



## INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE COMMITTEES

### CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE **MANUAL 6**

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# INTRODUCTION

## Who Should Use this Manual?

**Individuals and entities using their own funds to make independent expenditures** on candidates or measures should use this manual. Individuals and entities, including corporations, firms, businesses, and proprietorships, making independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more in a calendar year qualify as a committee under the Act and must file reports of the independent expenditures.

Other political committees, including PACs, sponsored committees, general purpose committees, ballot measure committees, and so-called "independent expenditure only" committees, also make independent expenditures using funds raised from contributors. But this manual is not intended for those recipient committees.

## Purpose of this Manual

California's Political Reform Act (the "Act") requires receipts and expenditures in election campaigns to be disclosed fully and truthfully. In recent years, California has experienced huge growth in the amount of independent expenditures made at both the state and local levels. Typically, independent expenditures increase when contribution limits encourage campaign spending by persons who are neither candidates nor political parties. Clear and accurate disclosure is key to making voters aware of who is paying for political messages so they can evaluate the content and make informed decisions at the ballot box.

In California, the true source of an independent expenditure must be disclosed and may not be hidden. Strict rules are in place for multi-purpose organizations and nonprofits (including 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations) that make political expenditures to ensure that accurate information is disclosed on campaign reports and in political communications such as television ads and electronic messages.

Since 1974, there have been over 200 amendments to the Act's campaign disclosure provisions. This manual has been prepared to

assist persons making independent expenditures in complying with the Act's numerous and often detailed rules. This manual is written in a "user friendly" format so that committees have a resource guide. Also provided is a list of statutes and regulations at the end of each chapter. These can be accessed on the FPPC website.

In addition, federal and state tax laws and other rules may be applicable. Telephone numbers and website addresses for the Federal Election Commission, Internal Revenue Service, California Franchise Tax Board, and the Federal Communications Commission are listed in the Appendix.

## Controlling Law

This manual summarizes key campaign disclosure laws and regulations and draws from years of FPPC staff advice on complying with the provisions of the Act's campaign disclosure laws. Each committee's activity is different, however, and may raise issues not discussed in this manual. If there are any discrepancies between the manual and the Act or its corresponding regulations, the Act and its regulations will control.

## Need Help?

If you need assistance, the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) provides advice by email and by a toll-free telephone advice line. The FPPC does not provide third party advice or advice on past conduct. In addition, the FPPC website ([www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)) contains forms, manuals, and a wealth of other helpful information.

Email Advice	Telephone Advice
<a href="mailto:advice@fppc.ca.gov">advice@fppc.ca.gov</a>	1-866-ASK FPPC (1-866-275-3772)

## Don't forget these rules...

- Each independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more on behalf of a candidate or ballot measure triggers the filing of campaign reports: Form 462, Form 461 and Form 496. Filing deadlines and requirements are reviewed in this manual.
- Filing locations for the Form 496 are sometimes different from where the independent expenditure committee files the Form 461.

## Recent Changes

### Independent Expenditures:

**Verification Requirements:** A principal officer must sign a verification form (Form 462) and email it to the FPPC stating that a communication reported as an independent expenditure meets the legal standards and there has been no reimbursement.

**Cumulative Totals:** The cumulative-to-date total spent on independent expenditures relating to a candidate or measure must be reported on the Form 496.

**24-Hour Reporting:** State and local committees must file reports within 24 hours for independent expenditures and contributions of \$1,000 or more made in the 90 days prior to an election, or on the date of the election.

**Campaign Statement Filing Location:** Provisions in Regulation 18227.5 make it easy to determine if a committee should file as a state, county, or city committee. The revised rules make campaign finance data easier to access as more committees will file online with the Secretary of State.

**Electronic Filing Threshold Reduced to \$25,000:** The electronic filing threshold for state committees filing with the Secretary of State was reduced from \$50,000 to \$25,000.

## **Electronic Media and Mass Mailing Disclosure Disclaimer**

**Requirements:** All mass mailings and certain campaign ads must state “paid for by” adjacent to the name of the committee. This identification is also required on more than 200 substantially similar electronic messages sent to the public within a calendar month. For detailed advertising disclaimer requirements, See Chapter 2.

**“Express Advocacy” Definition Update:** Communications that advocate support or opposition of a clearly identified candidate or ballot measure contain “express advocacy” in certain circumstances. The definition of “express advocacy” in Regulation 18225 was amended to include communications made within 60 days prior to the candidate’s or ballot measure’s election when, taken as a whole, unambiguously urge a particular result in an election. (See Chapter 1 for more information.)

**Local Electronic Filing Provisions:** Some local jurisdictions may require campaign forms to be filed electronically. Contact the local jurisdiction for information on whether there is an e-filing requirement.

## **Reporting Rules Have Been Revised Related to the Following Subject Areas:**

- Local Agency Formation Commission payments
- State and local agencies making payments for campaign related communications
- Multi-purpose organizations (e.g., nonprofits and local clubs focusing on educational and social activities)

# COMMITTEE QUALIFICATION

## A. What is an Independent Expenditure Committee?

An individual or entity (e.g., corporation, firm, business, or proprietorship) that makes one or more independent expenditures to pay for a communication (i.e. mailing, lawn signs, newspaper ads) totaling \$1,000 or more in a calendar year that is not coordinated with the affected candidate or committee, qualifies as a committee and must file reports under the Act. Section C reviews when a multi-purpose organization may qualify as an independent expenditure committee.

### What is an Independent Expenditure?

An “independent expenditure” is a payment for a communication that **expressly advocates** the election or defeat of a **clearly identified** California state or local candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a clearly identified state or local ballot measure, **and** the communication is **not coordinated** with or “made at the behest” of the affected candidate or committee. The following information provides an overview of how to determine if the three factors are met for a communication to be considered an independent expenditure. Whether a communication does in fact expressly advocate a clearly identified candidate or measure will always depend upon the words and message. The FPPC can offer guidance if a sample communication is provided.

### Express Advocacy

A communication *expressly advocates* support or opposition of a clearly identified candidate or ballot measure under the following scenarios:

- The communication uses words such as “vote for,” “elect,” “cast your ballot,” or “defeat.”

#### Quick Tip

This manual is for individuals or entities making independent expenditures from their own funds. If an individual or entity receives contributions totaling ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,000 or more in a calendar year for the purpose of making contributions or independent expenditures in connection with California candidates or ballot measures, a recipient committee is formed, and different reporting applies. This includes instances when two or more individuals or entities make separate payments totaling \$2,000 or more for a single communication, they also may qualify as a recipient committee.

- The communication is made within 60 days prior to an election and the communication refers to a clearly identified candidate or ballot measure so that when taken as a whole, unambiguously, suggests only one meaning which is to urge a particular result in an election. The message must **not** be susceptible **of no to any** reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate or ballot measure. Examples include: “Smith’s the One,” or “Only Nancy Brown can clean up City Hall.”

A communication does not expressly advocate if it does not mention an election, candidacy, or the merits of a measure, and it focuses on a legislative, executive or judicial matter. An example may be “Thank you Supervisor Smith for continuing to support our farmers.”

### Clearly Identifies

A communication *clearly identifies* a candidate or measure when the candidate’s name, photograph, or status as a candidate or officeholder is used, or the measure’s name, popular title, or official title is used. Some flyers may mention a group of candidates by some well-defined characteristic of the group. Even if no specific names are used, these, too, may be communications which *clearly identify* candidates.

### Is the Expenditure Independent or Coordinated with the Campaign?

An independent expenditure committee must be aware that the communication cannot be coordinated with the affected candidate or measure committee. If there is coordination, the payments are reported as contributions, and, among other things, may be subject to contribution limits.

An expenditure is **not considered independent** of a candidate or committee if:

- It is made at the request, suggestion, or direction of, or in cooperation, consultation, or coordination with the candidate or committee for whose benefit the expenditure is made.

**Ex 1.1** - In May, Sandra Farmer paid \$4,000 for a mailing that included the statement “Vote No on Measure A.” Sandra, acting on her own, paid for the mailing with her personal funds and qualified as an independent expenditure committee.

In October, MBI Development Corporation paid for a series of automated telephone calls to voters in Southern California that said “Vote for Smith for Governor.” The corporation, acting independently of the candidate’s committee, paid \$12,000 for the calls. The corporation qualified as an independent expenditure committee.

**Ex 1.2** - Several individuals contributed funds, **and the pooled funds exceeded \$1,000 \$2,000**, to a political consultant to develop newspaper ads that will state Vote Yes on Measure C. In this example, the ad may be an independent expenditure but because the individuals pooled their funds for the communication, the group qualified as a primarily formed ballot measure recipient committee to oppose the measure. In these circumstances, use Manual 3 for campaign filing requirements and not this manual.



- The candidate or committee or their agents have made or participated in making any decision about the content, timing, location, mode, intended audience, distribution, or frequency of placing the communication.
- The creator, producer **or** distributor of the communication, or the person paying for the communication has had discussion and agreement with the candidate or committee, or their agents, regarding the content, timing, location, mode, intended audience, distribution, or placement of the communication.

