educational activities not prohibited.

This chapter does not prohibit a person from engaging in educational election-related communications and activities, including

- (1) the publication of the date and location of an election;
- (2) the education of students about voting and elections;
- (3) the sponsorship of candidate debate forums open to the public;
- (4) participation in get-out-the-vote or voter registration drives that do not favor a particular candidate, political party, or political position;
 - (5) the dissemination of the views of all candidates running for a particular office.

Sec. 15.13.155. Restrictions on earned income and honoraria.

- (a) A candidate for the state legislature, for governor, or for lieutenant governor, including an individual campaigning as a write-in candidate for the office, may not
- (1) seek or accept compensation for personal services that involves payments that are not commensurate with the services rendered taking into account the higher rates generally charged by specialists in a profession; or
- (2) accept a payment of anything of value, except for actual and necessarily incurred travel expenses, for an appearance or speech; this paragraph does not apply to the salary paid to the candidate for making an appearance or speech as part of the candidate's normal course of employment.

(b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a candidate for the state legislature, for governor, or for lieutenant governor, including an individual campaigning as a write-in candidate for the office, may accept a payment for an appearance or speech if the appearance or speech is not connected with the individual's status as a state official or as a candidate.

Sec. 15.13.374. Advisory opinion.

- (a) Any person may request an advisory opinion from the commission concerning this chapter, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, or AS 39.50.
 - (b) A request for an advisory opinion
 - (1) must be in writing or contained in a message submitted by electronic mail;
- (2) must describe a specific transaction or activity that the requesting person is presently engaged in or intends to undertake in the future;
- (3) must include a description of all relevant facts, including the identity of the person requesting the advisory opinion; and
 - (4) may not concern a hypothetical situation or the activity of a third party.
- (c) Within seven days after receiving a request satisfying the requirements of (b) of this section, the executive director of the commission shall recommend a draft advisory opinion for the commission to consider at its next meeting.
- (d) The approval of a draft advisory opinion requires the affirmative vote of four members of the commission. A draft advisory opinion failing to receive four affirmative votes of the members of the commission is disapproved.
- (e) A complaint under <u>AS 15.13.380</u> may not be considered about a person involved in a transaction or activity that
 - (1) was described in an advisory opinion approved under (d) of this section;
- (2) is indistinguishable from the description of an activity that was approved in an advisory opinion approved under (d) of this section; or
- (3) was undertaken after the executive director of the commission recommended a draft advisory opinion under (c) of this section and before the commission acted on the draft advisory opinion under (d) of this section, if
- (A) the draft advisory opinion would have approved the transaction or activity described; and
 - (B) the commission disapproved the draft advisory opinion.
- (f) Advisory opinion requests and advisory opinions are public records subject to inspection and copying under AS 40.25.100 40.25.295, except that, if a person requesting an advisory opinion requests that the person's name be kept confidential, the person's name shall be kept confidential and the commission shall redact the name of the requester from the request and from the advisory opinion before making the request and opinion public.

Sec. 15.13.380. Violations; limitations on actions.

- (a) Promptly after the final date for filing statements and reports under this chapter, the commission shall notify all persons who have become delinquent in filing them, including contributors who failed to file a statement in accordance with AS 15.13.040, and shall make available a list of those delinquent filers for public inspection. The commission shall also report to the attorney general the names of all candidates in an election whose campaign treasurers have failed to file the reports required by this chapter.
- (b) A person who believes a violation of this chapter or a regulation adopted under this chapter has occurred or is occurring may file an administrative complaint with the commission within five years after the date of the alleged violation. If a member of the commission has filed the complaint, that member may not participate as a commissioner in any proceeding of the commission with respect to the complaint. The commission may consider a complaint on an expedited basis or a regular basis.
- (c) The complainant or the respondent to the complaint may request in writing that the commission expedite consideration of the complaint. A request for expedited consideration must be accompanied by evidence to support expedited consideration and be served on the opposing party. The commission shall grant or deny the request within two days after receiving it. In deciding whether to expedite consideration, the commission shall consider such factors as whether the alleged violation, if not immediately restrained, could materially affect the outcome of an election or other impending event; whether the alleged violation could cause irreparable harm that penalties could not adequately remedy; and whether there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation has occurred or will occur. Notwithstanding the absence of a request to expedite consideration, the commission may independently expedite consideration of the complaint if the commission finds that the standards for expedited consideration set out in this subsection have been met.
- (d) If the commission expedites consideration, the commission shall hold a hearing on the complaint within two days after granting expedited consideration. Not later than one day after affording the respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, the commission shall
- (1) enter an emergency order requiring the violation to be ceased or to be remedied and assess civil penalties under <u>AS 15.13.390</u> if the commission finds that the respondent has engaged in or is about to engage in an act or practice that constitutes or will constitute a violation of this chapter or a regulation adopted under this chapter;
- (2) enter an emergency order dismissing the complaint if the commission finds that the respondent has not or is not about to engage in an act or practice that constitutes or will constitute a violation of this chapter or a regulation adopted under this chapter; or
- (3) remand the complaint to the executive director of the commission for consideration by the commission on a regular rather than an expedited basis.
- (e) If the commission accepts the complaint for consideration on a regular rather than an expedited basis, the commission shall notify the respondent within seven days after receiving the complaint and shall investigate the complaint. The respondent may answer the complaint

by filing a written response with the commission within 15 days after the commission notifies the respondent of the complaint. The commission may grant the respondent additional time to respond to the complaint only for good cause. The commission shall hold a hearing on the complaint not later than 45 days after the respondent's written response is due. Not later than 10 days after the hearing, the commission shall issue its order. If the commission finds that the respondent has engaged in or is about to engage in an act or practice that constitutes or will constitute a violation of this chapter or a regulation adopted under this chapter, the commission shall enter an order requiring the violation to be ceased or to be remedied and shall assess civil penalties under AS 15.13.390.

- (f) If the complaint involves a challenge to the constitutionality of a statute or regulation, necessary witnesses that are not subject to the commission's subpoena authority, or other issues outside the commission's authority, the commission may request the attorney general to file a complaint in superior court alleging a violation of this chapter. The commission may request the attorney general to file a complaint in superior court to remedy the violation of a commission order.
- (g) A commission order under (d) or (e) of this section may be appealed to the superior court by either the complainant or respondent within 30 days in accordance with the Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure.
- (h) If the commission does not complete action on an administrative complaint within 90 days after the complaint was filed, the complainant may file a complaint in superior court alleging a violation of this chapter by a respondent as described in the administrative complaint filed with the commission. The complainant shall provide copies of the complaint filed in the superior court to the commission and the attorney general. This subsection does not create a private cause of action against the commission; against the commission's members, officers, or employees; or against the state.
- (i) If a person who was a successful candidate or the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a person who was a successful candidate is convicted of a violation of this chapter, after the candidate is sworn into office, proceedings shall be held and appropriate action taken in accordance with
- (1) art. II, sec. 12, Constitution of the State of Alaska, if the successful candidate is a member of the state legislature;
- (2) art. II, sec. 20, Constitution of the State of Alaska, if the successful candidate is governor or lieutenant governor;
- (3) the provisions of the call for the constitutional convention, if the successful candidate is a constitutional convention delegate;
- (4) art. IV, sec. 10, Constitution of the State of Alaska, if the successful candidate is a judge.
- (j) Information developed by the commission under (b) (e) of this section shall be considered during a proceeding under (i) of this section.

(k) If, after a successful candidate is sworn into office, the successful candidate or the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of the person who was a successful candidate is charged with a violation of this chapter, the case shall be promptly tried and accorded a preferred position for purposes of argument and decision so as to ensure a speedy disposition of the matter.

Sec. 15.13.385. Legal counsel.

- (a) The attorney general is legal counsel for the commission. The attorney general shall advise the commission in legal matters arising in the discharge of its duties and represent the commission in actions to which it is a party. If, in the opinion of the commission, the public interest warrants, the commission may request the chief justice of the supreme court to appoint a special prosecutor to represent the commission in a proceeding involving an alleged violation of this chapter and to prosecute that violation.
- (b) When the public interest warrants, the commission may employ temporary legal counsel from time to time in matters in which the commission is involved.

Sec. 15.13.390. Civil penalty; late filing of required reports.

- (a) A person who
- (1) fails to register when required by AS 15.13.050(a) or who fails to file a properly completed and certified report within the time required by AS 15.13.040, 15.13.060(b) (d), 15.13.110(a)(1), (3), or (4), (e), or (f) is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$50 a day for each day the delinquency continues as determined by the commission subject to right of appeal to the superior court. A person who fails to file a properly completed and certified report within the time required by AS 15.13.110(a)(2) or 15.13.110(b) is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$500 a day for each day the delinquency continues as determined by the commission subject to right of appeal to the superior court;
- (2) whether as a contributor or intermediary, delays in reporting a contribution as required by AS 15.13.040(r) is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 a day for each day the delinquency continues as determined by the commission subject to right of appeal to the superior court;
- (3) whether as a contributor or intermediary, misreports or fails to disclose the true source of a contribution in violation of AS 15.13.040(r) or 15.13.074(b) is subject to a civil penalty of not more than the amount of the contribution that is the subject of the misreporting or failure to disclose; upon a showing that the violation was intentional, a civil penalty of not more than three times the amount of the contribution in violation may be imposed; these penalties as determined by the commission are subject to right of appeal to the superior court;
- (4) violates a provision of this chapter, except as otherwise specified in this section, is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$50 a day for each day the violation continues as determined by the commission, subject to right of appeal to the superior court; and

- (5) is assessed a civil penalty may submit to the commission an affidavit stating facts in mitigation; however, the imposition of the penalties prescribed in this section or in AS 15.13.380 does not excuse that person from registering or filing reports required by this chapter.
- (b) When an administrative complaint has been filed under AS 15.13.380, the commission shall give the respondent due notice and an opportunity to be heard. If, at the conclusion of the hearing, the commission determines that the respondent engaged in the alleged violation, the commission shall assess
 - (1) civil penalties under (a) of this section;
 - (2) the commission's costs of investigation and adjudication; and
 - (3) reasonable attorney fees.
- (c) The commission's determination under (b) of this section may be appealed to the superior court under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act).
- (d) When an action has been filed in the superior court under AS 15.13.380, upon proof of the violation, the court shall enter a judgment in the amount of the civil penalty authorized to be collected by (a) of this section.
- (e) If the commission or superior court finds that the violation was not a repeat violation or was not part of a series or pattern of violations, was inadvertent, was quickly corrected, and had no adverse effect on the campaign of another, the commission or the court may
 - (1) suspend imposition of the penalties; and
- (2) order the penalties set aside if the person does not engage in a similar violation for a period of one year.
 - (f) A party who has filed a civil action under AS 15.13.380
 - (1) is not entitled to trial by jury on the civil action;
 - (2) is not entitled to be represented by legal counsel at public expense.

Sec. 15.13.400. Definitions.

In this chapter,

- (1) "candidate"
- (A) means an individual who files for election to the state legislature, for governor, for lieutenant governor, for municipal office, for retention in judicial office, or for constitutional convention delegate, or who campaigns as a write-in candidate for any of these offices; and
- (B) when used in a provision of this chapter that limits or prohibits the donation, solicitation, or acceptance of campaign contributions, or limits or prohibits an expenditure, includes
 - (i) a candidate's campaign treasurer and a deputy campaign treasurer;

- (ii) a member of the candidate's immediate family;
- (iii) a person acting as agent for the candidate;
- (iv) the candidate's campaign committee; and
- (v) a group that makes expenditures or receives contributions with the authorization or consent, express or implied, or under the control, direct or indirect, of the candidate;
 - (2) "commission" means the Alaska Public Offices Commission;
- (3) "communication" means an announcement or advertisement disseminated through print or broadcast media, including radio, television, cable, and satellite, the Internet, or through a mass mailing, excluding those placed by an individual or nongroup entity and costing \$500 or less and those that do not directly or indirectly identify a candidate or proposition, as that term is defined in AS 15.13.065(c);
 - (4) "contribution"
- (A) means a purchase, payment, promise or obligation to pay, loan or loan guarantee, deposit or gift of money, goods, or services for which charge is ordinarily made, and includes the payment by a person other than a candidate or political party, or compensation for the personal services of another person, that is rendered to the candidate or political party, and that is made for the purpose of
 - (i) influencing the nomination or election of a candidate;
 - (ii) influencing a ballot proposition or question; or
- (iii) supporting or opposing an initiative proposal application filed with the lieutenant governor under AS 15.45.020;
 - (B) does not include
- (i) services provided without compensation by individuals volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a political party, candidate, or ballot proposition or question;
 - (ii) ordinary hospitality in a home;
- (iii) two or fewer mass mailings before each election by each political party describing members of the party running as candidates for public office in that election, which may include photographs, biographies, and information about the candidates;
- (iv) the results of a poll limited to issues and not mentioning any candidate, unless the poll was requested by or designed primarily to benefit the candidate;
- (v) any communication in the form of a newsletter from a legislator to the legislator's constituents, except a communication expressly advocating the election or defeat of a candidate or a newsletter or material in a newsletter that is clearly only for the private benefit of a legislator or a legislative employee;
- (vi) a fundraising list provided without compensation by one candidate or political party to a candidate or political party; or

- (vii) an opportunity to participate in a candidate forum provided to a candidate without compensation to the candidate by another person and for which a candidate is not ordinarily charged;
- (5) "dark money" means a contribution whose source or sources, whether from wages, investment income, inheritance, or revenue generated from selling goods or services, is not disclosed to the public; notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent a membership organization receives dues or contributions of less than \$2,000 per person per year, the organization itself shall be considered the true source;
 - (6) "electioneering communication" means a communication that
 - (A) directly or indirectly identifies a candidate;
- (B) addresses an issue of national, state, or local political importance and attributes a position on that issue to the candidate identified; and
 - (C) occurs within the 30 days preceding a general or municipal election;
 - (7) "expenditure"
- (A) means a purchase or a transfer of money or anything of value, or promise or agreement to purchase or transfer money or anything of value, incurred or made for the purpose of
- (i) influencing the nomination or election of a candidate or of any individual who files for nomination at a later date and becomes a candidate;
 - (ii) use by a political party;
- (iii) the payment by a person other than a candidate or political party of compensation for the personal services of another person that are rendered to a candidate or political party;
 - (iv) influencing the outcome of a ballot proposition or question; or
- (v) supporting or opposing an initiative proposal application filed with the lieutenant governor under AS 15.45.020;
- (B) does not include a candidate's filing fee or the cost of preparing reports and statements required by this chapter;
- (C) includes an express communication and an electioneering communication, but does not include an issues communication;
- (8) "express communication" means a communication that, when read as a whole and with limited reference to outside events, is susceptible of no other reasonable interpretation but as an exhortation to vote for or against a specific candidate;
 - (9) "group" means
 - (A) every state and regional executive committee of a political party;
- (B) any combination of two or more individuals acting jointly who organize for the principal purpose of influencing the outcome of one or more elections and who take action the major purpose of which is to influence the outcome of an election; a group that makes

expenditures or receives contributions with the authorization or consent, express or implied, or under the control, direct or indirect, of a candidate shall be considered to be controlled by that candidate; a group whose major purpose is to further the nomination, election, or candidacy of only one individual, or intends to expend more than 50 percent of its money on a single candidate, shall be considered to be controlled by that candidate and its actions done with the candidate's knowledge and consent unless, within 10 days from the date the candidate learns of the existence of the group the candidate files with the commission, on a form provided by the commission, an affidavit that the group is operating without the candidate's control; a group organized for more than one year preceding an election and endorsing candidates for more than one office or more than one political party is presumed not to be controlled by a candidate; however, a group that contributes more than 50 percent of its money to or on behalf of one candidate shall be considered to support only one candidate for purposes of AS 15.13.070, whether or not control of the group has been disclaimed by the candidate; and

- (C) any combination of two or more individuals acting jointly who organize for the principal purpose of filing an initiative proposal application under AS 15.45.020 or who file an initiative proposal application under AS 15.45.020;
- (10) "immediate family" means the spouse, parents, children, including a stepchild and an adoptive child, and siblings of an individual;
- (11) "independent expenditure" means an expenditure that is made without the direct or indirect consultation or cooperation with, or at the suggestion or the request of, or with the prior consent of, a candidate, a candidate's campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, or another person acting as a principal or agent of the candidate;
 - (12) "individual" means a natural person;
 - (13) "issues communication" means a communication that
 - (A) directly or indirectly identifies a candidate; and
- (B) addresses an issue of national, state, or local political importance and does not support or oppose a candidate for election to public office;
- (14) "nongroup entity" means a person, other than an individual, that takes action the major purpose of which is to influence the outcome of an election, and that
 - (A) cannot participate in business activities;
 - (B) does not have shareholders who have a claim on corporate earnings; and
 - (C) is independent from the influence of business corporations.
- (15) "outside-funded entity" means an entity that makes one or more independent expenditures in one or more candidate elections and that, during the previous 12-month period, received more than 50 percent of its aggregate contributions from true sources, or their equivalents, who, at the time of the contribution, resided or had their principal place of business outside Alaska;

- (16) "person" has the meaning given in AS 01.10.060, and includes a labor union, nongroup entity, and a group;
- (17) "political party" means any group that is a political party under <u>AS 15.80.010</u> and any subordinate unit of that group if, consistent with the rules or bylaws of the political party, the unit conducts or supports campaign operations in a municipality, neighborhood, house district, or precinct;
- (18) "publicly funded entity" means a person, other than an individual, that receives half or more of the money on which it operates during a calendar year from government, including a public corporation.
- (19) "true source" means the person or legal entity whose contribution is funded from wages, investment income, inheritance, or revenue generated from selling goods or services; a person or legal entity who derived funds via contributions, donations, dues, or gifts is not the true source, but rather an intermediary for the true source; notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent a membership organization receives dues or contributions of less than \$2,000 per person per year, the organization itself shall be considered the true source.