**There is a rebuttable presumption **than that** an expenditure is coordinated **with** or “made at the behest of” a candidate or committee **if** under the following circumstances:**

- **Committee’s Needs.** It is based on information about the candidate’s or committee’s campaign needs or plans provided to the expending person by the candidate or committee, such as information concerning campaign messaging, planned expenditures, or polling data.
- **Agent.** It is made by or through any agent of the candidate or committee in the course of the agent’s involvement in the current campaign. “Current campaign” means the period beginning 12 months prior to the date of the primary or special election in which the candidate is on the ballot for an elective office and ending on the date of the general or special runoff election for that office. For a measure, “current campaign” means the period beginning 12 months prior to the date of the election in which the measure is on the ballot.
- **Common Consultants.** The person making the expenditure retains the services of a person who provides either the candidate **or** the committee supporting or opposing the ballot measure with professional services related to campaign or fundraising strategy for the current campaign that same election.
- **Republication.** The communication reproduces, republishes, or disseminates, in whole or in substantial part, a communication designed, produced, paid for, or distributed by the candidate or committee.

- **Fundraising.** The committee making the expenditure is primarily formed to support the candidate or oppose their opponent and in the course of the current campaign, the candidate who benefits from the expenditure solicits funds for or appears as a speaker at a fundraiser for the committee making the expenditure.
- **Former Staff.** The person making the expenditure is established, run, or staffed in a leadership role, by an individual who previously worked in a senior position or advisory capacity on the candidate's or officeholder's staff within the current campaign.
- **Candidate's Family.** The person making the expenditure is established, run **or** staffed in a leadership role, or principally funded by an individual who is an immediate family member of the candidate.

### Coordination Results in Contribution

When a communication is coordinated with or "made at the behest of" the candidate or committee, the **payment for the** communication will qualify as a contribution.

However, an expenditure will not be considered to be coordinated with a candidate merely because:

- **Interview.** The person making the expenditure interviews the candidate on issues affecting the person making the expenditure.
- **Photograph or Press Release.** The person making the expenditure has obtained a photograph, biography, position paper, press release, or similar material from the candidate or the candidate's agent.
- **General Request for Support.** The person makes the expenditure in response to a general, non-specific request for support by a candidate or committee, provided that there is no discussion with the candidate or committee prior to the expenditure relating to details of the expenditure.

- **Meeting with Members or Employees.** The person making the expenditure has invited the candidate or committee to make an appearance before the person’s members, employees, shareholders, or the families thereof, provided that there is no discussion with the candidate or committee prior to the expenditure related to details of the expenditure.
- **Prior Contribution.** The person making the expenditure has made a contribution to the candidate or committee.
- **Informed after the Expenditure is Made.** A person informs a candidate or committee that the person has made an expenditure, provided that there is not exchange of information, not otherwise available to the public, relating to details of the expenditure.
- **Expenditure Benefits Another Candidate or Committee.** The expenditure is made at the request or suggestion of the candidate or committee for the benefit of another candidate or committee.
- **Hyperlink.** The communication includes a hyperlink to the Internet website or other social media page of a candidate or ballot measure committee.

FPPC Regulations 18225.7 and 18550.1, summarized above, specify when a communication is considered independent or made at the behest of a candidate or committee. Because the determination is based on specific facts, persons may contact the FPPC for guidance.

## B. Affiliated and Non-Affiliated Committees

There are certain situations when payments made by two or more persons are aggregated and the persons are treated as a single committee for reporting purposes.

Under the Act, the term “person” includes an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, business trust, company, corporation, limited liability company, committee, and association.

**Ex 1.3** – In May, Ellen Gomez attended a fundraiser for a candidate and used her personal funds to pay for the \$500 ticket. In June, she made a \$3,000 independent expenditure from her wholly owned business to oppose a ballot measure and qualified as an independent expenditure committee. Because Ms. Gomez directed and controlled all of the payments, she and her business qualify as a single committee and must disclose her personal contributions as well as the independent expenditures made from her business.

Affiliated individuals and entities will qualify as a single independent expenditure committee, if, together, their independent expenditures total \$1,000 or more, in a calendar year.

The following payments are aggregated:

- Contributions or independent expenditures made from an individual's personal funds and from funds he or she directs and controls
- Contributions or independent expenditures made by two or more entities that are directed and controlled by a majority of the same persons
- Contributions or independent expenditures made by entities that are majority owned by any person. Contributions and independent expenditures made by the majority owner and all other entities majority owned by that person are aggregated unless the entities act independently in their decisions to make contributions or independent expenditures.

The examples **in this manual** provide general guidance. Every case is unique and we encourage you to contact the FPPC for advice.

## C. Multi-Purpose Organizations

A nonprofit or other multi-purpose organization that makes political expenditures in California may also qualify as an independent expenditure committee. The following information summarizes the committee qualification rules for such organizations.

### Independent Expenditure Reporting

**General Treasury Funds.** A nonprofit or other multi-purpose organization that receives donations or other payments (e.g., membership dues) for purposes other than making political expenditures in California but nevertheless does, at times, make independent expenditures in California will qualify as an independent expenditure committee if the organization makes independent

**Ex 1.4 – Pace Computers** contributed a total of \$9,000 to support various legislative candidates. Under the direction of Pace Computers, Global Software, Inc., a company in which Pace Computers has a greater than 50 percent ownership interest, made an independent expenditure of \$7,000 to support a local candidate. Because Global Software, Inc. did not act independently, the companies qualify as a single committee and will file a single Form 461 listing both contributions and independent expenditures.

**Ex 1.5 – Southwest Telecom** has a greater than 50 percent ownership interest in American Telecom. Each entity, entirely on its own and with separate decision-making bodies, made independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more. Southwest Telecom made an independent expenditure in connection with a state ballot measure, while American Telecom made independent expenditures in connection with a local ballot measure. Because Southwest Telecom and American Telecom acted completely independently in their decisions, a Form 461 would be filed separately by each company listing only that company's expenditures.

expenditures in a calendar year between \$1,000 and \$50,000. An organization that makes political expenditures of more than \$50,000 in a 12-month period or more than \$100,000 in four consecutive calendar years will qualify as a recipient committee.

**Non-Donor Funds.** A nonprofit or other multi-purpose organization that uses only non-donor funds for independent expenditures in California will qualify as an independent expenditure committee in each calendar year that the organization's independent expenditures total \$1,000 or more. Examples of non-donor income include interest payments and sales revenue.

A multi-purpose organization that qualifies as an independent expenditure committee is subject to the same campaign disclosure provisions reviewed in this manual as a business entity, including the filing of Form 496 (24-hour Contribution Report), Form 462 (Verification of Independent Expenditures), and Form 461 (Major Donor/Independent Expenditure Report).

## Recipient Committee Reporting

A multi-purpose organization that solicits and receives payments from donors totaling at least \$2,000 in a calendar year for the purpose of making contributions or expenditures in California will not qualify as an independent expenditure committee, but will instead qualify as a recipient committee.

A multi-purpose organization will also qualify as a recipient committee if the organization:

- Accepts payments from donors totaling at least \$2,000 subject to an agreement or understanding with the donor that all or a portion of the funds will be used for making contributions or expenditures in California;
- Has existing funds and a subsequent agreement or understanding is reached with the donor that \$2,000 or more of the funds will be used for contributions or expenditures in California; or

### Quick Tip

If your 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization makes independent expenditures from general funds of \$50,000 or less in a 12-month period to support or oppose a candidate or ballot measure, even though it does not qualify as a recipient committee that reports donors, the organization must file independent expenditure reports.

### Quick Tip

The FPPC website has information about the reporting requirements for multi-purpose organizations.

### Quick Tip

A federal or out-of-state political action committee qualifies as a recipient committee when \$2,000 or more in a calendar year is used for expenditures and contributions in California.

- Makes contributions or expenditures in California totaling more than \$50,000 in a 12-month period or more than \$100,000 in four consecutive calendar years using general treasury funds or membership dues.

See information on the FPPC website for recipient committee filing requirements, which are distinctly different from the filing requirements for independent expenditure committees.

**Ex 1.6** – A multi-purpose organization provides a variety of services to its members, including insurance services, that result in income to the organization. The organization makes political expenditures from the income producing account and not from its membership dues account. Therefore, the organization does not qualify as a recipient committee. The organization is required to file reports as an “independent expenditure” committee if it makes, in a calendar year, \$1,000 or more in independent expenditures.

**Ex 1.7** –A trade association of city businesses raises money for charitable events in the community. One year, the association makes a \$45,000 independent expenditure, 30 days before the election, to oppose a city tax measure on the ballot. The association had not raised the money for political purposes and did not reach an agreement with donors that their payments may be used for political purposes. The association qualifies as an independent expenditure committee and must file the following reports: Form 496, Form 462, and Form 461. If the association had made an independent expenditure of more than \$50,000, it must register as a recipient committee, file related reports and identify donors whose membership dues were used to make the independent expenditures.

## D. Other Types of Payments

An entity that makes independent expenditures in California should be aware of the following types of payments that are addressed in the Political Reform Act.