Article 1

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

- 2 AAC 50.250. Contributions
- 2 AAC 50.254. Personal contributions by a candidate
- 2 AAC 50.258. Prohibited contributions
- 2 AAC 50.266. Disposition of prohibited contributions
- 2 AAC 50.270. Independent expenditures
- 2 AAC 50.272. Conducting raffle or lottery and use of proceeds
- 2 AAC 50.274. Early campaigning
- 2 AAC 50.282. Candidate registration
- 2 AAC 50.286. Candidate exemptions
- 2 AAC 50.290. Groups; draft groups; controlled groups; ballot groups
- 2 AAC 50.292. Nongroup entities
- 2 AAC 50.298. Designated campaign depository
- 2 AAC 50.300. Individuals who accept contributions
- 2 AAC 50.302. Candidate campaign subcommittee
- 2 AAC 50.306. Identification of political communication
- 2 AAC 50.320. Recordkeeping requirements
- 2 AAC 50.321. Reporting by a candidate, group, or nongroup entity
- 2 AAC 50.324. Shared campaign activities
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- 2 AAC 50.328. Reporting exempt fundraising activities
- 2 AAC 50.329. Reporting contributions from ongoing payroll deduction or dues programs
- 2 AAC 50.344. Reporting by persons outside the state
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- 2 AAC 50.352. Ballot measure activity
- 2 AAC 50.356. Election-related use of public money
- 2 AAC 50.368. Joined campaigns
- 2 AAC 50.375. Communications by incumbents
- 2 AAC 50.384. Winding up campaign affairs
- 2 AAC 50.396. Public office expense term account
- 2 AAC 50.405. Definitions

2 AAC 50.250. Contributions

- (a) A person receiving a contribution shall report as required in the applicable provisions of <u>AS</u> 15.13.040 and 2 AAC 50.321.
- (b) If a person that is not prohibited from contributing to a campaign under AS 15.13.074 makes a non-monetary contribution, the amount to be reported under 2 AAC 50.250 2 AAC 50.405 is,
 - (1) for goods or services for which a contributor usually charges,
 - (A) the normal market charge for an item or service provided without charge;
- (B) the difference between the normal market charge and the amount charged for an item or service provided at less than the normal market charge; except as provided in (c) of this section, a reduction in a business's charge for goods and services is a contribution prohibited by <u>AS</u> 15.13.074 (f) unless the same reduction in the business's charges is available to all campaigns;
- (2) for goods or products provided to a campaign as a result of the services of an individual who volunteers a portion or all of that individual's time without compensation, the cost of any material or supplies used in producing the goods, but not the value of equipment that the volunteer owns personally and uses in the course of the volunteered services;
 - (3) for a travel-related service or accommodation provided to a campaign,
- (A) if the contributor pays another person for the travel-related service or accommodation, the actual cost of the travel-related service or accommodation; or
- (B) if the contributor does not pay another person for the travel-related service or accommodation,
- (i) the commercial rate for a comparable travel-related service or accommodation including, for air travel, an unrestricted, non-discounted first-class fare, or if first-class commercial travel is unavailable, an unrestricted, non-discounted coach-class fare, or if commercial travel to the particular destination is unavailable, a charter rate for a comparable aircraft; or
- (ii) the value of the contributed travel-related service or accommodation based on any other commercially reasonable method of determining the cost;
 - (4) for a bulk mailing permit donated or loaned to a campaign,
 - (A) the value of the permit; or
- (B) the actual savings to the campaign computed on the basis of the normal postage rate minus the bulk mailing rate for each mailed item.
- (c) A contribution from a sole proprietorship is not prohibited under AS 15.13.074 (f), but must be
 - (1) identified as a contribution by the owner of the sole proprietorship; and

- (2) included in the amount of the individual's contributions limited by AS 15.13.070.
- (d) Notwithstanding (b)(1) of this section, services are not a contribution if an individual who volunteers the individual's own time without compensation provides those services to a political party, a candidate, or a group organized for the principal purpose of influencing the outcome of a ballot proposition election or for the principal purpose of filing an initiative proposal application.
- (e) Except as provided in 2 AAC <u>50.254(c)</u>, a loan or loan guarantee is a contribution from a lender, co-signer, or guarantor at the time it is made and may not exceed the contribution limitations of <u>AS 15.13.070</u>, whether or not it is repaid. If a loan is guaranteed by more than one person, each co-signer or guarantor is considered to have contributed any portion of the total amount that the co-signer or guarantor agreed to guarantee in an oral or written agreement. If no oral or written agreement is made, each co-signer or guarantor is considered to have contributed a share equal to the total of the loan divided by the number of co-signers or guarantors.
- (f) Credit extended to a candidate, group, or nongroup entity for a length of time beyond normal business practice is a contribution by the person extending the credit, unless the creditor makes a commercially reasonable attempt to collect the debt using the methods and persistence that the creditor ordinarily uses in a collection effort for a debt unrelated to a campaign.
- (g) A contribution to a subordinate unit of a political party is a contribution to the political party.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.070; AS 15.13.078; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.254. Personal contributions by a candidate

- (a) A candidate may make unlimited personal contributions from assets to which the candidate has title or a right of access or control under the laws of this state. In this section, assets include
- (1) salary and other earned income from bona fide employment;
- (2) dividends;
- (3) proceeds from the sale of an investment;
- (4) a bequest to the candidate;
- (5) income from any trust established before the individual becomes a candidate;
- (6) income from any trust established by bequest after the individual becomes a candidate; and
- (7) any gift the candidate receives that follows a pattern of gifts regularly received before becoming a candidate.
- (b) A candidate may use the candidate's share of a jointly owned asset as a personal contribution. A candidate's share of a jointly owned asset is the portion the candidate owns under the instrument

of conveyance or ownership. If the instrument of conveyance or ownership does not apportion the ownership shares, the candidate may use as a personal contribution

- (1) for an asset jointly owned with a spouse or domestic partner, one-half of the asset; or
- (2) for an asset jointly owned with a person that is not a spouse or domestic partner, or with more than one other person,
 - (A) the pro rata share corresponding to the purchase price paid by the candidate; or
 - (B) if the owners did not purchase the asset,
 - (i) the present value of the portion owned by the candidate, as documented in writing; or
- (ii) if no document specifying the candidate's ownership share exists, the present value of the asset divided by the number of owners.
- (c) Money loaned to a candidate by a regulated banking institution is a personal asset of the candidate, and must be reported as a candidate's personal contribution if
 - (1) the loan is made in compliance with applicable banking laws and regulations;
 - (2) bears an interest rate that is usual and customary at the time the loan is made;
 - (3) is evidenced by a written instrument;
 - (4) is required to be repaid on a specified date or amortization schedule; and
 - (5) is not co-signed or guaranteed by a person other than the candidate.
- (d) The proceeds from an unconditional sale of a candidate's real or personal property are personal assets of the candidate and not a contribution from the purchaser if the sale is a legitimate arm's length transaction documented in writing. A candidate must report sale proceeds used in a campaign as a personal contribution.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.070; AS 15.13.078; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.258. Prohibited contributions

- (a) A contribution must be made in the name of the true source of the money or thing of value. A person may not make a contribution using the name of another, or use a third-party conduit to obscure the true source of any money or thing of value contributed to a campaign. A contribution in the name of another prohibited by this section includes any contribution
- (1) made at the direction of another person, including a parent organization, subsidiary, division, department, branch, or local unit of a business, labor union, or group;

- (2) made by an employee, agent, or other person if an employer, principal, supervisor, or contractor lends, pays, or advances money or anything of value to the employee, agent, or other person to contribute in a name other than the true source of the money or thing of value;
- (3) made by an employee, agent, or other person if an employer, principal, supervisor, or contractor reimburses the employee, agent, or other person for the contribution in money or anything of value;
- (4) in a total amount exceeding the limitations in <u>AS 15.13.070</u> if made to the same recipient by two or more groups or nongroup entities that
 - (A) share the majority of members of their boards of directors;
 - (B) share two or more corporate or organizational officers; in this subparagraph, "officer"
 - (i) has the meaning given in AS 15.13.040 (r)(2); and
 - (ii) includes a chief executive officer;
 - (C) are owned or controlled by the same shareholders or members; or
 - (D) are in a parent-subsidiary relationship;
- (5) made by a person who receives a gift of money or anything of value from a parent, spouse, or domestic partner for the purpose of making a contribution;
- (6) made by check from a joint bank account in the name of any joint account holder who does not either sign the check or authorize the contribution in writing at the time the contribution is made; or
- (7) made with funds derived from contributions, donations, gifts, or dues whose source is not disclosed to the public at the time the contribution is made.
- (b) A candidate may not accept a contribution from a group that is resident in another state. A group is resident in another state if
 - (1) the group does not have a mailing address in this state;
- (2) the group receives more than 10 percent of its total contributions during a calendar year from individuals who are not residents of this state; or
- (3) individuals who are not residents of this state direct or control decisions about how the group spends its money.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 1/7/2001, Register 157; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 243; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>; <u>AS 15.13.072</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.266. Disposition of prohibited contributions

- (a) A campaign treasurer shall use best efforts to determine if a contribution is prohibited. If the treasurer determines that a contribution is prohibited, the treasurer shall return it to the contributor immediately, but no later than 10 days after receipt. If the treasurer is unable to identify the contributor within 10 days, the contribution is anonymous and must be immediately delivered to the Department of Revenue, or to the commission for delivery to the Department of Revenue. In the next campaign disclosure report of the candidate, group, or nongroup entity, the treasurer shall report the receipt of a contribution that is prohibited or of questionable legality, and shall report the final disposition of the contribution.
- (b) Repealed 12/22/2011.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.060</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>; <u>AS 15.13.072</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 15.13.114</u>

2 AAC 50.270. Independent expenditures

- (a) Except as provided in (c) of this section, before making an independent expenditure to support or oppose a candidate, a ballot proposition, or an initiative proposal application, a person shall register as required under AS 15.13.050 on a form prescribed by the commission, and shall establish a political activities account as required under AS 15.13.052. The frequency and amount of an allowable independent expenditure is not limited.
- (b) Except as provided in (c) of this section, a person that makes an independent expenditure for any purpose shall file, as required under AS 15.13.110 (h), a report of independent expenditure, on a form prescribed by the commission. An independent expenditure report must include
 - (1) the information required by AS 15.13.040 (d) and (e);
- (2) for a person other than an individual making an independent expenditure, the type of business or organization;
 - (3) the full name of a contact person for the individual or other person making the expenditure;
 - (4) the date of the expenditure;
 - (5) the amount of the expenditure;
 - (6) the check number or the identifying transaction number if paid by other means;
 - (7) the name and address of the payee; and
 - (8) a description of items or services purchased.
- (c) An individual who makes an independent expenditure that does not exceed \$500 in a calendar year for billboards, signs, or printed materials concerning a ballot proposition or initiative proposal

application, is not required to register or file a statement of independent expenditure. If an individual's independent expenditures for billboards, signs, or printed materials concerning a ballot proposition or initiative proposal application exceed \$500 in a calendar year, the individual shall file a statement of independent expenditure no later than 10 days after the amount expended exceeds \$500.

- (d) A person required to report under AS 15.13.110(k) shall disclose contributions received from a single source that exceed \$2,000, in the aggregate, and all subsequent contributions from that same source not later than 24 hours after receipt. The report must include a certification that all true sources and intermediaries have been disclosed and the following information:
 - (1) the date of each contribution;
 - (2) the amount of each contribution;
 - (3) the full name of the contributor;
 - (4) a description of item or services contributed, if necessary; and
- (5) the full name of all intermediaries, if any, within the meaning of "true source" under AS 15.13.400.
- (e) A person required to report under AS 15.13.110(k) is not required to report donations that are not intended to influence the outcome of an election if the person
 - (1) establishes a political activities account as required by AS 15.13.052;
- (2) makes no expenditures intended to influence the outcome of an election regulated under AS 15.13 from its general fund;
- (3) establishes a written policy that all contributions to the person's political activities account must be from a contributor who has expressly indicated a desire that the contribution be used for political activities or has been expressly solicited for the purpose of making a contribution to the person's political activities account; and
- (4) establishes a written policy that the contributor is the only person to decide whether a contribution goes to the person's general fund or the person's political activities account.
- (f) During the nine days before an election, a person required to file reports within 24 hours under AS 15.13.110(h) and (k), may satisfy both requirements by filing a report under (d) of this section.
- (g) A contributor contributing more than \$2,000, in the aggregate, to a person described in (d) of this section shall file a statement of contributions in compliance with AS 15.13.040(r), on a form prescribed by the commission. The statement of contributions must be filed not later than 24 hours after the contributor's total contributions to the person exceed \$2,000. A contributor making a contribution to a person described in (d) of this section shall make the contribution in the name of the true source of the money or thing of value.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.050</u>; <u>AS 15.13.052</u>; <u>AS 15.13.082</u>; AS 15.13.090; AS 15.13.135

2 AAC 50.272. Conducting raffle or lottery and use of proceeds

- (a) A person authorized by a charitable gaming permit issued under AS 05.15.100 to conduct a raffle or lottery for the purposes provided in AS 05.15.150 (a)(3) shall comply with this section. A permittee that conducts a raffle or lottery for the purposes allowed under AS 05.15.150 (a)(3) and contributes the net proceeds as required under AS 05.15.150 (a), is organized and taking action for the principal purpose of influencing an election within the meaning of AS 15.13.400 (8)(B) and (13), and is subject to AS 15.13.067 and the applicable contribution limits of AS 15.13.070 (c), (d), and (f). A raffle or lottery may not be conducted in a manner that allows a person to avoid the provisions of AS 15.13.070, 15.13.074, or 2 AAC 50.258 in giving or receiving any contribution.
- (b) A permittee may solicit and accept a contribution, including a prize, printing or advertising service, use of a room or space for an event associated with the raffle or lottery, or other donation of an item or service used to promote or conduct the raffle or lottery. A permittee may not accept a contribution
 - (1) that is anonymous or that is made using a fictitious name or the name of another; or
 - (2) from a person prohibited from making a contribution under AS 15.13.074 (f) or (g).
- (c) A permittee shall provide advance notice to each contributor and to each purchaser of a raffle or lottery ticket that the proceeds of the raffle or lottery are intended for political purposes under AS 05.15.150 (a)(3). A raffle or lottery ticket sold for the purposes allowed by AS 05.15.150 (a)(3) must disclose the name of a candidate, group, political party, organization affiliated with a political party, or political group as defined in AS 15.80.010, that the permittee intends to aid by the use of the proceeds. The permittee must retain records of any purchase of a raffle or lottery ticket in a total amount greater than \$50. An individual, group, or nongroup entity may not purchase raffle or lottery tickets exceeding the amount that an individual, group, or nongroup entity is allowed to contribute to a candidate under AS 15.13.070, and may not purchase raffle or lottery tickets if prohibited by AS 15.13.074 (f) from making a contribution.
- (d) A charitable gaming permittee may use the net proceeds of a raffle or lottery to make
- (1) contributions to a candidate, a political party or a subordinate unit of a political party, a group, or a political group as defined in <u>AS 15.80.010</u>; however, a contribution by a charitable gaming permittee may not exceed the applicable contribution limits of AS 15.13.070; or
- (2) an independent expenditure for the purposes permitted in AS 05.15.150 (a)(3); an expenditure is a contribution, and not an independent expenditure if made in cooperation or consultation with a candidate or any agent of a candidate, group, or nongroup entity.
- (e) A charitable gaming permittee shall report

- (1) any expense incurred or paid to conduct a raffle or lottery to raise money to be used for the purposes permitted in AS 05.15.150 (a)(3) as a contribution or an independent expenditure;
- (2) each contribution the permittee receives as required in AS 15.13.040 (b), (j), or (l); the report must include the information required by AS 15.13.040 (e)(5) for
 - (A) any contribution the permittee receives in accordance with (b) of this section; or
 - (B) any purchaser of raffle or lottery tickets in excess of \$50;
- (3) each independent expenditure made to conduct a raffle or lottery, or for a purpose permitted in AS 05.15.150 (a)(3), as required under AS 15.13.040 (d) and (e) and 2 AAC 50.270;
- (4) each contribution made to a candidate for public office or to a group organized for the principal purpose of influencing the outcome of an election or a proposition, or for the principal purpose of filing an initiative proposal application.
- (f) In this section,
- (1) "charitable gaming permittee" or "permittee" means a person that has obtained a permit from the Department of Revenue under AS 05.15.100 giving the person the privilege of conducting a raffle or lottery;
 - (2) "raffle" or "lottery" has the meaning given in AS 05.15.690.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.050</u>; <u>AS 15.13.067</u>; <u>AS 15.13.067</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>;

2 AAC 50.274. Early campaigning

- (a) An individual intending to campaign for office shall file for nomination for the office as required under AS 15.13.100 either by submitting a letter of intent to the commission, or by filing a declaration of candidacy
 - (1) with the municipal clerk's office for a municipal office, or
 - (2) with the lieutenant governor's office for a state office.
- (b) An individual intending to seek state or municipal office may file a letter of intent, in the format prescribed by the commission, no earlier than 18 months before the general election when the office is to be filled at a general election or 18 months before the date of the election when the office is to be filled at a special election or municipal election. A letter of intent must state whether the individual will seek state or municipal office, but need not identify the specific seat for which the individual may file. A letter of intent must include a statement certifying that the individual will comply with the requirements of AS 15.13. A letter of intent is valid until the election identified on that filing, unless the individual filing the letter of intent withdraws it before the election.

- (c) An individual may not accept a campaign contribution before filing a letter of intent or declaration of candidacy, and may not make a campaign expenditure except for personal travel expenses, opinion surveys, or polls. A person, group, or nongroup entity may not make an expenditure on behalf of an individual who is a prospective candidate before that individual files a letter of intent.
- (d) An individual who has submitted a letter of intent must also file a declaration of candidacy as provided in (a) of this section before the applicable state or municipal filing deadline.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.070; AS 15.13.074; AS 15.13.100; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.282. Candidate registration

A candidate shall register in the format prescribed by the commission no later than 15 days after filing a declaration of candidacy for a state office or no later than seven days after filing a declaration of candidacy for a municipal office. A separate registration is required for each elective state or municipal office for which an individual files a declaration of candidacy. A candidate's registration must list

- (1) the name of the candidate and the candidate's campaign committee;
- (2) the address, telephone number, facsimile number, and electronic mail address of the candidate's campaign committee;
- (3) the name, address, and contact information for the campaign officers, including a chairperson and a treasurer;
- (4) the name and address of each deputy treasurer;
- (5) the name and address of the regulated banking institution that will serve as the campaign account depository; and
- (6) the candidate's certification that the information contained in the registration statement is true, complete, and correct.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: AS 15.13.010; AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.060; AS 15.13.076; AS 15.13.086

2 AAC 50.286. Candidate exemptions

(a) A candidate for municipal office who does not intend to receive contributions exceeding \$5,000, or make expenditures exceeding \$5,000, may file an exemption statement in a format prescribed by the commission instead of the candidate registration form required under 2 AAC 50.282. A candidate who files an exemption statement is not required to file a campaign disclosure report required under AS 15.13.110 and 2 AAC 50.321, but shall comply with all other requirements of AS 15.13, including

- (1) limitations on who may contribute;
- (2) amount and timing of contributions; and
- (3) use of campaign money.
- (b) If a candidate who has filed an exemption statement accepts more than \$5,000 in contributions or spends more than \$5,000 to influence the outcome of the election, the candidate loses the reporting exemption under this section. A candidate whose exemption is lost shall immediately register as a candidate and shall file each campaign disclosure report due after the change in status. The candidate's first campaign disclosure report must include each contribution and expenditure from the beginning of the campaign through the end of that reporting period.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 15.13.082</u>; <u>AS 15.13.084</u>; <u>AS 15.13.086</u>; <u>AS 15.13.112</u>

2 AAC 50.290. Groups; draft groups; controlled groups; ballot groups

- (a) If a group, including a political party and an initiative committee, raises, solicits, collects, contributes, disburses, or incurs indebtedness of \$500 or more in money or anything of value in the aggregate during a calendar year, or directs, coordinates, or controls that activity, that group shall first register with the commission as provided in AS 15.13.050, and shall file reports as provided in AS 15.13.040 (b) and (c) and 2 AAC 50.321. An ongoing group must register each year. To register, a group must disclose, in the format prescribed by the commission,
 - (1) the group's name, address, and purpose;
- (2) the name and address of a chair and a treasurer; the same person may serve as both chair and treasurer;
 - (3) any election in which the group intends to be active during the year;
 - (4) the type of group;
- (5) the name and location of the group's campaign depository if one is required under 2 AAC 50.298; and
- (6) the treasurer's certification that the information contained in the registration statement is true, complete, and correct.
- (b) A draft group must register and file reports as required in (a) of this section. A draft group
 - (1) may make expenditures to
 - (A) solicit contributions to defray its own administrative costs; and
 - (B) attempt to draft individuals to become candidates, including the expenditure of money to
 - (i) extol the qualifications of an individual the group seeks to draft; and

- (ii) inform the public of the group's position on issues and the qualifications it seeks in potential candidates;
 - (2) may not
- (A) engage in any political activity other than an activity described in this subsection and (d) of this section;
 - (B) accept any contribution in excess of \$500 from any individual or \$1,000 from any group;
- (C) make an expenditure, other than for personal travel expenses, opinion surveys, or polls, that might benefit an individual successfully drafted to become a candidate;
- (D) except as provided in (c) of this section, make monetary or nonmonetary contributions to, or expend funds on behalf of, any individual who has publicly announced an intent to seek a state or municipal office, or who has filed a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition, or has become a candidate by any other means.
- (c) A draft group that expends more than one-third of its funds in an effort to draft one individual or, in the case of gubernatorial and lieutenant gubernatorial candidates, a team of individuals to campaign for public office, is a controlled group. If the individual or team subject to the draft formally declares for public office, any contribution to the controlled group is a contribution to the candidate or team for the purpose of determining the maximum allowable contribution under <u>AS 15.13.070</u>. A controlled group may contribute up to the maximum allowed by law to the candidate or team of candidates.
- (d) For a group organized for the principal purpose of filing an initiative proposal application under AS 15.45.020, or that has filed an initiative proposal application under AS 15.45.020, the obligation to file required reports begins on the date the initiative proposal application is filed with the lieutenant governor.
- (e) A registered group shall supplement its report if any of the information required to be reported in (b) of this section changes. In assessing a civil penalty for a late or incomplete report, the commission may consider a registered group's failure to notify the commission of any material change in the information required to be reported in (b) of this section.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.010</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.050</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>; <u>AS 15.13.076</u>; <u>AS 15.13.100</u>; <u>AS 15.13.135</u>; <u>AS 15.13.140</u>; <u>AS 15.13.400</u>

2 AAC 50.292. Nongroup entities

- (a) Before making a contribution or an independent expenditure, a person seeking the status of a nongroup entity shall apply to register as a nongroup entity by submitting the following information and documentation on the nongroup entity registration form prescribed by the commission:
 - (1) the person's name, address, and purpose;

- (2) the name and address of a chair and a treasurer; the same individual may serve as both chair and treasurer;
 - (3) each election in which the person intends to be active as a nongroup entity during the year;
 - (4) if the person seeking the status of a nongroup entity is a corporation,
- (A) a copy of a determination from the United States Internal Revenue Service that the corporation is a social welfare organization as described in 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(4);
- (B) a copy of the certificate of incorporation issued under AS 10.20.156 or under a substantially similar statute of another state;
 - (C) a copy of the corporation's articles of incorporation and bylaws;
- (D) an affidavit from a director or officer showing that the corporation's purposes include one or more of the following:
 - (i) issue advocacy;
 - (ii) influencing elections;
 - (iii) research, training, or educational activities tied to the corporation's political goals; and
- (E) an affidavit from a director or officer showing that the corporation does not include shareholders or persons other than employees who
- (i) have an equitable interest in the corporation or are affiliated in a way that would allow them to make a claim on the organization's assets or earnings; or
- (ii) receive a benefit that they would lose if they ended their affiliation with the corporation or that they could not obtain unless they became affiliated; for the purposes of this subsubparagraph, "benefit" includes a credit card, an insurance policy, a savings plan, and education or business information;
- (5) if the person seeking the status of a nongroup entity is not a corporation, a copy of the bylaws or minutes or an affidavit signed by an owner, officer, chair, director, partner, or board member showing that the person seeking the status of a nongroup entity does not participate in business activities, has no shareholders, and is independent from the influence of business corporations;
- (6) the name and location of the group's campaign depository if one is required under 2 AAC 50.298; and
- (7) the treasurer's certification that the information contained in the registration statement is true, complete, and correct.
- (b) If, after reviewing the documentation a person seeking the status of a nongroup entity submits under (a) of this section, the commission staff finds that the documentation is complete, the staff shall prepare a recommendation to the commission as provided in 2 AAC <u>50.826</u>. If the staff finds

that the documentation is incomplete or inadequate, the staff may request and review additional information.

- (c) The commission will consider the staff recommendation and make a determination as provided in 2 AAC $\underline{50.826}$. The commission's determination is a final order for the purpose of an appeal to the superior court under $\underline{AS 44.62.560}$.
- (d) Any contribution that a nongroup entity receives for the purpose of making contributions or expenditures to influence an election must be kept in a separate account and reported to the commission as provided in 2 AAC <u>50.321</u>.

History: Eff. 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.010</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 15.13.135</u>; <u>AS 15.13.400</u>

2 AAC 50.298. Designated campaign depository

- (a) Each candidate, group, or nongroup entity that intends to raise or spend more than \$5,000 in a calendar year, and each group or nongroup entity that intends to be active in more than one election, shall on a registration statement, designate one or more regulated banking institutions as a campaign depository. A candidate, group, or nongroup entity shall identify each account in the campaign depository with a name indicating that it is a campaign account.
- (b) Except when a candidate uses personal money or credit for an authorized campaign expenditure, a candidate, group, or nongroup entity that is required to designate a campaign depository shall deposit any monetary contribution to that campaign depository and shall make any expenditure from that depository.
- (c) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity required to designate a campaign depository may obtain and use credit cards to make campaign expenditures for transportation, lodging, meals, and other expenses in connection with traveling for campaign purposes. The credit card must have an account name indicating that the account is a campaign account.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.050; AS 15.13.067; AS 15.13.070

2 AAC 50.300. Individuals who accept contributions

A candidate or treasurer may authorize an individual who is not registered as a deputy treasurer to receive campaign contributions on behalf of a candidate, group, or nongroup entity at any single event during the campaign. No later than 72 hours after the event, the authorized individual must deliver each contribution received to a candidate, treasurer, or deputy treasurer of the committee, group, or nongroup entity for which the contribution was intended.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.060; AS 15.13.076; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.302. Candidate campaign subcommittee

A candidate's campaign committee, or a controlled group as provided in 2 AAC <u>50.290(c)</u>, may create a subcommittee. A subcommittee is not a separate group and may not maintain separate bank accounts and records or file separate reports. The name of a subcommittee must include the name of the candidate or controlled group. The name of the subcommittee may not be used when identifying political advertising as required under <u>AS 15.13.090</u> and 2 AAC <u>50.306</u>.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.090

Publisher's note: As of Register 213 (April 2015), the section heading was revised.

2 AAC 50.306. Identification of political communication

- (a) Except for an individual exempt under AS 15.13.090 (b), a person that pays for a political communication, including a person that makes an independent expenditure, shall ensure that
- (1) in any communication that includes a print or video component, the information required under AS 15.13.090 (a), (c) and (g) is visible, separate from the text of the communication, and of sufficient size to be read by a viewer;
- (2) in any communication that includes a video component, the information required under AS 15.13.090(a), (c), and (g)
 - (A) is placed in the communication;
 - (B) is of sufficient size to be read by a viewer; and
 - (C) remains onscreen for the duration of the communication; and
- (3) in any communication by radio, automated telephone, or other audio media, or that includes an audio component, the information required under <u>AS 15.13.090</u> (a) and (d) is spoken and audible at the same volume as the communication.
- (b) In a written communication, standard English abbreviations may be used in the information required by AS 15.13.090 (a) and (c).
- (c) The information required under AS 15.13.090 (a) and (c) need not be affixed to an object used for a political communication if the size or nature of the object makes it impractical to affix that information. Objects for which it is impractical to affix that information include pencils, pens, buttons, or other objects that are smaller than 3.5 inches by 5 inches in size but do not include media advertisements, electronic correspondence, or material on an Internet website. The cost of any object used for a political communication must be reported under AS 15.13 even if the information required under AS 15.13.090 (a) and (c) is not affixed.
- (d) A political communication by electronic media, including a candidate's or group's website, electronic mail, electronic social media, or other electronic methods capable of transmitting a

political communication, must include or be electronically linked to information required by <u>AS</u> 15.13.090 (a) and (c). The cost of political communications by electronic media must be reported as a campaign expense under 2 AAC 50.321.