### Internet Activity – Uncompensated Individuals

When an individual or group of individuals sends communications that expressly advocate a candidate or measure conducted over or related to the Internet, such as emails, social networking, blogging, website postings, and hyperlinks, this is not reportable activity so long as the individual sending the communication is uncompensated.

**Ex 1.8** – If a candidate’s neighbor sends emails to his family and friends and posts on his personal social networking site communications supporting the campaign, the communications are not reportable even though the candidate may have provided the neighbor with campaign materials.

### Electioneering Communications Identifying State Candidates (No Express Advocacy)

An individual or business entity that makes a payment or promise of payment totaling \$50,000 or more for a communication that 1) clearly identifies a state candidate; but 2) does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of the candidate; and 3) is disseminated, broadcast, or otherwise published within 45 days of the candidate’s election, is required to file Form E-530. (See Chapter 3.)

**Ex 1.9** – A corporation sends a mailing supporting a ballot measure to the corporation’s shareholders. The mailing is not a contribution to the ballot measure committee whose position is supported and is also not considered an independent expenditure. The mailing does not trigger disclosure reports.

### Member Communications

Payments made by an entity (including a business entity) for a communication that supports or opposes a candidate or ballot measure are not contributions or independent expenditures as long as the communication is sent only to the organization’s members, employees, shareholders, or their families. The payments may not be for general public advertising, such as billboards, newspaper, radio, or television ads.

## Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Proposals

Payments made in connection with Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) proposals may be reportable independent expenditures. These questions are very fact specific, so contact the FPPC for guidance.

## CalPERS/CalSTRS Candidates

An individual or business entity that makes independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more in a calendar year to support or oppose candidates seeking certain offices for the California Public Employees' Retirement System or the California Teachers' Retirement System will qualify as an independent expenditure committee.

## Government Agency Communications

A state or local agency making payments for campaign activities may become a committee subject to reporting if the payments qualify as contributions or independent expenditures.

Governmental agencies must refer to FPPC Regulation 18420.1 concerning payments for communications that expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or measure, or taken as a whole and in context, unambiguously urge a particular result in an election. The rules are somewhat different from those provided for non-governmental entities. For example, the factors a governmental entity will use to determine if a communication unambiguously urges a particular result in an election include either of the following: 1) The agency prepared campaign material such as bumper stickers or television or radio spots; or 2) The style, tenor and timing of the communication can be reasonably characterized as campaign material and is not a fair presentation of facts serving only an informational purpose.



Agencies should refer to FPPC Regulation 18420.1 if there is a question as to whether a communication is considered a campaign communication as the determination will always be based upon the words used in the particular communication. Note: Laws outside the Act generally prohibit the use of public moneys for campaign activities by a governmental agency.

## Payments for Governmental, Legislative, or Charitable Purposes

**Behested Payments.** This term refers to payments made by a person for a governmental, legislative, or charitable purpose, such as a job or health fair, a charity fundraiser, or a conference on educational issues, when the payment was coordinated or requested by an elected official. This includes payments behested by the official or by his or her agent or employee on the official's behalf.

The source of the behested payment is not required to file a FPPC report. However, the official must disclose the payments on Form 803 if they total \$5,000 or more in a calendar year. The FPPC posts payments made at the behest of state elected officials and members of the Public Utilities Commission on its website.

**Ex 1.10** – At Councilmember Stark's request, Diamond Dairy made a \$10,000 donation to the Boys' and Girls' Club. Councilmember Stark will file a Form 803 with the city clerk disclosing the donation and donor's name and address. Diamond Dairy is not required to report the payment.

## Answering Your Questions

**A. May corporations make independent expenditures in California?**

Yes. The Act does not ban independent expenditures by corporations. However, there are restrictions for foreign corporations. See Government Code Section 85320.

**B. May a candidate or officeholder make independent expenditures out of personal funds to support or oppose other candidates?**

Yes.

**C. A property development company has offered to pay the costs of placing an advisory measure on the ballot concerning a new city residential development. The company is not coordinating the expenditures with any other committee. Will the company incur any reporting obligations?**

Yes. Payments of \$1,000 or more made to the city to defray the costs of an election are reportable independent expenditures.

**D. A multi-purpose organization will use its income producing funds that are held in its general treasury to make a series of independent expenditures in connection with a candidate election. Is a separate bank account required?**

No. However, the organization must make the independent expenditures from the income producing funds. The organization must maintain clear records.

## Authority

The following Government Code sections and Title 2 regulations provide authority for the information in this chapter:

### Government Code Sections

- 82004.5 Behested Payment.
- 82013 Committee.
- 82015 Contribution.
- 82031 Independent Expenditure.
- 82041.3 Made at the Behest of.
- 84224 Behested Payment Disclosure.
- 85310 Communications Identifying State Candidates.
- 85312 Communications to Members of an Organization.

### Title 2 Regulations

- 18215 Contribution.
- 18215.2 Uncompensated Internet Activity by Individuals that is not a Contribution or Expenditure.
- ~~18225~~ Expenditure.
- 18225.4 Independent Expenditures; When Aggregated.
- 18225.7 Made at the Behest of.
- 18412 Identifying Funding Sources for Contributions and Independent Expenditures Made by Certain Tax Exempt Organizations.
- 18413 Reporting Independent Expenditures by Eligible 501(c)(3)/501(c)(4) Organizations.
- 18420 Reporting of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures of by State or Local Government Agencies.
- 18420.1 Payments by State or Local Agencies for a Campaign Related Communication.
- 18422 Nonprofit and Multipurpose Organization Political Activity Transparency.
- 18531.7 Payments for Communications—Section 85312.
- 18531.10 Communications Identifying State Candidates.
- 18550.1 Independent and Coordinated Expenditures.

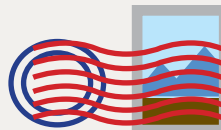
# ADVERTISEMENT DISCLAIMERS

Those making independent expenditures must put notices on **mass** mailings and advertisements. Information about who paid for the communication is required on mailers, billboards, and emails, as well as television, radio, and Internet ads. **The FPPC has adopted** There **are** specific rules for ensuring that the public can determine the source of a political mail piece or advertisement. Disclaimer requirements vary depending upon the medium.

## A. Mass Mailings – Postal Mailings and Emails

When an independent expenditure committee pays for a mailing of more than 200 substantially similar pieces in a calendar month (“mass mailing”), the mailing is subject to identification requirements. Mass mailings include more than 200 substantially similar **electronic** messages sent to the public within a calendar month. All mass mailings must include the words “Paid for by” immediately adjacent to or above identification of the name of the independent expenditure committee. The committee’s address is also required on mailings.

Paid for by ABC Company  
123 Elm Street  
Elmton, CA 95523



Fred Smith  
7200 Oak St  
Oakville, CA 92253

From: ABCCompany@emailaddress.web  
To: Voter@emailaddress.web  
Cc:  
Subject: Vote for Jones for Senate

The following message is paid for by ABC Company, 123 Elm Street, Elmton, CA 95523 and was not authorized by Candidate Jones or a committee controlled by Candidate Jones.

### Quick Tip

Identify the legal name of the entity or individual who is paying for a mass mailing or other advertisement. For example, if ABC Development Company qualifies as an independent expenditure committee and pays for a mass mailing or other advertisement, ABC Development Company is the name that must be identified.

## A. Advertisement Disclaimers

Independent expenditures for Advertisements paid for by an independent expenditure or mass mailings (including emails) which support or oppose either candidates or ballot measures, must identify the committee making the independent expenditure. The disclaimer and must be presented in a clear and conspicuous manner to give the reader or listener adequate notice of the identity of the committee. Broadcast information also must be appropriately conveyed to the hearing impaired.

The advertising disclosure rules for independent expenditures supporting or opposing candidates and ballot measure are illustrated in the charts below.

### Political Advertising Disclaimers – Independent Expenditure Ads on Candidates

» Independent expenditure committees provide a disclaimer that must include, unless otherwise noted:

“Paid for by committee name” and “This advertisement was not authorized or a paid for by a candidate for this office or a committee controlled by the candidate for this office”

Examples:

- “This call was paid for by ABC Trade Association and was not authorized by Senator Jones.”
- “This advertisement was paid for by Susan Johnson and was not authorized or paid for by a candidate for this office or a committee controlled by a candidate for this office.”