- (e) In this section, "political communication"
 - (1) has the meaning given "communication" in AS 15.13.400;
 - (2) includes
- (A) all material related to campaign fundraisers, campaign letterhead, thank-you notes, and press releases;
- (B) media advertisements, electronic correspondence, or material on an Internet website, regardless of size or nature;
- (C) except as provided under (3)(B) of this subsection, campaign signs larger than 3.5 inches by 5 inches;
 - (3) does not include
- (A) envelopes paid for by the campaign that are used solely to convey the campaign's communications:
 - (B) signs created by an individual or nongroup entity for a total cost of less than \$500;
 - (C) T-shirts, ballcaps, and similar items of personal apparel of minimal value;
- (D) berry buckets, coffee cups, water bottles, and similar objects having a principal purpose not related to campaigns or elections.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.090; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.320. Recordkeeping requirements

- (a) A person required to report contributions or expenditures under <u>AS 15.13</u> shall maintain detailed records of all contributions received and expenditures made for the length of time required under <u>AS 15.13.111</u>. The records must include
- (1) each contribution of any amount or value, including any loan, unless otherwise exempted by this chapter; and
 - (2) a cumulative total of all contributions made by each contributor.
- (b) If an expenditure required to be reported under (a) of this section is made to an advertising agency or to an individual or business that provides campaign consultation or management

services, the records must document all services rendered, including the name of each business from which campaign goods or services were purchased or subcontracted or media advertising placed, and the amount of the expenditure.

History: Eff. 5/14/80, Register 74; am 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.045; AS 15.13.111

2 AAC 50.321. Reporting by a candidate, group, or nongroup entity

- (a) A candidate shall file each report required under <u>AS 15.13.110</u> containing the information required under <u>AS 15.13.040</u> (a) and the following information:
- (1) for any monetary contribution, the check number or the identifying transaction number if paid by other means;
- (2) for any nonmonetary contribution with a value greater than \$100, a description of the contribution and the estimated fair market value:
 - (3) for each loan or loan guarantee,
 - (A) the date received;
 - (B) the name and address of the lender and any loan guarantor or cosigner;
 - (C) the principal occupation and employer of the lender, loan guarantor, or cosigner;
 - (D) the interest rate; and
 - (E) the principal amount of the loan;
- (4) for each contribution from the candidate to the campaign, and for income earned from contributions, including bank interest and income from unused contributions invested in compliance with 2 AAC 50.348,
 - (A) the date received;
 - (B) a description of the income;
 - (C) the name and address of the source of the income; and
 - (D) the amount or estimated value of the contribution or income;
 - (5) for each paid expenditure,
 - (A) the date of payment;
 - (B) the check number or the identifying transaction number if paid by other means;

- (C) the name and address of the payee;
- (D) the purpose of the expenditure; and
- (E) the amount of the expenditure; and
- (6) under the debt section of the report, for each expenditure incurred but not paid,
 - (A) the date the expenditure was incurred;
 - (B) the name and address of the person with whom the debt was incurred;
 - (C) the purpose of the incurred expenditure; and
 - (D) the amount of the incurred expenditure.
- (b) A group shall file each report required by <u>AS 15.13.110</u> containing the information required in <u>AS 15.13.040</u> (b) and (c) and the following information:
- (1) for income earned from contributions, including bank interest and income from unused contributions invested in compliance with 2 AAC<u>50.348</u>, the information required in (a)(4)(A) (D) of this section; and
 - (2) for each expenditure, the information required in (a)(5) and (6) of this section.
- (c) A nongroup entity shall file each report required by <u>AS 15.13.110</u> containing the information required in <u>AS 15.13.040</u> (j), the treasurer's certification required under <u>AS 15.13.040</u> (c) and the information required under (b)(1) and (2) of this section.
- (d) If an expenditure required to be reported under (a) or (b) or this section is made to an advertising agency or to an individual or business that provides campaign consultation or management services, the report must disclose in detail all services rendered, including the name of each business from which campaign goods or services were purchased or subcontracted or media advertising placed, and the amount of the expenditure.
- (e) For any contribution, the date received is the day on which the contribution is first in the possession of a candidate, or in the possession of a treasurer or deputy treasurer of a candidate, group, or nongroup entity;
- (f) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity that does not receive any contribution and does not make any expenditure in a reporting period may file a zero report for that period by filing the campaign disclosure report with the "no activity" box checked.
- (g) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity shall amend a report filed as required under <u>AS 15.13.110</u> if the value of any transaction in the report is incorrect or subsequently becomes incorrect, even if the value was accurate at the time of initial filing, if the change in value of any transaction is greater than or equal to \$100. The treasurer shall amend the report not later than 10 days after the date the correct value is known, or if within nine days of an election, not later than 24 hours.

(h) In the nine days preceding an election, contributions in excess of \$250 in the aggregate from a single source shall be reported to the commission not later than 24 hours after receipt, as required under AS 15.13.110(b), and must disclose the contributor, aggregate amount, an date received.

History: Eff. 7/22/78, Register 67; am 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.110; AS 15.13.112; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.324. Shared campaign activities

- (a) This section applies to a candidate, a group, and a nongroup entity except
 - (1) a political party; and
- (2) the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running jointly under AS 15.25.030(a)(16) and (17) and appearing on the ballot as a single paired unit.
- (b) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity may share in a campaign effort with another candidate, group, or nongroup entity. If the costs and receipts from a shared effort are allocated equally to each participant in a shared campaign effort, there is no contribution from one participant to another. Each candidate, group, and nongroup entity shall keep separate campaign records documenting costs and receipts of a shared campaign effort.
- (c) If an expenditure for a shared campaign effort is not allocated equally to each participant, a proportionate share of any expenditure that benefits a candidate, group, or nongroup entity other than the candidate, group, or nongroup entity paying for the effort is a contribution by
 - (1) the paying candidate to the other candidate;
 - (2) the paying group to the other group; or
 - (3) the paying nongroup entity to the other nongroup entity.
- (d) An expenditure made by a group on behalf of another group that is controlled by a candidate is a contribution, and may not exceed \$1,000 as provided in AS 15.13.070.
- (e) For any shared campaign effort with a combined cost exceeding \$1,000, including the cost of fundraising activities and campaign media consulting services, each candidate, group, or nongroup entity subject to this section shall report the candidate's, group's, or nongroup entity's share of the receipts and expenditures on a shared campaign activities form prescribed by the commission. A candidate, group, or nongroup entity may not file a joint report with another candidate, group, or nongroup entity.
- (f) Media communications about a shared campaign activity must include the words "paid for by" and the name of each candidate, group, or nongroup entity sharing in the cost of the communications, but need not list the address of each participating candidate, group, or nongroup entity. However, if one participant pays the full cost of a communication, then the communication must comply with <u>AS 15.13.090</u> (a) and 2 AAC<u>50.306</u>.

History: Eff. 7/22/78, Register 67; am 5/14/80, Register 74; am 6/29/84, Register 90; am 8/22/97, Register 143; am 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.070; AS 15.13.090; AS 15.13.112

2 AAC 50.327. Additional reporting by political party

In addition to reporting each contribution and expenditure as required under 2 AAC <u>50.321(b)</u>, a political party shall report, in compliance with <u>AS 15.13.040</u> and 15.13.110, all other income and expenses. Information required to be reported under this section includes

- (1) any other donation of any kind, including a purchase, payment, promise or obligation to pay, loan or loan guarantee, deposit or gift of money, goods or services other than volunteer services provided by an individual, that the political party receives from any person and that would not be required to be reported as a contribution as defined in AS 15.13.400; and
- (2) each expense incurred, including money spent on a communication not otherwise required to be reported as an expenditure as defined in AS 15.13.400.

History: Eff. 12/20/2002, Register 164; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.010; AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.110; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.328. Reporting exempt fundraising activities

- (a) A candidate or treasurer shall report a fundraising activity that meets the criteria of <u>AS</u> 15.13.040 (*l*) and this section by filing the exempt fundraiser form prescribed by the commission. An event is an exempt fundraiser if
- (1) for a fundraiser similar in nature to a spaghetti feed, dance, or concert, more than 25 participants pay to attend, and the amount received from any one person does not exceed \$50;
- (2) for a fundraiser similar in nature to a raffle, lottery, or drawing, 25 or more tickets are sold, and the amount received from any one person buying tickets or chances does not exceed \$50;
- (3) for a fundraiser at which income is produced by selling campaign material such as T-shirts or hats, the price of a single item does not exceed \$10, and the amount received from any one person purchasing items does not exceed \$50;
- (4) for a fundraiser similar in nature to a garage sale or an auction, the fair market value of each item donated for sale or auction does not exceed \$50, and the amount received from any person purchasing items at the event does not exceed \$50.
- (b) For each exempt fundraiser, the candidate or treasurer shall report the information required in $\underline{AS\ 15.13.040}$ (l), and
 - (1) the date and location of the fundraising activity;
 - (2) the price of a single ticket or campaign item sold;
 - (3) the total number of tickets or items sold;
 - (4) the number of paying participants whose names were recorded;

(5) the number of paying participants whose names were not recorded;

(6) the total costs and receipts of the fundraising activity; and

(7) the total income for this reporting period received from participants whose names were not

recorded.

(c) If a person contributes more than \$50 at an otherwise exempt fundraiser, the contribution must

be reported as set out in 2 AAC 50.321.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040

2 AAC 50.329. Reporting contributions from ongoing payroll deduction or dues programs

A group or nongroup entity shall report each contribution from each contributor in an ongoing payroll deduction program or other automatic payment plan in each reporting period for each

contributor by providing the

(1) name and address of the contributor;

(2) repealed 1/16/2015;

(3) repealed 1/16/2015;

(4) principal occupation and employer of the contributor, unless the cumulative amount received

from that contributor in a calendar year is \$100 or less; and

(5) amount and frequency of each deduction or payment.

History: Eff. 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register

213

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.110

2 AAC 50.344. Reporting by persons outside the state

A person residing outside the state is subject to the same reporting requirements, restrictions, and

responsibilities under AS 15.13 as a person residing within the state.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040

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2 AAC 50.348. Use of campaign contributions

- (a) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity may not make an expenditure from a campaign account in connection with a private election such as an election for a utility board, a labor union board, or a corporate board.
- (b) A candidate, group, or nongroup entity shall use a designated campaign depository required under 2 AAC <u>50.298</u> to pay all expenses associated with the group's or nongroup entity's efforts to influence, directly or indirectly, the outcome of a state or municipal election, or an initiative proposal application.
- (c) A candidate may invest any unused contribution that is being held for a future election campaign under AS 15.13.116 (a)(7) if the investment
 - (1) does not violate <u>AS 15.13.112</u> (b);
 - (2) does not result in any personal benefit; and
 - (3) cannot reasonably be understood to influence official duties or actions.
- (d) An investment under (c) of this section must
- (1) be an arm's length commercial transaction made on terms comparable with all other investors;
 - (2) comply with applicable financial laws and regulations;
 - (3) bear the regular rates and charges for arm's length transactions; and
 - (4) be evidenced by a written instrument.
- (e) In <u>AS 15.13.112</u> (b), "campaign contributions held by a candidate or group" means campaign contributions held by a candidate or by a group that is a controlled group as provided in 2 AAC 50.290(c).

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.010</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>; <u>AS 15.13.072</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 15.13.112</u>; <u>AS 15.13.116</u>; <u>AS 15.13.400</u>

2 AAC 50.352. Ballot measure activity

- (a) Except for a foreign national as provided in <u>AS 15.13.068</u>, a person may make a contribution to a group that is organized for the principal purpose of
- (1) filing an initiative proposal application with the lieutenant governor as provided in <u>AS</u> 15.45.020;

- (2) sponsoring or circulating initiative petitions under <u>AS 15.45.090</u> 15.45.140 for the purpose of having an initiative measure placed on the ballot;
- (3) supporting or opposing the efforts of any group that sponsors or circulates initiative petitions; or
 - (4) supporting or opposing the outcome of a ballot proposition election.
- (b) A person contributing a total of \$500 or more, in the aggregate, to a group described in (a) of this section shall file a statement of contributions in compliance with AS 15.13.040(k), on a form prescribed by the commission. The statement of contributions must be filed no later than 30 days after the person's total contributions to the group total \$500 or more, in the aggregate. A person making a contribution to a group described in (a) of this section shall make the contribution in the name of the true source of the money or thing of value as required under 2 AAC 50.258.
- (c) A corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, organization, business trust, labor union, or publicly funded entity that makes a contribution to a group described in (a) of this section, or makes an expenditure in support of, or in opposition to, a group described in (a) of this section, shall register in compliance with AS 15.13.050 and 2 AAC 50.290(a), and shall report the information required in AS 15.13.040 (b) and (c) unless the entity
- (1) makes each contribution and expenditure described in this section from the organization's general day-to-day operating account; and
- (2) does not assess, collect, pool, or solicit money or anything of value for the purpose of making any contribution and expenditure described in this section.
- (d) An individual who makes an expenditure to influence the outcome of a ballot proposition election or an initiative proposal application is not required to report the expenditure if the individual meets the criteria in AS 15.13.040 (h).

History: Eff. 1/7/2001, Register 157; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.010</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.050</u>; <u>AS 15.13.065</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>

2 AAC 50.356. Election-related use of public money

- (a) Money held by an entity listed in AS 15.13.145 (a)(1) (3) is considered specifically appropriated for the purpose of influencing the outcome of a ballot proposition election if the body with authority to appropriate gives notice in the public record that the purpose of the appropriation is to influence the outcome of that election or application. If an entity listed in AS 15.13.145 (a)(1) (3) does not have money specifically appropriated to influence a ballot proposition election, an
- (3) does not have money specifically appropriated to influence a ballot proposition election, an officer or employee of the entity may use money held by that entity to communicate about a ballot proposition if the communication is made in the usual and customary performance of the officer's or employee's duties.
- (b) An election-related communication that a municipality pays for is considered to be intended to influence the outcome of an election unless it is a communication of information allowed under <u>AS 15.13.145</u> (c), including nonpartisan information about a ballot proposition or about all candidates

seeking election to a particular public office. Information is nonpartisan if it does not advocate a position in an election. Nonpartisan information includes the official language of a ballot proposition, a neutral summary of a ballot proposition, and if provided for all candidates seeking a particular office, the candidates' names, contact information, or statements.

- (c) If an entity listed in AS 15.13.145 (a)(1) (3), or an officer or employee of the entity, uses budgeted money of the entity to make an election-related expenditure other than a communication of information allowed under AS 15.13.145 (c), the entity shall disclose the expenditure, and report the information required in AS 15.13.040 (e). If a municipality seeks to influence the outcome of an election using public money for that purpose, it shall register and report the information required under AS 15.13.040 (b) and (c).
- (d) In this section, "money" means government money, government property and assets, and the use of property, assets, or human resources belonging to a government entity.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.010; AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.040; AS 15.13.145

2 AAC 50.368. Joined campaigns

- (a) After filing a declaration of candidacy under AS 15.25.030, candidates for governor and lieutenant governor may contribute an unlimited amount to each other's campaigns notwithstanding 15.13.112(b)(7).
- (b) If the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor join assets after filing a declaration of candidacy, they must register a new campaign and file campaign disclosure reports for the joined account. A campaign account created before filing a declaration of candidacy or a campaign depository designated under 2 AAC 50.298 before filing a declaration of candidacy may be used.
- (c) Nominated candidates for governor and lieutenant governor remain subject to the contribution limitations set out in AS 15.13.070, except as provided in (a) of this section.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: Art. 3, sec. 8, Ak Const; <u>AS 15.13.010</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.070</u>; <u>AS 15.13.110</u>; <u>AS 15.13.112</u>

2 AAC 50.375. Communications by incumbents

If an incumbent elected official uses campaign funds to communicate with constituents during a campaign, the official shall include the information required under AS 15.13.090 (a) and 2 AAC 50.306 on the communication, and shall report the expense as a campaign expenditure. An incumbent elected official is not required to report the expense if

- (1) the official does not use campaign funds; and
- (2) the communication does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of a candidate, a ballot proposition, or an initiative proposal.