The following disclaimers apply to ads that expressly advocate support or opposition of a candidate

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
Print ads designed to be individually distributed including mailings, door hangers, flyers, faxes, posters, newspaper and magazine ads and oversized campaign buttons and bumper stickers (buttons 10 inches in diameter or larger and stickers 60 square inches or larger)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Paid for by [committee’s name]” (on file with Form 461)</li><li>• A statement that the “This advertisement was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate”</li><li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in Arial equivalent font, in at least 10-point size, in a contrasting color, and located in a printed or drawn box with a solid white background at the bottom of at least one page and set apart from other printed matter<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ “Not authorized by” disclaimer may not appear in all capital letters</li></ul></li></ul>

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
<p>Print ads larger than those designed to be individually distributed, such as billboards and signs (including yard signs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Paid for by [committee’s name]” (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• A statement that the “This advertisement was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate”</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in Arial equivalent font. The font must be a height of at least five percent of the advertisement, meaning that each line must be at least five percent of the advertisement, on a solid background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer.</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in Arial equivalent font with a height of at least five percent of the advertisement on a solid background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “Not authorized by” disclaimer may not appear in all capital letters</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Radio ads, telephone calls and audio only electronic media ads</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Paid for by [committee’s name]” (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• A statement that the “This advertisement was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate”</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Must be spoken clearly for at least three seconds at the beginning or end of the ad or call, in a pitch and tone substantially similar to the rest of the advertisement</li> </ul>

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
<p>Television and video ads (including those disseminated over the Internet)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Paid for by [committee’s name]” (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• A statement that the “This advertisement was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate”</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in a contrasting color and in Arial equivalent type and must be underlined</li> </ul> <p>The size for the smallest letters in the disclaimer must be four percent of the height of the display screen</p> <p>Disclaimer must appear on a solid black background on the entire bottom one-fourth of the display screen</p> <p>Disclaimer must be displayed at the beginning or end of the ad for at least five seconds of a broadcast of 30 seconds or less or for at least 10 seconds of a broadcast longer than 30 seconds</p> <p>The “Not authorized by” disclaimer must appear below all other text in the solid black background in a contrasting color, in Arial equivalent type, and in no less than 2.5 percent of the height of the display screen and is not required to be underlined</p> <p>The “Not authorized by” disclaimer may not appear in all capital letters</p>

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
<p><b>Electronic media ads not covered below (except video ads, see above), and email</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Who funded this ad?”</b> text as a hyperlink in a contrasting color and font size that is easily readable by the average viewer* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Must hyperlink to a website containing the <b>“Paid for by,”</b> and <b>“Not authorized by”</b> disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font</li> <li>○ <b>“Not authorized by”</b> disclaimer may not appear in all capital letters</li> <li>○ Must remain online until 30 days after the date of election</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Social media ads</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Paid for by,”</b> and <b>“Not authorized by”</b> disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font on the committee’s profile, landing page, or similar location and is not required to include disclaimers on each individual post or comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>“Not authorized by”</b> disclaimer may not appear in all capital letters</li> <li>○ Not required when the only expense or cost of the communication is compensated staff time unless the account was created only for the purpose of ads under the Act</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Website</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Paid for by,”</b> and <b>“Not authorized by”</b> disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>“Not authorized by”</b> disclaimer may not appear in all capital letters</li> </ul> </li> <li>• See disclaimer requirements for radio ads above</li> </ul> <p>*This text is not required if including it is impracticable. In such circumstances the ad need only include a hyperlink to a website containing the website disclaimers.</p>
<p><b>Electronic media ads that are audio only</b></p>	

~~Note: Two display rules exist for mass mailings. A mass mailing must have the committee name and address on the outside of the envelope in 6-pt type; while the manner of display for the ad disclaimer requires the committee name in no less than 14-point, bold, sans serif type. A one-page mailer may combine the display rules with both the committee name and address in no less than 14-point, bold, sans serif type although the address may be at 6-pt type.~~

## Political Advertising Disclaimers – Independent Expenditure Ads



## on Ballot Measures

The disclaimer must include, unless otherwise noted: "Paid for by committee name"

### Examples:

- "This call was paid for by ABC Trade Association."
- "This ad was paid for by Susan Johnson."

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
Print ads designed to be individually distributed including mailings, door hangers, flyers, faxes, posters, newspaper and magazine ads, and oversized campaign buttons and bumper stickers (buttons 10 inches in diameter or larger and stickers 60 square inches or larger)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in Arial equivalent font, at least 10-point in size, in a contrasting color, and located in a printed or drawn box with a solid white background at the bottom of at least one page and set apart from other printed matter</li> </ul>
Print ads larger than those designed to be individually distributed, such as billboards, Billboards and signs (including yard signs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in Arial equivalent font. The font must be a height of at least five percent of the advertisement, meaning that each line must be at least five percent of the advertisement, on a solid background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer.</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in Arial equivalent font with a height of at least five percent of the advertisement on a solid background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer</li> </ul>
Radio ads, telephone calls and audio only electronic media ads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Must be spoken clearly for at least three seconds at the beginning or end of the ad or call, in a pitch and tone substantially similar to the rest of the advertisement</li> </ul>

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
<p><b>Television and video ads (including those disseminated over the Internet)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Paid for by [committee’s name]”</b> (on file with Form 461)</li> <li>• <b>Disclaimer Format:</b> Text must be in a contrasting color and in Arial equivalent type and must be underlined <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The size for the smallest letters in the disclaimer must be four percent of the height of the display screen</li> <li>Disclaimer must appear on a solid black background on the entire bottom one-fourth of the display screen</li> <li>Disclaimer must be displayed at the beginning or end of the ad for at least five seconds of a broadcast of 30 seconds or less or for at least 10 seconds of a broadcast longer than 30 seconds</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Electronic media ads not covered below (except video ads, see above), and email</b></p> <p><b>Social media ads</b></p> <p><b>Website</b></p> <p><b>Electronic media ads that are audio only</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Who funded this ad?”</b> text as a hyperlink in a contrasting color and font size that is easily readable by the average viewer* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Must hyperlink to a website containing the <b>“Paid for by”</b> disclaimer in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font</li> <li>○ Must remain online until 30 days after the date of election</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>“Paid for by”</b> disclaimer in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font on the committee’s profile, landing page, or similar location and is not required to include disclaimers on each individual post or comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not required when the only expense or cost of the communication is compensated staff time unless the social media account was created only for the purpose of advertisements under the Act</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>“Paid for by”</b> disclaimer in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font</li> <li>• See disclaimer requirements for radio ads above</li> </ul> <p>*This text is not required if including it is impracticable. In such circumstances the ad need only include a hyperlink to a website containing the website disclaimers.</p>

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
<p><b>Paid Spokesperson:</b> Payment of \$5,000 or more to an individual for individual's appearance in a ballot measure ad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the other disclaimers, include: <b>"(spokesperson's name) is being paid by this campaign or its donors"</b></li> <li>• Printed, televised or video ad: shown continuously in highly visible font except when the disclosure for television and video ads above is being shown</li> <li>• Radio broadcast or phone message: spoken in clearly audible format</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paid Spokesperson:</b> Payment of <i>any amount</i> to an individual portraying a member of a licensed or certified occupation (e.g., nurse, firefighter, lawyer)</p> <p><i>Exception:</i> If the paid individual is actually a member of the occupation portrayed, the committee may omit this disclaimer. The committee must maintain documentation of the individual's license or certification.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the disclaimer above, include: <b>"Persons portraying members of an occupation in this advertisement are compensated spokespersons not necessarily employed in those occupations"</b></li> <li>• Printed or televised ad: shown continuously in highly visible font</li> <li>• Radio broadcast or phone message: spoken in clearly audible format</li> </ul>

**Note:** Two display rules exist for mass mailings. A mass mailing must have the committee name and address on the outside of an envelope in 6 pt type; while the manner of display for the ad disclaimer requires the committee name in no less than 14-point, bold, sans serif type. A one-page mailer may combine the display rules with both the committee name and address in no less than 14-point, bold, sans serif type although the address may be at 6 pt type.

## Not Authorized by Candidate

An advertisement supporting or opposing a candidate that is paid for by an independent expenditure must include a statement that ~~it the~~ ~~“This advertisement~~ was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate.”

## Telephone Calls

~~When an independent expenditure committee pays for more than 200 similar telephone calls that expressly advocate support for or opposition to a candidate or ballot measure, the name of the independent expenditure committee must be disclosed to recipients. The disclosure must include the words “paid for by” or “authorized by.”~~

## Ballot Measure Ad – Paid Spokesperson

When an independent expenditure committee pays an individual for his or her appearance in a ballot measure advertisement, the committee must include the disclaimer as noted in the chart on the previous page in the following situations:

- **\$5,000 payment to individual in ad:** The committee makes expenditures totaling \$5,000 or more to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement to support or oppose the qualification, passage or defeat of a state or local ballot measure.
- **Any payment to individual in ad portraying a professional (nurse, doctor, firefighter, scientist, engineer, lawyer, etc.):** The committee makes expenditures of any amount to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement to support or oppose the qualification, passage or defeat of a state or local ballot measure that states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training to engage in that occupation. However, if the individual in the ad is actually a member of the occupation portrayed, the committee may omit this disclaimer and shall maintain documentation of the individual’s license or certification for the occupation.

**Ex 2.1** - “Paid for by ABC Development Company. Jane Miller ~~was paid for her appearance in this advertisement.”~~ is being paid by this campaign or its donors.”

Upon request from the FPPC, documentation of an individual's occupation must be provided by electronic means within 24 hours.

In addition, the committee must file the Paid Spokesperson Report (Form 511) as described in Chapter 3.

### **Updating a Disclaimer**

In the event an advertisement disclaimer must be revised due to a name change, television, radio, electronic media, or robocalls must be amended within five calendar days. Print media, mass mailings, or other tangible items must be amended every time an order to reproduce is placed.