History: Eff. 7/22/78, Register 67; am 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.010; AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.090; AS 15.13.112; AS 15.13.400

2 AAC 50.384. Winding up campaign affairs

- (a) After an election, a candidate shall disburse unused campaign contributions and other property as provided in AS 15.13.116 no later than February 1 following each state primary or general election, or 90 days after a municipal election, a municipal runoff election, or, except as provided in (d) of this section, a special election. A candidate shall report the disbursement of unused campaign contributions and other property no later than 15 days after the disbursement, but no later than February 15 for each state primary or general election, and no later than 105 days after a municipal election, a municipal runoff election, or, except as provided in (d) of this section, a special election. A candidate who transfers unused campaign contributions to a future campaign account under AS 15.13.116 (a)(7) and uses them in compliance with 2 AAC 50.348(c) and (d), or who transfers unused campaign contributions to a public office expense term account under AS 15.13.116 (a)(8), shall continue to file applicable reports. A candidate who is unable to close a campaign account or pay all campaign debts by the deadlines in this section shall continue to file applicable reports. Any unpaid campaign debt remains the responsibility of the campaign, and does not become a personal debt of the candidate.
- (b) After an election, a group or nongroup entity may
- (1) leave its money in a campaign account until the following election if the group plans to remain active; a group remaining active must re-register annually in compliance with 2 AAC 50.290(a), and must file a year-end report by February 15 as provided in \underline{AS} $\underline{15.13.110}$ (a)(4); or
 - (2) disburse the campaign account money by
- (A) contributing to another candidate or group subject to the contribution limitations and other requirements of AS 15.13;
 - (B) donating the money to a qualified charitable organization under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3);
 - (C) repaying its contributors; or
 - (D) paying for a victory or thank you party.
- (c) A group or nongroup entity that does not plan to remain active shall report the disbursement of all campaign money no later than 15 days after the disbursement, but no later than February 15 for each state primary or general election, and no later than 105 days after a municipal election, a municipal runoff election, or, except as provided in (d) of this section, a special election.
- (d) In this section, the time limits for disbursement and reporting after a primary or general election apply to a special election that is called to be held with, and at the time of, a general election or primary election.

History: Eff. 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.010</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.072</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 15.13.110</u>; <u>AS 15.13.116</u>

2 AAC 50.396. Public office expense term account

- (a) A legislator may use a public office expense term account described in AS 15.13.116 (a)(8) only for expenses associated with service as a legislator. For purposes of AS 15.13.116 (a)(8) and (d) and this section, expenses associated with service as a legislator include
 - (1) travel expenses as provided in (b) of this section;
 - (2) office equipment used in legislative service;
 - (3) flowers and cards sent to constituents;
 - (4) constituent mailings reporting on legislative issues; and
- (5) other items that the United States Internal Revenue Service recognizes as bona fide expenses of serving in public office.
- (b) A legislator may use public office expense term account money for travel to a state event related to the legislative office held and for travel between Juneau, Alaska and the legislator's home district during the legislative session. A legislator may not use public office expense term account money to travel to a campaign event for the legislator or for another candidate for office, a political party event, or a fundraiser or speech for a national political figure. If a legislator incidentally attends a campaign event or other partisan event in connection with travel to a state event or to the legislator's home district for a purpose related to legislative service, any additional expense of attending the campaign event or other partisan event may not be paid from a public official expense term account.
- (c) In this section,
- (1) "incidentally attends a campaign event or other partisan event" means that the campaign event or partisan event is not the main purpose of the legislator's travel, and the legislator would not have incurred the travel expense solely for the campaign event or partisan event;
- (2) "partisan event" means an event or political activity that advocates support for one candidate over another, one political party over another, or one position over another in an ballot proposition.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.110; AS 15.13.116

2 AAC 50.405. Definitions

In 2 AAC 50.250 - 2 AAC 50.405, unless the context requires otherwise,

- (1) "ballot proposition" includes a bonding proposition, ballot initiative, ballot referendum, recall, advisory vote, ballot question proposed by the legislature, ballot measure to amend the Alaska Constitution, and any other question, as defined in <u>AS 15.80.010</u>, on the ballot in an election;
- (2) "candidate" has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400 (1)(A), except that the meaning given in AS 15.13.400 (1)(B) applies in a provision of 2 AAC 50.250 2 AAC 50.405 that limits or prohibits donation, solicitation, or acceptance of a campaign contribution, or that limits or prohibits an expenditure;
- (3) "draft group" means a group of two or more individuals organized for the purpose of drafting one or more individuals to become a candidate for municipal or state elective office;

- (4) "group"
 - (A) has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400;
- (B) if consisting of a combination of two or more individuals as set out in AS 15.13.400 (8)(B), means a combination of individuals attempting to influence the outcome of one or more elections through activities that include raising, soliciting, collecting, or disbursing money or anything of value, and directing, coordinating, or controlling those activities, if those activities are performed, directed, coordinated, or controlled with the major purpose of supporting or opposing
 - (i) a candidate for public office;
 - (ii) a ballot proposition; or
 - (iii) an initiative proposal application;
- (C) does not include a combination of two or more of a candidate's family members, nondependent children, parents, and siblings whose activities are performed, directed, coordinated, or controlled with the major purpose of securing only that candidate's election;
- (5) "independent expenditure"
 - (A) has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400;
- (B) does not include an expenditure made in cooperation or consultation with, at the request or suggestion of, or with the previous consent of a candidate, treasurer, or deputy treasurer, or of a person acting as an agent of the candidate, group, or nongroup entity; an expenditure is not an independent expenditure if it is
- (i) based on information that the candidate or an agent of the candidate, group, or nongroup entity provides about plans, projects, or needs of the candidate, group, or nongroup entity;
- (ii) based on data from a pollster, campaign consultant, or other person, and the pollster, campaign consultant, or other person receives compensation or reimbursement from a candidate, agent of the candidate, group, or nongroup entity;
- (iii) for the purpose of soliciting contributions to be paid to a candidate, group, or nongroup entity; or
- (iv) made to finance the distribution of campaign material provided by the candidate, treasurer, campaign consultant, or any other agent of the candidate, group, or nongroup entity;
- (6) "nongroup entity"
 - (A) has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400; and
- (B) is a nonprofit corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, organization, business trust, or society that qualifies to register to participate in an election campaign in support of or in opposition to a candidate, ballot proposition, or initiative proposal application;

- (7) "ongoing group" means a group that holds surplus campaign contributions from a past election campaign or for a future election campaign and that has not filed a report under 2 AAC 50.384(c);
- (8) "subcommittee" means
 - (A) an internal subgroup of a candidate campaign; or
 - (B) a controlled group as provided in 2 AAC <u>50.290(c)</u>;
- (9) "subordinate unit" means any division or subgroup of a political party that is
 - (A) formed and maintained as specified in the rules and bylaws of the party;
 - (B) expressly recognized by the party as a unit of the political party; and
 - (C) registered as a group with the commission.
- (10) "year" when used in AS 15.13.070 and AS 15.13.400 means a calendar year.

History: Eff. 7/22/78, Register 67; am 6/29/84, Register 90; am 1/4/86, Register 97; am 8/22/97, Register 143; am 1/1/2001, Register 156; am 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.072</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 15.13.100</u>; <u>AS 15.13.116</u>; <u>AS 15.13.400</u>

Article 4

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION PROCEDURES

- 2 AAC 50.801. Reports; public records
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- 2 AAC 50.990. Definitions

2 AAC 50.801. Reports; public records

- (a) A report, record, or other information in the commission's possession may be inspected at the commission's office during regular business hours unless the commission has determined that the report, record, or other information is confidential. The commission will provide a copy of any report, record, or other information in the commission's possession, at cost as provided in AS 40.25.110 40.25.120.
- (b) A person may request a determination that information in the commission's possession, including discovery the staff obtains in an investigation, is protected by a state or federal statute, privilege, or constitutional right, and must be kept confidential. If the commission determines, on request or on its own motion, that information in the commission's possession is protected by a state or federal statute, privilege, or constitutional right, the commission will keep the information confidential.
- (c) While a staff investigation under 2 AAC <u>50.875</u> is in progress, the commission's files relating to that investigation are confidential. After the investigation is concluded and the final commission order is issued, any person may view or copy an investigation file, except for documents the commission has determined to keep confidential under (b) of this section.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.020</u>; <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.110</u>; <u>AS 15.13.111</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.45.031</u>; <u>AS 24.45.091</u>; <u>AS 24.45.101</u>; <u>AS 24.60.131</u>; <u>AS 24.60.220</u>; <u>AS 24.60.230</u>; AS 39.50.050; AS 40.25.110; AS 40.25.120

2 AAC 50.806. Inspection and preservation of records

- (a) In an investigation initiated by the staff, or in response to a complaint, the staff may inspect records that a person is required to keep and preserve under <u>AS 15.13</u>, <u>AS 24.45</u>, <u>AS 24.60.200</u> 24.60.260, and AS 39.50, and other relevant documents and information.
- (b) The staff shall request access to inspect records, documents, or other information by mailing or delivering a letter identifying the requested records, documents, or other information with reasonable specificity. The person requested to provide access shall make the requested records, documents, or other information available to the staff at a reasonably convenient time and place no later than 10 days after the letter requesting access is mailed or delivered, unless the staff agrees to extend the time for making the records available. If the person requested to provide the records is subject to AS 15.13 or AS 24.45, and if the person does not comply or provides an incomplete response, the commission may issue a subpoena requiring production of the records.
- (c) A person served with a subpoena may file a written objection to producing any record, document, or other requested information, and may request a hearing before the commission on the objection. If the commission denies the objection, and the person fails or refuses to makes the records available for staff inspection, the commission may seek judicial enforcement of the subpoena as provided in AS 15.13.045(d).

(d) A person authorized under AS 15.13.111 (c) to submit records to the commission for preservation must submit the records with the form that the commission prescribes for that purpose, and in the electronic format that the commission requires. The commission may reject any records submitted in a format that is not compatible with the commission's electronic records system.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.045</u>; <u>AS 15.13.111</u>; <u>AS 24.45.031</u>; <u>AS 24.45.111</u>; AS 24.45.131; AS 24.60.220; AS 24.60.230; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.811. Filing and service of documents; computation of time

- (a) A document required to be filed with the commission must be electronically filed as provided in 2 AAC 50.816, or mailed or delivered to the commission. A mailed report must be postmarked no later than the due date for that document. A document delivered by hand, by electronic submission, or by facsimile transmission must be received at the commission's office no later than the due date for that document. A filing by a complainant, respondent, or other party to a commission proceeding must be accompanied by a certificate of service showing the date and method of mailing or delivery and each person to whom the document is sent.
- (b) The commission will give an initial notice of hearing to any respondent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or other method of personal service. Unless the commission knows that personal service is necessary to give actual notice of a hearing date, the commission will mail or deliver any other document required under this chapter, including any notice, order, or decision, to a person's address on file with the commission. A person subject to reporting requirements under this chapter shall keep an accurate address on file with the commission, and shall promptly give the commission notice of a change of address.
- (c) The commission will prepare a certificate of service for any order, notice, investigation report, or staff decision, including a penalty assessment; in the certificate, the commission will show the date and method of personal service, mailing, or delivery, and each person to whom the document is sent.
- (d) The time allowed for an act required or permitted under this chapter is computed by excluding the day on which the designated period begins, and including the day on which the performance is due. Except for a disclosure that must be submitted within 24 hours under AS 15.13.110 or 15.13.040, if the day on which the performance is due is a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the due date is the next business day. When a notice or other document requiring or permitting action under this chapter is served on a respondent or other person by mail, three days are added to the time allowed for the act.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.045</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.45.041</u>; <u>AS 24.60.210</u>; <u>AS 24.60.220</u>; <u>AS 39.50.050</u>

2 AAC 50.816. Electronic filing

- (a) Except as provided in AS 15.13.040 (m) and (b) of this section, a statement and report required to be submitted to the commission must be filed electronically on a form the commission prescribes for the purpose, unless the commission by order suspends the electronic filing requirement and requires a different method of filing. Nothing in this section relieves a person from compliance with submission or format requirements for a statement or report required to be filed with the director of elections, a municipal clerk, or any other designated official.
- (b) A representational lobbyist as described in 2 AAC 50.550(d) and the employer of a representational lobbyist are not required to register or file reports electronically under this section, but may file electronically at the option of the representational lobbyist or the employer of the representational lobbyist.
- (c) Except for a person required to file electronically under AS 24.45, a person may seek an exemption from the electronic filing requirement by filing a request in compliance with the exemption procedure set out in 2 AAC 50.821. In addition to meeting the requirements of 2 AAC 50.821(a), a person requesting an exemption from the electronic filing requirement must
- (1) attach the statement or form that the person seeks to file by means other than electronic filing to the exemption request; and
- (2) submit both the exemption request and the statement or report to which it applies by mail, facsimile transmission, or hand delivery no later than the date on which the statement or report is due.
- (d) A filing submitted to the commission by electronic mail is delivered when the sender's electronic mail account confirms the electronic mail was sent to the commission. A report or registration required under AS 24.45 is delivered when
 - (1) electronically signed;
- (2) verified by the electronic signature verification system designated by the commissioner of administration and established in 2 AAC 05.200 2 AAC 05.295; and
 - (3) recorded as submitted in the online account of the person required to register or report.
- (e) In this section "electronic signature" has the meaning given in AS 09.80.190.
- (f) A report submitted in accordance with AS 15.13.040 (p) must comply with provisions of AS 15.13.040 (a)(2).