### **Advertisements in Languages Other than English**

Disclaimers on political advertisements must be written or spoken in the same language used in the advertisement.

### **Advertisement Disclaimer Exceptions**

A disclaimer is not required on regular-size campaign buttons, pins, bumper stickers, or magnets. It is not required on pens, pencils, rulers, mugs, potholders, key tags, golf balls and similar small campaign promotional items where a disclaimer cannot be conveniently printed. The disclaimer is not required on t-shirts, caps, hats, and other articles of clothing; skywriting and airplane banners; or committee checks and receipts.

### **Penalties**

The penalty for failing to comply with the Act's disclaimer requirements is a fine of up to \$5,000 per violation. In addition, any person who violates the disclaimer requirements concerning ballot measure and independent expenditure advertisements may be liable for a fine of up to three times the cost of the advertisement, including placement costs.

## Authority

The following Government Code sections and Title 2 regulations provide authority for the information in this chapter:

### Government Code Sections

- 82031 Independent Expenditure.
- 82041.5 Mass Mailing.
- 84305 Requirements for Mass Mailing.
- 84310 Identification Requirements for Telephone Calls.
- 84501 Advertisement.
- 84502 Disclaimer; Committee Name.
- 84504 Disclaimer; Radio and Telephone Ads.
- 84504.1 Disclaimer; Television Ads.
- 84504.2 Disclaimer; Print Ads.
- 84504.3 Disclaimer; Electronic Media Ads.
- 84505 Avoidance of Disclosure.
- ~~84506 Disclaimer; Independent Expenditure Ads.~~
- 84506.5 Disclaimer: Independent Expenditure Ads; Not Authorized by Candidate.
- ~~84507 Disclaimer; Legible and Audible.~~
- 84509 Amended Disclaimers.
- 84510 Fines.
- 84511 Ballot Measure Ads; Paid Spokesperson Disclosure.

### Title 2 Regulations

- 18435 Definition of Mass Mailing. ~~and Sender.~~
- 18440 Telephone Advocacy.
- 18450.1 Definitions. Advertisement Disclosure.
- ~~18450.4 Contents of Disclosure Statements. Advertisement Disclosure.~~
- 18450.5 Amended Advertisement Disclosure.
- 18450.11 Spokesperson Disclosure.

# REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

## A. Overview

Individuals and entities making independent expenditures must file timely disclosure reports showing amounts paid and the candidates and ballot measures supported and opposed. The Act requires reporting of independent expenditures at specific times so that voters are fully informed and the true source of those paying for the independent expenditures is disclosed. In general, an independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more is reported on each of the forms listed below. Form 462 is signed by a principal officer stating that a communication reported as an independent expenditure meets the legal standards and there has been no reimbursement.

This chapter reviews when and where campaign statements that disclose independent expenditures must be filed:

- **Form 461**- Major Donor and Independent Expenditure Committee Campaign Statement
- **Form 462** - Verification of Independent Expenditures
- **Form 496** - 24-hour Independent Expenditure Report

Deadlines for filing reports are provided on filing schedules posted on the FPPC website. Disclosure reports must be filed on time so that voters are informed before an election.

- Filing deadlines cannot be extended.
- For statements required to be mailed, the date of the postmark is considered the date filed.
- Failure to file on time may lead to late filing penalties of \$10 for each day the statement is late.
- State electronic filers may be fined for a late filed paper and electronic form resulting in a \$20/day fine.
- Failure to file a statement may result in additional penalties.

## B. Where to File

### Filing Locations

For purposes of determining where to file, an independent expenditure committee qualifies anew each year, and counts only the independent expenditures made to support or oppose candidates or measures during the current calendar year.

The Form 496 is always filed in the same location the candidate or measure being voted upon files. The FPPC receives the Form 462 which verifies that independent expenditures were not coordinated with the affected candidate or committee. The Form 461 is filed with the Secretary of State unless the committee qualifies as a city or county committee.

### Form 461- Major Donor/Independent Expenditure Report

When an individual or **business** entity qualifies as an independent expenditure committee it must file the Form 461 as a state, county or city committee.



**State Committee:** A person that makes an independent expenditure to support or oppose a state measure/candidate. The committee will also qualify as a state committee if it does not qualify as county or city committee. A committee will file as a state committee if it makes a single independent expenditure ~~supporting or opposing or contribution to~~ a state candidate or committee. When a committee is not making payments in connection with state committees, it will file reports with a local filing officer as described below.

**Quick Tip**

A committee that makes one IE in connection with a state candidate/measure will file the Form 461 with the Secretary of State. This is true no matter how many other IEs are made in connection with local elections.

**County Committee:** A person that makes more than 70% of its independent expenditures to support or oppose candidates and measures in only one county, or in more than one jurisdiction within one county. ~~is a county committee.~~

**City Committee:** A person that makes more than 70% of its independent expenditures to support or oppose candidates and measures in only one city (including the consolidated city/county of San Francisco).

**Calendar Year Determination:** A person qualifies as an independent expenditure committee anew each year and counts independent expenditures only during the current calendar year.

**Quarterly Review:** It is common for payments to be made in connection with more than one city, county, or state election. The FPPC recognizes the need to provide voters within the jurisdiction holding an election access to a donor's campaign statements and to abide by the local agency's campaign ordinance, if any. At the same time, the FPPC is aware of the reporting burden if persons must file in multiple jurisdictions.

Regulation 18227.5 addresses this issue by requiring an assessment of reporting status at the end of each quarter. However, a committee is not prohibited from changing its status before the end of a calendar quarter if it chooses to do so.

This regulation provides a common ground for the diversity of persons that spend money in both state and local California elections. Many persons prefer to file at the state level; thus the regulation allows for

filing with the Secretary of State when only a single contribution or independent expenditure is made. Committees that give locally will remain local committees.

Committees that change filing locations must file reports with both filing officers through the calendar year.

Exceptions:

- A person that has not made contributions and/or expenditures of \$5,000 or more to support or oppose candidates/measures in the preceding quarter is not required to review or change its status.
- City and county committees that make four or fewer contributions to certain state candidates are allowed to remain local committees.

Note: FPPC rules require that persons shall not knowingly file in an incorrect jurisdiction with the intention of avoiding the appropriate legal disclosure to the public. The FPPC may provide compliance advice.

### **Form 496 (24-hour Independent Expenditure Report)**

A committee making independent expenditures must file the Form 496 in the same jurisdiction as the candidate or measure that is supported or opposed by the independent expenditure. This is so the voters in that jurisdiction have access to information about all payments, both contributions and independent expenditures, made in connection with the particular election.

### **Where to File Form 462 (Verification of Independent Expenditures)**

The Form 462 (Verification of Independent Expenditures) is filed with the FPPC at [form462@fppc.ca.gov](mailto:form462@fppc.ca.gov).

#### **Quick Tip**

Although there are several campaign statements for each IE, the statements are simple to complete. The Form 461 is a two-page form and the Forms 496 and 462 are one-page forms.

The following examples provide guidance on where to file the Forms 461, 462, and 496.

A. A corporation made a single independent expenditure of \$30,500 for a newspaper ad supporting a candidate for Insurance Commissioner. The ad is released 70 days before the candidate's election. The filings are as follows:

- Form 496 within 24 hours of ~~making the expenditure~~ the **release of the ad** (no Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday extension applies).
- Form 462 within 10 days of making the independent expenditure.
- Form 461 after the election.

The Forms 461 and 496 are filed with the Secretary of State. The Form 462 is emailed to the FPPC. Refer to filing schedules for deadlines and form instructions for filing requirements.

B. An individual made two independent expenditures 14 days before the November election. The expenditures were made on the same day; one for \$30,000 to support a state ballot measure; the second expenditure was \$2,000 to oppose a city ballot measure. The individual must file:

- Form 496 within 24 hours with the Secretary of State disclosing the \$30,000 expenditure.
- Form 496 within 24 hours with the city clerk disclosing the \$2,000 expenditure.
- Form 462 must be emailed to the FPPC within 10 days.
- Form 461 must be filed with the Secretary of State disclosing both expenditures by January 31.

C. A business made two independent expenditures, each \$5,000, to oppose a county ballot measure. The first independent expenditure was made 45 days before the election; the second independent expenditure was made five days before the election. No other expenditures or contributions were made.

The business must file the following:

- Form 496 within 24 hours of each of the independent expenditures.
- Form 462 must be emailed to the FPPC within 10 days of making the first independent expenditure. No other Form 462 must be filed **in connection with this ballot measure**.
- Form 461 at the semi-annual filing deadline following the election to disclose both independent expenditures.

Except for Form 462, the above reports are filed with the county. Refer to filing schedules for deadlines and form instructions for filing requirements.

## Electronic Filing

State committees are required to file Form 461 electronically with the Secretary of State if cumulative independent expenditures or contributions made during the calendar year total \$25,000 or more. The cumulative totals include expenditures a state committee makes in connection with a local election. Independent expenditure committees need not file electronically in any calendar year in which they have not reached the \$25,000 threshold.

For information about state electronic filing requirements, contact the Secretary of State's office at (916) 653-6224 or visit [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov).