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.040</u>; <u>AS 15.13.074</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.45.041</u>; <u>AS 24.45.051</u>; <u>AS 24.45.061</u>; <u>AS 24.45.116</u>; <u>AS 24.60.210</u>; <u>AS 24.60.220</u>; <u>AS 39.50.050</u>

2 AAC 50.821. Request for exemption or waiver

- (a) To request an exemption allowed under AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, or AS 39.50, or a waiver of any requirement of this chapter, a person shall file a written request for exemption or waiver. A written request for exemption or waiver must be submitted on or before the due date of any report or filing to which it relates, and must provide the following information:
 - (1) the name of the person requesting the exemption or waiver;
 - (2) the person's mailing address;
- (3) the electronic mail address or telephone number at which the person may readily be contacted;
 - (4) the matter for which the person seeks an exemption or waiver;
- (5) if the exemption or waiver request relates to information for which this chapter provides an exemption, the applicable provision of this chapter;
- (6) a statement whether the requested exemption or waiver is for a single report or filing, or for additional future reports requiring similar information;
 - (7) the reasons for the exemption request;
 - (8) any other information essential to the particular exemption or waiver request; and
- (9) a certification by the person requesting the exemption or waiver that all facts stated in the request are true.
- (b) No later than 30 days after the commission receives a written exemption request that complies with (a) of this section, the staff shall send to the person requesting the exemption or waiver, at the address listed in the request, either a staff recommendation that the commission grant or deny the request, or a decision granting or denying the request. The staff shall issue a recommendation, and the matter will be presented to the commission for decision as provided in 2 AAC 50.826 if the staff determines
- (1) that the exemption request presents a factual or legal issue on which the commission has not previously made a decision in a substantially similar request for an exemption or waiver;
 - (2) that the exemption request requires a policy decision by the commission; or
 - (3) for other good reason.
- (c) If the staff issues a decision granting the request, the decision must specifically describe the scope and duration of the exemption or waiver. If the staff issues a decision denying the request, the decision must state the reasons and notify the person requesting the exemption or waiver of the right to appeal the staff decision to the commission as provided in 2 AAC<u>50.831.</u> If the

person that requested the exemption or waiver does not file an administrative appeal to the commission within 30 days after the date the staff decision is mailed or delivered to the person,

- (1) the decision is final, and may not be appealed to the commission at a later date; and
- (2) the person shall comply with any requirement of this chapter for which the exemption or waiver request was denied.
- (d) A person that has requested an exemption under this section is not required to comply with the requirement from which the exemption request seeks relief if
- (1) the staff issued a recommendation subject to commission review and the commission has not issued a final written order on that recommendation; or
- (2) the commission has not issued a decision after a person appealed a staff decision in compliance with (c) of this section and 2 AAC 50.831.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.035; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.826. Commission decision on staff recommendation

- (a) The procedure in this section applies when AS 15.13.374 or any provision of this chapter authorizes the staff to prepare a draft advisory opinion or other recommended decision for the commission's review. A staff recommendation must be in writing, set out applicable facts and law, and explain the reasons for the recommendation.
- (b) After preparing a recommendation, the staff shall
 - (1) submit the recommendation to the commission for decision; and
- (2) send a copy of the recommendation to the person that requested the opinion or exemption, or that is the subject of the matter at issue, along with notice that the recommendation has been submitted to the commission for review as provided in (c) of this section.
- (c) When the commission receives a staff recommendation prepared in compliance with this section, the commission will
- (1) review the recommendation at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the commission unless, in its discretion, the commission schedules the matter at a different meeting; the commission will give the affected person notice of the date, time, and place the commission will consider the matter, and of the right to present an argument;
 - (2) accept, reject, or modify the staff recommendation; and
- (3) send written notice of the commission's final decision and an order describing specifically any required action to the person that requested the opinion or exemption or is the subject of the matter at issue, at the person's address on file with the commission; in the notice the commission will state that the decision is a final commission decision and may be appealed to the superior court under AS 44.62.560.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.831. Administrative appeal of staff decision

- (a) A person that receives an adverse staff decision, including a penalty assessment under AAC <u>50.855</u>, may appeal the staff decision to the commission as provided in this section. Unless otherwise provided, a person must appeal from an adverse staff decision by filing a notice of appeal and a written statement explaining the reasons the appellant believes the staff decision should be rejected. The notice of appeal and statement of reasons must be mailed or delivered to the commission no later than 30 days after the date the staff decision was mailed or delivered to the person. The commission will not consider an appeal that is not timely filed.
- (b) The commission will consider a notice of appeal and statement of reasons at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting unless, in its discretion, the commission schedules the appeal for a special meeting. The commission will give the appellant advance notice of the date, time, and place the commission will consider the appeal. The appellant may appear in person or telephonically, and may be represented by an agent or an attorney licensed to practice in this state. The commission will determine the order of presentations on the appeal.
- (c) After considering the statement of reasons and other relevant evidence, the commission will affirm, reject, or modify the staff decision. No later than 10 days after the date the commission enters its order, the staff shall send written notice of the commission's decision to the appellant at the appellant's address on file with the commission. An adverse decision of the commission may be appealed to the superior court as provided in <u>AS 44.62.560</u> and Rules 601 612 of the Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.835. Disqualification of commission member

- (a) A commission member who has a conflict of interest or a relationship that creates an appearance of impropriety, or who is otherwise unable to participate in a decision in an unbiased manner so as to reach a fair and impartial decision on a matter before the commission may not participate in a decision on a staff recommendation, an administrative appeal of a staff decision, or a hearing on that matter. A commission member has a conflict of interest in a matter before the commission if
- (1) the commission member has a substantial financial relationship with a complainant or respondent in the matter; or
- (2) a family member, employer, business associate, or business of a commission member has a substantial financial relationship with a complainant, a respondent, or a family member, business associate, or business of a complainant or a respondent.
- (b) A commission member with a conflict of interest or a relationship that creates an appearance of impropriety, or who is otherwise unable to participate in a decision in an unbiased manner, shall state on the record the nature of the conflict or the relationship. Whether the member may participate in the hearing will be determined in accordance with <u>AS 39.52.220</u>, including consideration of the following factors:

(1) the significance of the member's financial relationship or interest;

(2) whether the interest held by the member, the member's family member, or the member's

business associate or business is similar to that held by a large class of persons; and

(3) whether a reasonable person would believe a person with the relationship or interest of the

commission member to be capable of fair and impartial judgment.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.840. Advisory opinion

(a) The commission staff shall review any request for an advisory opinion submitted under AS 15.13.374. If the staff determines that a request for an advisory opinion does not

satisfy the requirements of AS 15.13.374(b), the staff shall reject the request and notify the

person making the request of any deficiency. A rejected request may be corrected and refiled.

(b) If the staff determines that a request for an advisory opinion satisfies the requirements of AS 15.13.374(b), the executive director or the executive director's designee shall prepare a

recommended advisory opinion for the commission's consideration as provided in

AS 15.13.374(c). The commission will consider the recommended opinion as provided in

2 AAC 50.826.

(c) A commission member who voted with the majority approving an advisory opinion may, no

later than 15 days after the vote, move for reconsideration of the opinion based on a showing of substantial procedural error, fraud, misrepresentation, material mistake of fact or law, or new

evidence relevant to the advisory opinion. If at least four members vote to reconsider an advisory

opinion, the opinion is vacated.

(d) A person that requested an advisory opinion may act in reliance on the advisory opinion

unless that person receives notice that the commission has reconsidered the advisory opinion. A person's good faith reliance on an advisory opinion is a complete defense to any enforcement

action based on the conduct that is the subject of the advisory opinion.

(e) Nothing in this section precludes the commission from revising a previous advisory opinion

for good cause.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.374; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

7

2 AAC 50.845. Late or incomplete reports

- (a) A statement, report, or registration required under AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, AS 39.50, this chapter, or a commission order requiring the statement, report, or registration is late if not filed electronically or by another method the commission requires on or before the due date prescribed in the statute, regulation, or commission order requiring the statement, report, or registration. A statement, report, or registration that is not required to be filed electronically must be mailed or delivered to the commission's office on or before the date prescribed in the statute, regulation, or commission order requiring the statement, report, or registration. The statement of a municipal officer is late if the municipal clerk or the clerk's designee does not receive the statement on or before the due date for that statement.
- (b) A statement, report, or registration required under AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, AS 39.50, this chapter, or a commission order is incomplete if any material item of information required by the prescribed form is not provided. However, a report is not incomplete and a penalty will not be assessed if the occupation or employer information required in AS 15.13.040 is not provided for a contribution and the treasurer or candidate returns the contribution no later than 10 days after receipt from the contributor. If the staff discovers an obvious deficiency on the face of a statement, the staff shall notify the filer of the deficiency.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.380</u>; <u>AS 15.13.390</u>; <u>AS 24.45.131</u>; <u>AS 24.45.141</u>; AS 24.60.200; AS 24.60.210; AS 24.60.220; AS 24.60.240; AS 39.50.020; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.850. Notice of deficiency; remedies

- (a) **Nonreceipt.** A person's failure to receive a notice of deficiency does not excuse that person's failure to mail or deliver each required filing on or before the due date for that filing.
- (b) **Notice of deficiency.** Except as provided in (f) and (g) of this section, if a person required to file a registration, disclosure statement, or other report under AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, or AS 39.50 fails to file the registration, statement, or report within 10 days after the due date for that filing, the staff shall send the person responsible for the filing a written notice stating
 - (1) that the person's registration, statement, or report has not been filed;
 - (2) the date on which the registration, statement, or report was due;
- (3) the amount of the civil penalty that may be assessed as of the date of the notice, and the amount by which the penalty may increase each day until the registration, statement, or report is filed.
- (c) **Second notice.** In addition to the notice of deficiency described in (b) of this section, the staff shall send each public official, candidate, or legislative branch filer a second notice of deficiency in compliance with the applicable provisions of (d) (h) of this section.

- (d) **Public officials.** Except as provided in (e) of this section for a judicial officer or in (f) of this section for a municipal officer, the staff shall send a second written notice to a public official who fails to file a complete initial, annual, or final disclosure statement 25 days after the applicable due date. The second notice must contain the information set out in (b)(1) (3) of this section and must state that
 - (1) failure or refusal to file the statement is punishable as a misdemeanor under AS 39.50.060;
- (2) if the statement is not received 30 days after the due date, the staff will notify the commission that that the public official's statement is overdue by 30 days, and will take other action under the direction of the commission, including
- (A) requesting the governor to remove the public official from office under <u>AS 39.50.060</u> 39.50.080, unless the official is the governor or lieutenant governor;
- (B) requesting the state agency that administers the salary, per diem, and travel expenses of the public official to withhold those payments under AS 39.50.070, 39.50.080, or 39.50.130;
- (C) requesting the attorney general to initiate misdemeanor proceedings under AS 39.50.060 39.50.080 or 39.50.130; and
 - (D) taking other action as appropriate to carry out <u>AS 39.50.060</u> 39.50.080 or 39.50.130.
- (e) **Judicial officers.** If a judicial officer, except for a person who holds judicial office for less than 30 days, fails to file a complete initial, annual, or final disclosure statement 25 days after the applicable due date, the staff shall send a second written notice containing the information set out in (b)(1) (3) of this section. The second written notice must also state that
 - (1) failure or refusal to file the statement is punishable as a misdemeanor under AS 39.50.110;
- (2) if the statement is not received 30 days after the due date, the staff will notify the commission that the judicial officer's statement is overdue by 30 days, and will take other action under the direction of the commission, including
- (A) requesting the administrator of the court system to withhold salary, per diem, and travel expense payments to the judicial officer under AS 39.50.110;
- (B) requesting the Commission on Judicial Conduct to refer the matter to the supreme court with a recommendation that the judicial officer be removed from office under AS 39.50.110;
- (C) requesting the attorney general to initiate misdemeanor proceedings under <u>AS 39.50.060</u> or 39.50.110; and
 - (D) taking other action as appropriate to carry out AS 39.50.060 or 39.50.110.
- (f) **Municipal officers.** A municipal officer's annual disclosure statement is delinquent if not filed with the applicable municipal clerk or the clerk's designee on or before March 15 of each year. No later than five days after March 15 of each year, the municipal clerk or the clerk's designee shall verify that each municipal officer has filed the statement. The municipal clerk or

the clerk's designee shall notify any municipal officer whose statement is delinquent or incomplete of the filing requirement. The municipal clerk or the clerk's designee shall also notify the commission, by telephone, facsimile, or electronic mail, of the name and address of any municipal officer whose statement is delinquent or incomplete. The municipal clerk or the clerk's designee shall promptly notify the commission of the date that any delinquent or corrected statement is received.

- (g) **Delinquent or incomplete statements from municipal officers; commission action.** When the commission is notified that a municipal officer's statement is delinquent or incomplete, the staff shall send written notice containing the information set out in (b)(1) (3) of this section to that municipal officer. If a municipal officer's statement is overdue by 30 days, the commission may
 - (1) request the attorney general to initiate misdemeanor proceedings; and
 - (2) take other action as appropriate to carry out AS 39.50.060.
- (h) Candidates for state or municipal office. In addition to the applicable procedures in (a) (c) of this section, seven days before the primary election withdrawal date set in AS 15.25.055, the general election withdrawal date set in AS 15.25.200, and the withdrawal date for a municipal election, the staff shall prepare a list of each candidate for state or municipal elective office who has not filed a complete disclosure statement required under AS 39.50.020 and 39.50.030. The staff shall notify each candidate on the list of the date, time, and place of a meeting at which the commission will consider the list. If the commission determines that a listed candidate has failed to supply required information on a significant source of income, interest in real property, business interest, loan, or trust, the commission will recommend
- (1) that the lieutenant governor remove the name of the listed candidate for state elective office from the ballot, or if the candidate's name cannot be removed from the ballot, that the lieutenant governor not certify the candidate's nomination for office or election to office; or
- (2) that the appropriate municipal clerk or the clerk's designee refuse a listed municipal elective office candidate's filing for office and filing fees, or return the filing and fees, and remove the candidate's name from the filing records.
- (i) **Staff investigations.** If information discovered after the deadline for withdrawal of candidacy indicates that a candidate for state or municipal elective office has failed to comply substantially with the requirements of <u>AS 39.50</u> or 2 AAC <u>50.680</u> 2 AAC <u>50.799</u>, the staff shall investigate the matter as set out in 2 AAC <u>50.875</u>.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

 Authority:
 AS
 15.13.030;
 AS
 15.13.380;
 AS
 15.13.390;
 AS
 24.45.131;
 AS
 24.45.141;

 AS
 24.60.200;
 AS
 24.60.210;
 AS
 24.60.220;
 AS
 24.60.240;
 AS
 24.60.250;
 AS
 24.60.260;

 AS
 39.50.020;
 AS
 39.50.050;
 AS
 39.50.070;
 AS
 39.50.080;
 AS
 39.50.110;

 AS
 39.50.130;
 AS
 39.50.135

2 AAC 50.855. Penalty assessment procedure

- (a) If, no later than 30 days after the due date, a person responsible for filing a registration, statement, or report required under AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, or AS 39.50 that is late or incomplete corrects the deficiency, the commission staff shall assess a penalty. The amount of the penalty must be determined by multiplying the applicable daily maximum penalty set out in AS 15.13.390, AS 24.45.141, AS 24.60.240, or AS 39.50.135 by the number of days the registration, statement, or report was late or incomplete. The number of late or incomplete days includes each day following the due date of the registration, statement, or report through the day a registration, statement, or report that substantially complies with the filing requirement is mailed or delivered to the commission.
- (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section,
- (1) for late filing of a statement or report required under AS 24.60.200 24.60.260 or AS 39.50, the staff shall document the violation and
 - (A) shall waive the assessed penalty if
- (i) the late filing is an initial report due from a first-time filer who is also a first-time member of a board or commission who was not notified of the required filing by the staff of that board or commission; or
- (ii) the late filing is from a member of the national guard or military reserves called to active duty during the period from 60 days before the due date to 60 days after the due date;
- (B) shall reduce the assessed penalty to 25 percent of the maximum penalty under AS 24.60.240 or AS 39.50.135 if the person is a first-time filer and the late filing is a candidate disclosure statement;
 - (C) shall reduce the assessed penalty to 50 percent of the maximum penalty if
 - (i) the person is not a first-time filer; or
 - (ii) the late filing is a final statement due after leaving office; and
- (D) shall reduce the assessed penalty to 75 percent of the maximum penalty for all other late filings under this paragraph;
- (2) for late filing of or an error in a registration, statement, or report required under AS 15.13, the staff shall document the violation and
 - (A) may not assess a penalty if
 - (i) the person is a first-time filer;
- (ii) there were multiple or multi-day technical issues with the electronic filing system, or a day-long technical issue on the filing due date, that prevented the person from timely filing;

- (iii) the late filing is from a member of the national guard or military reserves called to active duty during the period from 60 days before the due date to 60 days after the due date;
- (iv) except for a disclosure that must be submitted within 24 hours under AS 15.13.110 or 15.13.040, for a statement of contributions, the reporting error was the person's first error, and the contribution was reported by the recipient of the contribution not later than 30 days after the due date for the statement of contributions; or
- (v) for an independent expenditure report, the reporting error was the person's first error, and the filing is not a report required to be filed within 24 hours;
 - (B) shall reduce the penalty to 25 percent of the maximum penalty if
- (i) the election cycle is the person's first election cycle and the report is the person's first late-filed report; or
- (ii) the person self-reports the missing information to the staff and discloses the information to the public within seven days after the date of self-reporting; the penalty stops accruing on the date the person self-reported the error by notifying the staff of the error; filing the late or missing information without notifying the staff of the error does not constitute self-reporting; and
 - (C) shall reduce the penalty to 50 percent of the maximum penalty if
 - (i) the election cycle is the person's first election cycle; or
 - (ii) the amount missing or erroneously reported on a filing is under \$100;
 - (3) for incomplete filings of all types, the staff shall document the violation and
- (A) may not assess a penalty if the missing or incomplete information was readily available to the public through another forum;
- (B) shall reduce the penalty to 50 percent of the maximum penalty if the missing or incomplete information was not readily available to the public through another forum, but the incomplete report is the first alleged violation against the person; and
- (C) shall assess the maximum penalty for all other incomplete reports not addressed under (1) or (2) of this subsection;
- (4) the staff may not assess a penalty if the amount of the reporting error or the amount of a transaction missing in a report is less than \$100 and is promptly corrected
 - (A) without receiving a notice from the staff; or
 - (B) within the time allowed by any notice of deficiency from the staff; or
- (5) for reports required under AS 15.13.110(a)(2) or (b), the staff shall assess a penalty of not more than \$500 per day for each day a deficiency exists before the relevant election and reduce the penalty to \$50 per day for each day a deficiency remains uncorrected after the relevant

election, if the staff has received no evidence of an aggravating factor under 2 AAC 50.865(d); the amount of a penalty assessed under this paragraph is limited to not more than five times the amount of the expenditure or contribution erroneously reported or unreported

- (c) When the staff assesses a penalty in compliance with (a) of this section, the staff shall, no later than 14 working days after receiving the materials that correct the deficiency, mail or deliver a written penalty assessment to the person responsible for filing the registration, statement, or report. The written penalty assessment must show the calculation of the penalty, and must state that the person responsible may appeal the penalty assessment as provided in 2 AAC 50.831 and 2 AAC 50.860.
- (d) If the commission does not receive a required registration, statement, or report, or material information needed to complete a registration, statement, or report, or receives it later than 30 days after the due date, the staff shall assess a penalty as set out in this section. The written penalty assessment must also inform the person responsible for the registration, statement, or report that the amount of the penalty will continue to increase each day until the registration, statement, or report, and all material information required in the registration, statement, or report, is mailed or delivered to the commission. The staff shall also inform the person responsible for the registration, statement, or report that the staff will initiate action to enforce the remedies described in the applicable provisions of <u>2 AAC 50.850</u>.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213; am 12/21/2016. Register 220; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

 Authority:
 AS
 15.13.030;
 AS
 15.13.390;
 AS
 24.45.021;
 AS
 24.45.141;
 AS
 24.60.220;

 AS
 24.60.240;
 AS
 24.60.260;
 AS
 39.50.050;
 AS
 39.50.060;
 AS
 39.50.070;
 AS
 39.50.080;

2 AAC 50.860. Procedure for disputing penalty

- (a) A person who receives a penalty assessment under 2 AAC 50.855 may appeal the assessment to the commission by submitting a written statement
 - (1) explaining any reason the person disputes any fact relevant to the assessment;
- (2) including an affidavit that states facts to support any mitigating factor listed in 2 AAC 50.865 that is applicable to that person; and
 - (3) showing that any aggravating factor listed in 2 AAC 50.865(d) does not apply to that person.
- (b) The staff shall review any facts disputed in an appeal, including facts relevant to mitigating and aggravating factors. For any appeal of a penalty less than \$250, if the staff has no evidence of an aggravating factor, the staff may determine that facts shown in mitigation under 2 AAC 50.865(b)(1) (4) justify reducing the penalty by 50 percent, and may calculate the reduced penalty. If the person who appealed the penalty assessment agrees to the revised penalty assessment and pays the amount due no later than 30 days after receiving the revised penalty assessment, the appeal will be considered withdrawn, and the matter resolved. If, after applying the mitigating factors in 2 AAC 50.865(a) or (b), the staff reduces the assessed penalty to \$100 or less and the person who appealed pays the revised penalty no later than 30 days after receiving the revised penalty assessment, the appeal will be considered withdrawn, and the matter resolved. If the person who appealed does not agree to the revised penalty, the staff shall provide a written recommendation to the commission and serve a copy on the person who appealed.

- (c) The commission will hear a penalty assessment appeal in compliance with the procedure for administrative appeals set out in <u>2 AAC 50.831</u>. After considering the statement of reasons, the affidavit, and other relevant evidence, the commission may
- (1) affirm the civil penalty if the commission determines that the penalty is computed in compliance with 2 AAC 50.855 and justified either because
 - (A) no mitigating factors have been shown; or
- (B) aggravating factors under <u>2 AAC 50.865(d)</u> require imposition of the maximum penalties allowed under the relevant statutes;
- (2) reduce or waive the civil penalty if the commission finds that mitigating factors justify a reduction in the amount of the assessed penalty; or
- (3) reject the penalty assessment, or remand to the staff if the commission finds the penalty assessment is based on incomplete or inaccurate facts or application of the law.
- (d) If the commission determines to impose part or all of a civil penalty assessed under <u>2 AAC 50.855</u>, the penalty is due no later than 30 days after the date the notice of the commission's decision is mailed or delivered.
- (e) A decision of the commission to impose any civil penalty may be appealed to the superior court as provided in AS 44.62.560 and Rules 601 612 of the Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure. The commission will stay an obligation to pay the penalty as provided in (d) of this section when the commission decision is appealed to the superior court, but the stay terminates if the superior court affirms the commission's decision or if the appeal is withdrawn. A penalty imposed by the commission must be paid within 30 days after the superior court affirms the commission's decision or if the appeal is withdrawn.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2016, Register 213; am 12/21/2016, Register 220

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.865. Mitigating factors; aggravating factors

- (a) A civil penalty determined under 2 AAC 50.855 may be reduced by up to 50 percent if
 - (1) a person required to file a statement or other filing
 - (A) has a good filing history; in this subparagraph, "good filing history" means
 - (i) no late filings in the immediately preceding five years; and
- (ii) for groups, no more than \$500 in non-administrative activity shown on the group's overdue report; or
- (B) is an inexperienced filer; in this subparagraph, "inexperienced filer" means a person required to file reports under this chapter if that person has been subject to a registration or reporting requirement for less than 365 days, or a person engaged in the person's first election cycle;

- (2) a technical error at the commission, including a communication, facsimile machine, computer program, electronic filing system, or other equipment problem may have contributed to the late or incomplete filing;
 - (3) any unreported or mistakenly reported information had a value of \$100 or less; or
- (4) any unreported or mistakenly reported information had a value higher than \$100 but no more than \$1,000, and a factor listed in (b) of this section also applies.
- (b) A civil penalty determined under 2 AAC 50.855 may be reduced by a percentage greater than 50 percent, or waived entirely based on the following factors:
- (1) the person required to file, or a family member of the person required to file, experienced a personal emergency, including a call for military service, a natural disaster, a civil disturbance, or an incapacitating illness that prevented the person from filing on or before the due date; this mitigating factor is only available to a natural person;
 - (2) a significant cause of the late filing is commission staff error, including
 - (A) furnishing reporting materials too late for filing on or before the due date;
- (B) giving incorrect oral or written information to a person required to submit a statement or other filing; or
 - (C) failing to deliver required notices when due;
 - (3) a late or erroneous report included only administrative costs;
- (4) a late or incomplete report did not cause significant harm to the public, and aggravating factors under (d) of this section do not exist; for purposes of this paragraph, a late or incomplete report did not cause significant harm to the public if
 - (A) the dollar amount missing from a form or disclosure is \$100 or less;
- (B) the dollar amount for the information missing from a form or disclosure is more than \$100 but no more than \$1,000, and the person required to file self-reported the error; for purposes of this subparagraph, the error is self-reported if the person notified the staff of the error, but filing the late or missing information without notifying the staff does not constitute self-reporting; or
- (C) except for a disclosure that must be submitted within 24 hours under <u>AS 15.13.110</u> or 15.13.040, the missing or incomplete information is readily available to the public through another forum;
- (5) the civil penalty assessment is significantly out of proportion to the degree of harm to the public for not having the information; for purposes of this paragraph, absent the presence of aggravating factors in (d) of this section, an assessed penalty is significantly out of proportion if it exceeds the value of the transactions that were not reported or were reported late, or, in the

case of seven-day or 24-hour reports, exceeds twice the value of the transactions that were not reported or were reported late; or

- (6) a unique circumstance justifies reducing or waiving the penalty.
- (c) The commission will not accept any of the following as mitigating factors to reduce the amount of a penalty:
- (1) relying on another person or mailroom to mail, postmark, or submit the statement on or before a due date;
 - (2) forgetting to file;
 - (3) being a volunteer;
 - (4) having no change in reportable information from previous filed statements;
- (5) relying on the responsible person's staff to remind the person of the filing deadline or to complete or file the report;
 - (6) being too busy to file;
- (7) absence caused by travel, unless the travel was unplanned or unavoidable, including travel for a personal emergency, or weather-related travel problems.
- (d) A civil penalty determined under 2 AAC 50.855 may be increased to the maximum amount allowed under the applicable statute if a person required to file a statement or other filing has
- (1) failed to substantially comply with financial disclosure requirements by omitting a significant source of income, interest in real property, business interest, loan, trust, or other substantial financial interest; in this paragraph, "substantial financial interest" means an interest with a value greater than \$1,000; or
 - (2) a poor reporting history; indicators of a poor reporting history include any of the following:
 - (A) more than one late filing in the immediately preceding five years;
 - (B) evidence suggesting deliberate non-reporting;
 - (C) failure to cooperate with the staff;
- (D) a violation of any provision of AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, AS 39.50, or this chapter in the preceding five years.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 12/21/2016, Register 220; am 9/25/2022, Register 243

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.141; AS 39.50.050; AS 15.13.390; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.135; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.240

2 AAC 50.870. Complaints

- (a) A person, including a member of the commission or the staff, may file a complaint alleging a violation of AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60 260, AS 39.50, or this chapter.
- (b) A complaint under this section must be in writing, and must be signed, under oath and upon penalty of perjury, before a notary public, municipal clerk, court clerk, postmaster, or other person authorized to administer oaths. The complaint may be on a form provided by the commission or in any other form that provides the following information:
 - (1) the full name, mailing address, and telephone number of the complainant;
 - (2) the name of the person alleged to be in violation;
 - (3) the statute or regulation alleged to be violated;
- (4) a clear and concise description of facts that, if true, would violate a provision of AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60 260, AS 39.50, or this chapter;
- (5) the basis of the complainant's knowledge of the facts alleged, including those based on personal knowledge and those based upon other sources of information and belief;
 - (6) relevant documentation or other evidence that is available to the complainant; and
- (7) proof that a copy of the complaint and documentation was mailed or delivered to the person alleged to be in violation.
- (c) No later than one day after receiving a complaint, the staff shall determine if the complaint
 - (1) is signed and notarized under oath;
 - (2) contains the information required in (b) of this section;
- (3) alleges facts that, if true, would be a violation of <u>AS 15.13</u>, <u>AS 24.45</u>, <u>AS 24.60.200</u> <u>24.60</u> 260, AS 39.50, or this chapter; and
 - (4) alleges a violation that occurred within the last five years.
- (d) If the staff determines that the complaint does not meet all the criteria of (c) of this section, the staff shall, no later than one day after receiving the complaint, reject the complaint, and notify the complainant, the person alleged to be in violation, and the commission of the rejection and the reason. A person that filed a complaint rejected by the staff may file a written request asking the commission to review the rejection. The commission will review the complaint and the reasons for the staff's rejection of the complaint at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting unless, in its discretion, the commission schedules the matter for a special meeting. The commission will
 - (1) affirm the staff's rejection of the complaint; or

- (2) find that the complaint meets the criteria in (c) of this section, and either set a hearing for expedited consideration or direct the staff to conduct an investigation.
- (e) If the staff determines that the complaint meets all the criteria of (c) of this section, the staff shall, no later than seven days after receiving the complaint, notify the complainant, the person alleged to be in violation, and the commission. The notice must include the statement that the person alleged to be in violation may file a written answer no later than 15 days after the date of the notice. The staff shall investigate the complaint as set out in <u>2 AAC 50.875</u>.
- (f) After accepting a complaint and before issuance of an investigation report under <u>2 AAC 50.875</u>, the complainant, the executive director, and the respondent may agree in writing to withdraw the complaint. The executive director shall notify the commission that the complaint has been withdrawn by agreement. Further action on the withdrawn complaint will not be taken except upon subsequent order of the commission.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

 Authority:
 AS
 15.13.030;
 AS
 15.13.045;
 AS
 15.13.380;
 AS
 15.13.390;
 AS
 24.45.021;

 AS
 24.45.031;
 AS
 24.45.135;
 AS
 24.60.220;
 AS
 24.60.225;
 AS
 39.50.050;

 AS
 39.50.055

2 AAC 50.875. Investigation

- (a) The staff shall undertake an investigation of a complaint that the staff or the commission determines meets the criteria in 2 AAC 50.870(c). The staff shall initiate an investigation if the commission or staff obtains information that, if true, would constitute a substantial violation of AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, AS 39.50, or this chapter. If the staff initiates an investigation, the staff shall promptly
 - (1) prepare a written notice, setting out the facts, allegations, and law involved; and
- (2) provide the written notice and a copy of the complaint and supporting documentation to the respondent and the commission.
- (b) The staff may conduct an investigation as provided in AS 15.13.045, and may
 - (1) request written and sworn statements from a party, witness, or other person;
 - (2) request the assistance of the Alaska State Troopers; and
 - (3) contract with a private investigator.
- (c) When the staff completes an investigation, but no later than 30 days after accepting a complaint, staff shall prepare an investigation report. The investigation report must include a summary of the staff's findings, and a recommendation
- (1) that a hearing be held and penalties assessed if the staff concludes that the evidence shows a violation of the law;

- (2) that the matter be dismissed if the staff concludes that the evidence does not support a violation; or
- (3) that the commission approve a consent agreement, if the respondent and the staff have agreed to a resolution in compliance with <u>2 AAC50.885.</u>
- (d) The staff shall provide a copy of the investigation report to the complainant, the respondent, and the commission. No later than 10 days after the staff mails or delivers the investigation report to the respondent, the respondent may file an answer or an amended answer to the investigation report.
- (e) The commission will consider an investigation report at its next regularly scheduled meeting unless, in its discretion, the commission schedules the matter for a special meeting. The commission will give notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting to the complainant and the respondent. After considering the recommendation, the commission will
 - (1) schedule the matter for hearing;
 - (2) dismiss the complaint or investigation; or
 - (3) consider any consent agreement as provided in <u>2 AAC 50.885.</u>

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.045</u>; <u>AS 15.13.380</u>; <u>AS 15.13.390</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; AS 24.45.031; AS 24.45.131; AS 24.60.220; AS 24.60.250; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.880. Answer to complaint

- (a) A person alleged to be in violation may file an answer
- (1) to the complaint not later than 15 days after receiving notice that the complaint satisfies the requirements in 2 AAC 50.870(a); or
- (2) to the investigation report not later than 10 days after receiving the investigation report under 2 AAC 50.875;
- (b) An answer to a complaint must
 - (1) admit or deny the allegations in the complaint;
- (2) be signed by the respondent, under oath and upon penalty of perjury, before a notary public, municipal clerk, court clerk, postmaster, or other person authorized to administer oaths;
 - (3) include the mailing address and telephone number of the respondent; and
- (4) be accompanied by proof that a copy of the answer and supporting documentation was mailed or delivered to the complainant.