Depending on when a committee qualifies, its first electronic **report filing** may be a 24-hour independent expenditure report, or a semi-annual report. Some local jurisdictions may require campaign forms to be filed electronically. Contact the local jurisdiction for information.

### Quick Tip

State committees must file the Form 461 in paper format with the Secretary of State even if the committee must also file reports electronically. Late fines may be assessed for both the paper and electronic form.

## State Filers

Paper Filers	Electronic Filers
461: Paper	Paper and Electronic
462: Email only	Email only
496: Electronic only	Electronic only
497: Electronic only	Electronic only

## C. Form 461 – Committee Campaign Statement

The Form 461 is used to report independent expenditures made to support or oppose California state and local candidates, officeholders, and ballot measures. If a committee makes contributions to state or local candidates or committees, they must also be disclosed. The report provides the public with information regarding the nature and interests of the person making the payments as well as a complete review of all independent expenditures made during the applicable reporting period. Independent expenditure committees terminate automatically at the end of each calendar year.

## When to File Form 461

### Semi-Annual Statements

January 1 – June 30: **Due July 31**

If an entity qualifies as a committee during the first six months of the year, the Form 461 is due no later than July 31, covering the period January 1 through June 30. If no additional independent expenditures or contributions are made during the second semi-annual period, July 1 through December 31, no other Form 461 is required during the calendar year.

July 1 – December 31: **Due January 31**

If an entity qualifies as a committee during the first six months of the year and any amount of contributions or independent expenditures are made after June 30, a Form 461 covering the period July 1 through December 31 is required. If an entity or individual qualifies as a committee during the second six months of the year, its Form 461 will be due no later than January 31, covering the period January 1 through December 31 of the prior year.

### Semi-Annual Statement - Early Filing

An independent expenditure committee may file campaign statements before the deadline. For example, if a committee knows it will only make one independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more, it may file the Form 461 at any time before the deadline.

## Amendments

If, at any time, a committee determines that an error has occurred on a previous filing, an amendment is required. Check the amendment box on Form 461 and complete Part 1. Only the amended information, including Part 3, if applicable, must be disclosed. Like the original, the amendment must be signed and dated. There is no deadline for filing amendments. However, amendments should be filed as soon as practicable.

## Where to File Form 461

<b>State Committees</b> Original & 1 Copy	<b>Secretary of State</b> Political Reform Division P.O. Box 1467 1500 11th Street, Room 495 Sacramento, CA 95814 Fax (916) 653-5045  Note: A copy is required, when applicable, with CalPERS or CalSTRS offices.
<b>County Committees</b> Original & 1 Copy	<b>County Election Office</b>  Note: Includes most LAFCO proposals and LAFCO may require a copy.
<b>City Committees</b> Original & 1 Copy	<b>City Clerk</b>

**Major Donor and Independent Expenditure Committee Campaign Statement**

Date Stamp	<b>CALIFORNIA FORM 461</b>
	Page <u>1</u> of <u>2</u>
	For Official Use Only

**A** Statement covers period  
 from 1/X/XX  
 through 12/X/XX

Date of election if applicable:  
 (Month, Day, Year)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

**1 Name and Address of Filer**

NAME OF FILER  
 New Ventures, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL OR MAILING ADDRESS (NO. AND STREET)  
 345 Stone Way

CITY STATE ZIP CODE  
 Sacramento CA 95826

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER (If filer is other than an individual)  
 Jeffrey Stone

AREA CODE/DAYTIME PHONE  
 916-333-3333

**2 Nature and Interests of Filer** (Complete each applicable section.)

A FILER WHO IS AN INDIVIDUAL MUST LIST THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND BUSINESS INTERESTS OF EMPLOYER OR, IF SELF-EMPLOYED, THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND NATURE OF THE BUSINESS

NAME OF EMPLOYER/BUSINESS	BUSINESS INTERESTS

ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER/BUSINESS

A FILER THAT IS A BUSINESS ENTITY MUST DESCRIBE THE BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN WHICH IT IS ENGAGED

Developer

A FILER THAT IS AN ASSOCIATION MUST PROVIDE A SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF ITS INTERESTS

A FILER THAT IS NOT AN INDIVIDUAL, BUSINESS ENTITY, OR ASSOCIATION MUST DESCRIBE THE COMMON ECONOMIC INTEREST OF THE GROUP OR ENTITY

**3. Summary**  
 (Amounts may be rounded to whole dollars.)

1. Expenditures and contributions (including loans) of \$100 or more made this period. (Part 5.)..... \$ 30,000

2. Unitemized expenditures and contributions (including loans) under \$100 made this period..... \$ 0

3. Total expenditures and contributions made this period. (Add Lines 1 + 2.)..... **SUBTOTAL \$ 30,000**

4. Total expenditures and contributions made from prior statement. (Enter amount from Line 5 of last statement filed. If this is the first statement for the calendar year, enter zero.)..... \$ 0

5. Total expenditures and contributions (including loans) made since January 1 of the current calendar year. (Add Lines 3 + 4.)..... **TOTAL \$ 30,000**

**4. Verification**

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement. I have reviewed the statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 12/15/XX By [Signature Required]  
 DATE SIGNATURE OF INDIVIDUAL DONOR OR RESPONSIBLE OFFICER, IF OTHER THAN AN INDIVIDUAL

Amendment (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

**How to Complete Form 461**

**A Statement Period and Date of Election**

If this is the first filing of the calendar year, the “from” date should be January 1. Otherwise, this date should be the day after the closing date of the most recently filed Form 461. The closing date of the statement depends on the type of statement being filed.



## 1 Filer Information

Enter the legal name of the individual or entity filing the statement. If the filer is commonly known to the public by another name, that name may be used. When a person directs and controls the making of contributions and independent expenditures of a related entity that must be aggregated and reported on Form 461, (e.g., a subsidiary or a majority shareholder of a corporation) list as the “Name of Filer” the name of the individual or entity that directs and controls the making of the contributions and independent expenditures.

**Ex 3.1** – Hector Flores is the sole owner of two separate businesses. Hector directed a \$7,000 contribution from one business to a local ballot measure committee in January and made a \$5,000 independent expenditure opposing a local candidate in February from the other business entity. Hector will file the Form 461 under the name “Hector Flores (including aggregated contributions and independent expenditures).” The Form 461 will identify each payment and the business entity that made each payment.

In addition:

- **Multiple Entities.** Indicate that the campaign statement includes the contributions and independent expenditures of other entities. For example, “ABC Corporation, including aggregated contributions/independent expenditures.”
- **New Entities.** Identify any entities added to the report that were not included in a prior report filed for the current calendar year, as well as any entities included in a prior report for the current calendar year that are no longer required to aggregate under the name of filer.

- **New Names.** Identify both names if the “Name of Filer” listed on a previous report filed for the current calendar year is different than the name identified on this report. For example, “Tim Lewis, formerly Lewis Construction.”
- **Officer.** Enter the name of the responsible officer of an entity or organization filing the statement.

## 2 Nature and Interests of Filer

The nature and interests of the filer must be clearly identified. The business activity, association interests, or economic interest must be described in the appropriate space. When payments from different persons are reported, if there are different interests, an attachment must identify the various persons and respective interests.

## 3 Summary

The summary lists the totals of all expenditures and contributions (including loans) made during the period covered by the statement. Collectively, Lines 1-3 represent the expenditures and contributions made during the reporting period. Line 4 must be the same figure shown on Line 5 of the previously filed statement or zero if it is the first statement for the calendar year. Line 5 represents the total of all expenditures and contributions made since January 1 of the calendar year covered by the report.

## 4 Verification

An attorney, a certified public accountant, or a responsible officer of an entity or an entity filing jointly with any number of affiliates may sign the verification on behalf of the entity or entities. However, a statement filed by an individual must be signed by the individual rather than the individual's attorney or certified public accountant. The Form 461 is not considered filed if it is not signed.

**Major Donor and Independent Expenditure Committee Campaign Statement**

Amounts may be rounded to whole dollars.

Statement covers period from <u>1/X/XX</u> through <u>12/X/XX</u>	<b>CALIFORNIA FORM 461</b> Page <u>2</u> of <u>2</u>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

NAME OF FILER  
New Ventures, Inc.