- (c) An answer to a complaint or investigation report may
 - (1) respond to the allegations in the complaint;
 - (2) state any defense to the allegations;
- (3) object to the complaint as so indefinite or uncertain that the respondent cannot prepare a defense; and
 - (4) include relevant documentation.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.045</u>; <u>AS 15.13.380</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.45.131</u>; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.885. Consent agreement

- (a) At any time after a complaint is filed or after the staff initiates an investigation, the respondent may enter into a consent agreement with the staff. Notwithstanding 2 AAC 50.875, the staff may suspend an investigation if the respondent enters into a consent agreement before staff completes an investigation and report. A consent agreement must be in writing, must state that it is subject to commission approval, and must include an agreement regarding the assessment of civil penalties, the commission's costs of investigation and adjudication, and reasonable attorney fees, as provided in AS 15.13.390 (b). The parties may present a statement of the facts supporting the consent agreement.
- (b) The commission may require evidence to support a finding that the consent agreement is in the public interest and consistent with controlling law. If the commission rejects a consent agreement, the commission will provide an explanation of the reasons for rejection, and may, as appropriate under the circumstances, proceed with a hearing on the matter under investigation, consider a revised consent agreement, or allow additional evidence or argument in support of the rejected consent agreement. If the commission accepts a consent agreement, the staff and the respondent are bound by it.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.888. Expedited consideration; hearing on expedited consideration

- (a) A complainant, the staff, or a respondent may request expedited consideration when a complaint is filed or any time before the date for an answer as provided in <u>2 AAC 50.880</u>. A request for expedited consideration must be submitted as a separate document from any other filing, and must include
 - (1) proof that the opposing party actually received the request for expedited consideration; and

- (2) evidence showing reasonable cause to believe a violation of law has occurred or will occur, and that the violation, if not immediately restrained, could
 - (A) materially affect the outcome of an election or other impending event; or
 - (B) cause irreparable harm that penalties could not adequately remedy.
- (b) The commission will consider a request for expedited consideration as provided in AS 15.13.380 (c) and (d). The commission will give the complainant, the staff, and the respondent notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing at which the commission will decide a request for expedited consideration. The notice will be posted on the commission's website and in a prominent place, visible to the general public, at the commission's offices. In the notice, the commission will state that, if the commission grants expedited consideration, the commission may hear the complaint immediately after issuing its order to expedite consideration.
- (c) At the hearing on the request for expedited consideration, the commission will consider the argument and evidence in support of the request for expedited consideration and will allow the party opposing the request an opportunity to respond with argument and evidence. The commission may allow an opportunity to rebut the response. The person that requested expedited consideration has the burden of proof to demonstrate the need for expedited consideration.
- (d) The commission will announce its decision on a request to expedite consideration on the record at the hearing. The commission will expedite consideration of a complaint if substantial evidence supports expediting consideration under the factors set out in AS 15.13.380 (c). If the commission denies expedited consideration, the commission will refer the complaint for investigation as provided in 2 AAC 50.875. If the commission expedites consideration, the commission will either commence the hearing immediately, or provide notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing to be held in compliance with AS 15.13.380(d).
- (e) A hearing on expedited consideration will be conducted as provided in <u>2 AAC 50.891</u> except that the commission may, for good cause and consistent with due process, modify any procedure in order to expedite the proceeding. The commission will issue an order as provided in <u>AS 15.13.380</u> (d).

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.045</u>; <u>AS 15.13.380</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.60.220</u>; AS 39.50.050

2 AAC 50.891. Hearing; record; decision

- (a) The commission will conduct a hearing on a complaint, an investigation report, or a consent decree, in compliance with AS 44.62.330- 44.62.630.
- (b) The commission will give the complainant and respondent reasonable notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing. In addition, the commission will post the notice on the commission's website and in a prominent place, visible to the public, at the commission's offices. If the hearing is conducted by telephone, audio or video teleconferencing, or other electronic means, the commission will, in the notice, designate at least one place for public access. The

complainant or a party may request a change in the date, time, or place of a hearing. The commission may grant a change in the date, time, or place of a hearing for good cause and with reasonable notice to the complainant, the parties, and the public.

- (c) Before a hearing, a respondent may inspect the staff case file, and may obtain copies at cost. However, internal staff memoranda and any privileged information may not be inspected or copied.
- (d) Except as provided in 2 AAC 50.888 for a hearing on a request for expedited consideration, the staff and the respondent are parties to a hearing. For good cause, the commission may also designate the complainant as a party. A party to a hearing may be represented by an agent or an attorney licensed in this state, and may call witnesses and present evidence. A complainant that is not designated as a party to the proceeding may present argument, but may not call witnesses or present evidence. The staff shall present the investigation report, and bears the burden of proving a violation by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (e) The hearing will be recorded and open to the public. A complainant or respondent may arrange for preparation of a transcript at the complainant's or respondent's own expense. A copy of any transcript prepared from the recording must be filed with the commission.
- (f) No later than 10 days after the record closes, the commission will issue an order in compliance with AS 44.62.510.
- (g) The commission may reconsider an order as provided in AS 44.62.540. A request for reconsideration must be filed no later than 15 days after the commission delivers or mails an order as provided in (f) of this section. A request for reconsideration must state specific grounds for reconsideration. The commission will reconsider its decision only if
 - (1) a substantial procedural error occurred;
 - (2) the order was based on fraud, misrepresentation, or material mistake of fact or law;
- (3) new evidence has been discovered that could not have been discovered before the hearing using reasonable diligence.
- (h) If a final order of the commission determines that a violation has occurred, the commission may assess appropriate civil penalties, the commission's costs of investigation and adjudication, and reasonable attorney's fees against the respondent. Costs of investigation and adjudication include costs of serving subpoenas, witness fees, database searches, deposition costs, staff travel costs, witness travel costs, transcription costs paid to outside firms, expert or consultant fees, overtime pay for hourly staff employees, copying costs, materials, costs of preparing hearing materials and display, costs of publishing hearing notices, hearing officer fees, and honoraria and travel costs of commissioners.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 15.13.045</u>; <u>AS 15.13.380</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.45.131</u>; <u>AS 24.60.220</u>; <u>AS 24.60.240</u>; <u>AS 24.60.250</u>; <u>AS 39.50.050</u>; <u>AS 39.50.135</u>

2 AAC 50.895. Referral to attorney general

- (a) If a person that is assessed a civil penalty for a violation of this chapter refuses or fails to appeal or pay the penalty, the commission will refer the matter to the attorney general for appropriate action.
- (b) If, before the commission concludes action on a complaint, the attorney general or a federal agency
- (1) files a civil complaint addressing the subject matter of the administrative complaint, the commission will dismiss the administrative complaint without prejudice; or
- (2) initiates a criminal investigation or proceeding addressing the subject matter of the administrative complaint, the commission may suspend action until the criminal proceeding concludes

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 15.13.380; AS 15.13.385; AS 24.45.031; AS 24.45.131

2 AAC 50.899. Definitions

In 2 AAC 50.801 - 2 AAC 50.899, unless the context requires otherwise,

- (1) "delivered" means conveyed by hand-delivery, electronic submission, or facsimile transmission;
- (2) "mailed" means sent by first class or higher priority service using the United States Postal Service.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200

Authority: <u>AS 15.13.030</u>; <u>AS 24.45.021</u>; <u>AS 24.45.031</u>; <u>AS 24.60.220</u>; <u>AS 24.60.240</u>; <u>AS 39.50.050</u>

2 AAC 50.990. Definitions

In this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "agent"
 - (A) means a representative or one who is authorized to act for another;
 - (B) includes a contractor or subcontractor;
- (2) "anything of value"
- (A) except as provided in (B) of this paragraph, means any item, property, or services, tangible or intangible, that could reasonably be considered to be a material advantage, or of material worth, use, or service to a person receiving the item, property, or services;

- (B) for a legislative branch filer, has the meaning given in AS 24.60.990;
- (C) includes any facility, equipment, polling information, supplies, advertising service, membership list, mailing list, and the service of distributing information by means of electronic mail, unless the cost of doing so is minimal;
- (3) except as provided in 2 AAC 50.405, "candidate"
 - (A) means a candidate for state or municipal elective office;
 - (B) includes an individual who
 - (i) submits a letter of intent to the commission under <u>2 AAC 50.274</u>; or
 - (ii) has publicly announced an intent to run as a write-in candidate;
- (4) "child" has the meaning given in AS 39.50.200;
- (5) "commission" means the Alaska Public Offices Commission;
- (6) "complainant" means a person who files a complaint with the commission under 2 AAC 50.870;
- (7) "contribution"
 - (A) has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400;
 - (B) includes
- (i) a subscription, advance, transfer, forgiveness of all or part of a debt, relaxation of credit, or anything of value made for or provided to a candidate or campaign by a person, group, or nongroup entity for the purpose set out in AS 15.13.400 (4)(A); and
 - (ii) a personal contribution as provided in 2 AAC 50.254;
 - (C) does not include
- (i) costs that a media organization, including a broadcasting station, newspaper, or periodical of regular publication, incurs in covering or carrying a news story, editorial, or commentary; however, if the media organization is owned or controlled by a political party, group, or candidate, the cost of the news story, editorial, or commentary is a contribution, unless the media organization carries a bona fide news account as part of a general pattern of campaign-related news accounts that gives reasonably equal coverage to all opposing candidates in the circulation or listening area;
- (ii) a non-monetary contribution or in-kind donation of a single item with a normal cost of \$50 or less;
- (iii) a payment by an individual for the individual's own travel expenses, if the payment is voluntary and is made without an understanding that the payment will be directly or indirectly repaid;
- (iv) costs that a business, corporation, trade association, labor union, or other organization not organized primarily to influence elections incurs to communicate directly with the organization's members, employees, or the families of members or employees, on any subject, if

the communication is in the same format the organization has used in the past for communications on nonpolitical subjects, and does not solicit contributions or any action other than voting for or against a candidate or ballot proposition or question;

- (v) a gift, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made with respect to a recount of a state or municipal election;
- (vi) costs incurred to provide necessary administrative services associated with a payroll withholding plan, if the costs do not include expenses associated with soliciting contributions;
- (vii) provision of a service or facility to a candidate, group, or nongroup entity if the entity providing the service or facility is paid at a commercially reasonable rate within a commercially reasonable time or makes the service or facility available to all candidates for a particular office;
- (viii) provision of an organization's membership or mailing list to the group or nongroup entity affiliated with the organization;
- (ix) the use of personal money or credit by a campaign treasurer or deputy treasurer for an expenditure allowable under AS 15.13.112, if the amount does not exceed \$500 and is repaid before the end of the report cycle in which the expenditure was made; or
- (x) the use of personal money or credit by a candidate for an authorized campaign expenditure, if the amount is repaid no later than three days after the date of the expenditure;
- (8) "creditor" includes a government authority that has a right by law to demand and recover money from a person or a person's family member;
- (9) "deferred income" means money or anything of value that is earned in a reporting period, but is to be paid after the end of that reporting period;
- (10) "disclosure statement" or "statement" means a disclosure statement required under AS 24.60.200 or AS 39.50.020;
- (11) "domestic partner" has the meaning given in AS 39.50.200;
- (12) "family member" means
 - (A) a spouse;
 - (B) a domestic partner;
- (C) a dependent child; in this subparagraph, "dependent child" means an unmarried child of a person subject to this chapter who is dependent upon that person and who is either
 - (i) under 19 years of age; or
- (ii) under 23 years of age and registered at and attending on a full-time basis an accredited educational or technical institution recognized by the Department of Education and Early Development; age restrictions set out in this subparagraph do not apply to a child who is totally and permanently disabled;
- (13) "gift"
 - (A) means a payment or item received without consideration of equal or greater value;

- (B) for a person subject to AS 24.45, has the meaning given in AS 24.45.171;
- (C) includes
- (i) satisfaction of a loan or debt by forgiveness or payment by a third party, or a third party's enforceable promise to pay the loan or satisfy the debt obligation if the person obligated does not give full and adequate consideration;
 - (ii) accommodations, including housing, a hotel room, and a vacation rental;
 - (iii) a ticket for travel or an entertainment event;
 - (iv) food or beverages not intended for immediate consumption;
- (v) a discount or rebate for goods and services if the discount or rebate is not available to the public generally;
- (vi) goods or services provided or loaned for personal or professional use, including office expenses connected with holding public office;
 - (vii) a scholarship to pay costs of an educational or recreational program;
 - (D) does not include
 - (i) a political contribution;
- (ii) a commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business in exchange for consideration of equal or greater value;
 - (iii) an inheritance;
- (iv) an item of value received without consideration from a family member or a parent, nondependent child, sibling, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew;
- (14) "income"
 - (A) has the meaning given in AS 24.60.990;
 - (B) includes money or anything of value, including deferred income, earned or received
 - (i) in exchange for labor or services;
 - (ii) from the sale of goods or property;
 - (iii) as profit from a financial investment;
 - (iv) as alimony;
 - (v) as child support;
 - (vi) as a government entitlement; or
 - (vii) as an honorarium;
- (15) "individual" means a natural person;

- (16) "judicial officer" has the meaning given in AS 39.50.200;
- (17) "labor union" means a local, national, or international union, a labor council, or any other labor organization recognized under state or federal law;
- (18) "legislative branch filer" means
 - (A) a legislator;
 - (B) a legislative director;
 - (C) a member of the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics;
- (19) "loan or loan guarantee" means a business or personal
- (A) loan signed or co-signed by the legislative branch filer, public official, or candidate, or a family member of the legislative branch filer, public official or candidate; or
- (B) loan guarantee made on behalf of the legislative branch filer, public official, or candidate, or a family member of the legislative branch filer, public official, or candidate;
- (20) "lobbyist" has the meaning given in AS 24.45.171;
- (21) "minor" means an individual who is under 18 years of age;
- (22) "money" means currency of the United States or of a foreign nation, checks, money orders, or negotiable instruments payable on demand;
- (23) "municipality" has the meaning given in AS 01.10.060;
- (24) "municipal officer" has the meaning given in AS 39.50.200;
- (25) "nondependent child" is a child that is not a dependent for purposes of the definition of "family member" in this section;
- (26) "person"
 - (A) has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400;
 - (B) includes an initiative committee that is designated as provided in AS 15.45.030;
- (27) "political action" has the meaning given in AS 24.60.990;
- (28) "public official" or "public officer" has the meaning given in AS 39.50.200;
- (29) "resident of the state" or "resident of this state"
 - (A) means an individual who meets the requirements of AS 01.10.055; and
 - (B) includes each individual who is registered to vote in the state;

- (30) "respondent" means a person against whom a complaint has been made or an investigation has been initiated under 2 AAC 50.870 2 AAC50.875;
- (31) "sibling" means a brother or sister, including a stepbrother, stepsister, and adopted brother or sister;
- (32) "source of income" has the meaning given in AS 39.50.200;
- (33) "staff"
- (A) means the staff of the Alaska Public Offices Commission, employed under AS 15.13.020 (i);
- (B) includes any individual hired as a contractor to provide specific services to the commission;
 - (C) does not include a member of the commission;
- (34) "taking office" means the earlier of
 - (A) the day on which the public official first earns compensation for work; or
 - (B) the day on which the public official takes the oath of office;
- (35) "working day" means a day other than Saturday, Sunday, or a state holiday;
- (36) "zero report" means a report filed under AS 15.13, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 24.60.260, or AS 39.50 that shows the person filing the report had no reportable activity during the period of time covered by the report.

History: Eff. 12/22/2011, Register 200; am 1/16/2015, Register 213

Authority: AS 15.13.030; AS 24.45.021; AS 24.60.220; AS 39.50.050