**5**

**Contributions (Including Loans, Forgiveness of Loans, and Loan Guarantees) and Expenditures Made**

*(If more space is needed, use additional copies of this page for continuation sheets.)*

DATE	NAME, STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE OF PAYEE (IF COMMITTEE, ALSO ENTER I.D. NUMBER)	TYPE OF PAYMENT	DESCRIPTION OF PAYMENT (IF OTHER THAN MONETARY CONTRIBUTION OR LOAN)	CANDIDATE AND OFFICE, MEASURE AND JURISDICTION, OR COMMITTEE	AMOUNT THIS PERIOD	CUMULATIVE AMOUNT RELATED TO THIS CANDIDATE, MEASURE, OR COMMITTEE
10/X/XX	Sacramento Bee 2100 Q Street Sacramento, CA 95819	<input type="checkbox"/> Monetary Contribution <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Monetary Contribution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independent Expenditure	Ad	Proposition 33, State or Clean energy Measure  <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	10,000	30,000
10/X/XX	Media Services 10 I Street Folsom, CA 59811  Subvendors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Monetary Contribution <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Monetary Contribution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independent Expenditure	Television and radio ads	Proposition 33, State or Clean Energy Measure  <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	20,000	30,000
10/X/XX	KCRA Television (\$9,000) 1150 9th Street, Modesto, CA 95350  KFBK Radio (\$5,000) 1400 Ethan Way, Sacramento, CA 95825	<input type="checkbox"/> Monetary Contribution <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Monetary Contribution <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Expenditure		  <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose		
10/X/XX	Frank Soto (\$6,000) 124 Salem Dr., Sacramento, CA 95816	<input type="checkbox"/> Monetary Contribution <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Monetary Contribution <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Expenditure		  <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose		
<b>SUBTOTAL \$</b>					30,000	

**Contributions and Expenditures Made**

**5**

Disclose the dates of the contributions or independent expenditures made during the period. A monetary contribution is made on the date it is mailed, delivered, or otherwise transmitted to the candidate or committee. A nonmonetary contribution is made on the earlier of the following: the date the expenditure is made for the goods or services; or the date the candidate, committee, or an agent obtains possession, control, or the benefit of the goods or services.

For purposes of disclosure on the Form 461, a payment made in connection with the development, production, or dissemination of a communication that is an independent expenditure must be reported no later than the date the communication is mailed, broadcast, or otherwise disseminated to the public. Even if the payment was previously reported on the Form 496 (24-hour Independent Expenditure Report), it must be reported on the subsequent Form 461.

**Quick Tip**

If the communication is never disseminated to the public, the independent expenditure need not be reported.

- Itemize each payment of \$100 or more. The name, street address, city, state, and zip code of the payee must be included. Also include committee I.D. numbers if applicable. Do not use a post office box number.
- Check the box indicating what type of payment was made. If the payment was a nonmonetary contribution, provide a description of the payment.
- If a total of \$100 or more was contributed or expended during a calendar year to support or oppose a single candidate or ballot measure, disclose the name of the candidate and the office sought or held, or the name and jurisdiction of the ballot measure. For each candidate or measure listed, indicate whether the payment was made to support or oppose the candidate or measure. If a nonmonetary contribution was made to a general purpose committee, enter the name of the committee.
- Provide the amount of contributions or independent expenditures made this period relative to each candidate, measure, or committee and the cumulative amount contributed or paid since January 1 of the current calendar year.
- **Multi-Purpose Organizations.** When a multi-purpose organization uses non-donor funds to make contributions or independent expenditures, it must briefly describe in the “Description of Payment” field or in a memo entry on the Form 461, the source of non-donor funds used. For example, if interest income was used to make the political payments, that must be noted.

**Software Programs:** Software programs may be purchased and may vary the display of data.

## Valuing Mailings

**Multiple candidates/measures:** If a mass mailing supports or opposes more than one candidate or measure, the value attributable to each may be calculated by prorating the costs based on the amount of space allotted to each candidate or measure supported or opposed in the mailing.

**Political and non-political material:** The cost of a mailing containing both express advocacy supporting or opposing a ballot measure or candidate as well as non-political material may be prorated. Costs directly associated with the political message are reportable, including staff time of more than 10 percent in a calendar month.

## Additional Rules

**Affiliated Entities:** When contributions or expenditures from affiliated entities are itemized on one statement, identify the entity that made each payment. In addition, the statement must identify the addition or deletion of any entity for which contributions and expenditures are aggregated together.

**Agents and Contractors:** If a payment was made to an agent or independent contractor who then made payments on behalf of the filer (subvendor payments), disclose payments made to the subvendor in addition to the payments made to the agent. Report the name and address of the agent, followed by the name and address of each subvendor paid \$500 or more. Amounts paid to the agent are disclosed in the “Amount this Period” column and the amounts paid to a subvendor(s) may be reported in the “Name of Payee” or the “Description of Payment” column.

**Employee Time:** If an employee spends more than 10 percent of his or her compensated time in any one month engaged in campaign activities (e.g., phone banks or precinct walking), the employer must report the payments. The names, addresses, and the specific salaries of the employees are not required to be disclosed. The amount is the prorata portion of the gross salary attributed to political activity.

If the committee makes contributions totaling \$10,000 or more in a calendar year, consult Campaign Disclosure Manual 5 for Major Donor Committees. The Form 461 is used by business entities and individuals to report contributions and independent expenditures. Information related to contributions is provided in Manual 5.

## D. Form 462 - Verification of Independent Expenditures

The Form 462 identifies the individual who is a principal officer of a committee that has made an independent expenditure. This individual acknowledges, under penalty of perjury, the committee's independent expenditures were not coordinated with the listed candidate (or the candidate's opponent) or measure committee and that the committee will report all contributions and reimbursements as required by law.

### Who is the Principal Officer?

A principal officer is the individual primarily responsible for approving the political activity of the committee such as:

- Authorizing the content of communications
- Authorizing independent expenditures
- Determining the committee's campaign strategy

In the case of a business entity that is making independent expenditures, if more than one individual shares primary responsibility for approving political activities, each individual is a principal officer.

An individual using his or her personal funds to make independent expenditures is considered the principal officer.

## When to File Form 462

File Form 462 within 10 days from the date an independent expenditure is made that totals, in the aggregate, \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a candidate or measure in a calendar year. A candidate or measure is listed only once for each election. Once a candidate or measure is listed on Form 462, no further filings are required for that candidate or measure for that election.

### Examples:

- A committee made independent expenditures to support a candidate in the primary election. A Form 462 is required for that election. An additional Form 462 is required if the committee later decides to make independent expenditures for the candidate in the general election.
- A committee filed a Form 462 listing a candidate. Several days later the committee made an independent expenditure in connection with a measure on the same ballot. The committee must file another Form 462.

## Where to File Form 462

The Form 462 must be filed via email with the FPPC at [form462@fppc.ca.gov](mailto:form462@fppc.ca.gov). The original form must be maintained with the committee's records for four years.

This verification form identifies the individual responsible for ensuring that a campaign committee's independent expenditures were not coordinated with the listed candidate (or the opponent) or measure committee and that the committee will report all contributions and reimbursements as required by law. An independent expenditure is not subject to state or local contribution limits.

Amendment (explain)

**1** Name of Committee:

NAME OF RECIPIENT COMMITTEE, ENTITY OR INDIVIDUAL: **New Ventures, Inc.** COMMITTEE ID #: **0012453**

STREET ADDRESS: **345 Stone Way** CITY: **Sacramento**

STATE: **CA** ZIP CODE: **95826** E-MAIL: **Ann@LALNPAC.web** TELEPHONE NUMBER: **( 916 ) 333-3333**

**2** Candidate or Measures:

This committee has reported an independent expenditure[s] to support or oppose the candidate[s] or measure[s] listed on a ballot for the election date identified below. (Note: The reporting of an independent expenditure may occur after this form is filed if an independent expenditure is made before the 90 day, 24-hour reporting period of Government Code Sections 84294 and 85500.)

NAME OF CANDIDATE (First/Last) OR BALLOT MEASURE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OFFICE SOUGHT OR HELD/ BALLOT NO./LETTER	JURISDICTION AND DISTRICT, IF ANY	ELECTION DATE
John Smith-Hardy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mayor	Los Angeles	5/21/20XX
NAME OF CANDIDATE (First/Last) OR BALLOT MEASURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OFFICE SOUGHT OR HELD/ BALLOT NO./LETTER	JURISDICTION AND DISTRICT, IF ANY	ELECTION DATE
NAME OF CANDIDATE (First/Last) OR BALLOT MEASURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OFFICE SOUGHT OR HELD/ BALLOT NO./LETTER	JURISDICTION AND DISTRICT, IF ANY	ELECTION DATE
NAME OF CANDIDATE (First/Last) OR BALLOT MEASURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OFFICE SOUGHT OR HELD/ BALLOT NO./LETTER	JURISDICTION AND DISTRICT, IF ANY	ELECTION DATE

**3** Verification:

I have not received any unreported contributions or reimbursements to make these independent expenditures. I have not coordinated any expenditure made during this reporting period with the candidate or the opponent of the candidate who is the subject of the expenditure, with the proponent or the opponent of the state measure that is the subject of the expenditure, or with the agents of the candidate or the opponent of the candidate or the state measure proponent or opponent. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature Required) Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Principal Officer) Signed on: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

[Check One]:  Principal Officer  Candidate/Officeholder  State Ballot Measure Proponent

How to Complete Form 462

**1** Name of Committee

Identify the name and street address of the committee that is making the independent expenditure(s). The address should be the same as the address reported on the Form 461 Major Donor/Independent Expenditure Report.

**2** Independent Expenditures

List the candidate(s) and measure(s) supported or opposed. If the committee files this form and later makes independent expenditures in connection with other candidates or measures, subsequent forms do not need to repeat the previously identified candidates and measures.

**3** Verification

The verification must be signed by a principal officer. An individual who is making independent expenditures is the principal officer. In the case of a business entity making independent expenditures and more than one individual qualifies as a principal officer, only one individual must sign the Form 462.

Note: This individual acknowledges, under penalty of perjury, the committee's independent expenditures were not coordinated with the listed candidate (or the candidate's opponent) or measure committee and that the committee will report all contributions and reimbursements as required by law.

## F. Form 496 – 24-hour Independent Expenditure Report

The 24-hour reports are the most important of the independent expenditure disclosure reports because they provide real-time information before the election about who is spending to influence the outcome of an election. The Form 496 must be filed in addition to any required semi-annual campaign statements.

Independent expenditures also must be disclosed on the committee's next campaign statement (Form 461).

A Form 496 must be filed for each independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more. For example, if a Form 496 was filed reporting a \$5,000 independent expenditure in support of a candidate, a second Form 496 is required when subsequent independent expenditures reach \$1,000 or more.

### State Committees

**Form 496 - 24-hour Report:** All state committees that make independent expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a single state candidate or a single state ballot measure during the candidate's or measure's 90 day election cycle must file a separate Form 496 for each candidate or ballot measure supported or opposed. Form 496 must be filed electronically with the Secretary of State within 24 hours of making the expenditure. This is true even if the committee has not met the \$25,000 threshold that requires regular campaign reports to be filed electronically. The report must be filed within 24 hours of making a late independent expenditure regardless of the day of the week.

A state committee that makes independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a local candidate or measure during the 90 days before the election, or on the date of the election, must also file the Form 496 within 24 hours. The report is filed with the local filing officer.

**Ex 3.3** – A corporation made an independent expenditure supporting the Insurance Commissioner on May 1 of an even-numbered year, less than 90 days before the state primary election. The corporation is required to file the Form 496 electronically with the Secretary of State within 24 hours of making the expenditure (no Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday extension applies). This report is not required to be filed on paper.



## Local Committees

**Form 496 – 24-hour Report:** This form must be filed if an independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more is made of \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a single candidate or a single ballot measure during the 90 days prior to the local candidate's or measure's election, or on the date of the election. A separate report must be filed for each candidate or measure supported or opposed by fax, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery. Regular mail may not be used. Check with the local jurisdiction for electronic filing requirements. The report must be filed within 24 hours of making a late independent expenditure regardless of the day of the week.

### Where to File

File the report in the same location(s) that a committee primarily formed to support or oppose the candidate or measure identified in the communication would file. (See chart on Page 3.18.) This allows the voters in the jurisdiction where the election is taking place to have access to reports showing who has spent funds attempting to influence them. File a separate report for each candidate or ballot measure supported or opposed.

**Ex 3.4** – An individual living in Sacramento County makes a late independent expenditure to support a Yolo County ballot measure. He will file the Form 496 with the Clerk of Yolo County, where the measure is being voted on. If the same individual makes an independent expenditure to support a city candidate in Elk Grove, he will also file a Form 496 with the City Clerk of Elk Grove.

## 496 Independent Expenditure Report

Amount may be rounded to whole dollars.

<b>A</b> NAME OF FILER New Ventures, Inc.		<b>B</b> Date of This Filing 10/X/XX		Date Stamp	<b>CALIFORNIA FORM 496</b> For Official Use Only
AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER 916-333-3333	I.D. NUMBER (if applicable)	Report No. 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to Report No. (explain below)	No. of Pages 2	
STREET ADDRESS 345 Stone Way					
CITY Sacramento	STATE CA	ZIP CODE 95826			
<b>1</b> List Only One Candidate or Ballot Measure					
NAME OF CANDIDATE SUPPORTED OR OPPOSED			NAME OF BALLOT MEASURE SUPPORTED OR OPPOSED Clean Energy Measure, Yes on 33		
OFFICE SOUGHT OR HELD	DISTRICT NO.	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	BALLOT NO./LETTER 33	JURISDICTION State
					X
<b>2</b> Independent Expenditures Made <i>Attach additional information on appropriately labeled continuation sheets.</i>					
DATE	DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURE				AMOUNT
10/X/XX	Radio Advertisements Cumulative to date total: \$34,000				\$30,000

## How to Complete Form 496

### **A** Filer Information

Enter the committee's name, street address, city, state, and zip code.

### **B** Date of This Filing

Indicate the date of filing the report.

### Report Number

Assign a unique number to each late independent expenditure report, such as 1, 2, 3, PR-1, PR-2, PR-3, etc.

### Amendments

To amend a previously filed report, file a new Form 496 with the corrected information, a new report number, and the "Amendment" box checked. The report number assigned to the original report being amended should be entered on the "Amendment to Report No." line. There is no deadline for filing amendments. However, amendments should be filed as soon as practicable. File the amendment in the same location(s) as the original.

Known amendments to the Form 496 should be filed as soon as possible before the election. Filers reporting minimal independent expenditures before an election and amending after the election to show substantial independent expenditures could be referred to Enforcement for nondisclosure.

**Quick Tip**

### Number of Pages

Note the number of pages included in the report.

### **1** Name of Candidate/Ballot Measure Supported or Opposed

Disclose the name, office sought or held, and the district number, if applicable, of the candidate supported or opposed in the communication, or the name, ballot number or letter, and jurisdiction of the ballot measure supported or opposed. Check the box indicating whether the candidate or ballot measure was supported or opposed by the independent expenditure.

## 2 Independent Expenditures Made

Disclose the date the committee made the expenditure, a description of the expenditure, e.g., printing, postage, mail house, etc., the amount of the expenditure, and the cumulative-to-date total relating to each candidate or measure. The cumulative-to-date total must be accurate on the most recent report filed, but the committee is not obligated to amend the cumulative amount on previous reports.

The cumulative-to-date totals include independent expenditures made in connection with a candidate's or measure's upcoming election. When a committee has made independent expenditures in connection with a candidate's prior election, do not include that amount in the current report. For example, independent expenditures made in connection with a general election would not include the amount of the independent expenditures made in connection with a primary election or a prior year's election.

For purposes of disclosure on the Form 496, a payment made in connection with the development, production, or dissemination of the communication must be reported as an independent expenditure no later than the date the communication is mailed, broadcast, or otherwise disseminated to the public. If the communication is disseminated to the public within 90 days of the election, or on the date of the election, the Form 496 must be filed within 24 hours. The payment must also be reported as an independent expenditure on the subsequent Form 461. The organization must maintain records necessary to document the allocation of reportable donors and the independent expenditures reported.

### Contributions of \$100 or More Received

Part 3. This section is not applicable to businesses or individuals using business or personal funds. If you are receiving contributions, contact the FPPC for filing assistance.

#### Quick Tip

If the communication is never disseminated to the public, it need not be reported on the Form 496 or Form 461.

## G. Additional Reports

In addition to the Forms 461, 462, and 496, other reports may be required depending on an entity's or individual's activity, including:

- 24-hour Contribution Report (Form 497)
- Paid Spokesperson Report (Form 511)
- Report of Communications Identifying State Candidates (Form E-530)

It is important to review where each report must be filed as several of the filing locations may not be the same as the committee's regular filing locations. If the committee makes contributions totaling \$10,000 or more in a calendar year, consult FPPC Campaign Disclosure Manual 5 for Major Donor Committees.

Activity	File
Makes contributions totaling \$1,000 or more to a single candidate or primarily formed ballot measure committee during the 90 days before the candidate's or measure's election, or on the date of the election	Form 497
Makes contributions totaling \$1,000 or more to a political party (including central committees) during the 90 days before a state election, or on the date of the election	Form 497
Makes expenditures of \$5,000 or more for an individual to appear in a ballot measure advertisement	Form 511
Makes an expenditure of any amount for an individual to appear in a ballot measure advertisement that states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training as a prerequisite to engage in that occupation (e.g., nurse, doctor, firefighter, scientist, engineer, lawyer)	Form 511
Makes payments of \$50,000 or more to "feature" a <b>state</b> candidate in an electioneering communication 45 days before an election	Form E-530
Makes contributions totaling \$10,000 <b>or more</b> to <b>state</b> officeholders during the first and third quarters of an odd-numbered year	Form 461

## 24-hour Contribution Report (Form 497)

A Form 497 must be filed if, during the 90 days before an election, or on the date of the election, a contribution of \$1,000 or more, or multiple contributions aggregating \$1,000 or more, are made to a single candidate or primarily formed ballot measure committee. A Form 497 must also be filed if a committee makes a contribution of \$1,000 or more to a political party (including local central committees) during the 90 days before **any** state election, or on the date of the election, including state special elections. The Form 497 must be filed in addition to any required semi-annual statements. Late contributions also must be disclosed on the committee's next campaign statement (Form 461).

### Quick Tip!

Consult Campaign Manual 5 for reporting rules related to contributions. This manual does not address all instructions.

## When to File Form 497

A contribution is made on the date it ~~the contribution~~ is mailed, delivered, or otherwise transmitted to a candidate or committee. Generally, the 24-hour deadline is extended to the next business day when it falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or official state holiday; however, the Form 497 must be filed within 24 hours on the Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday immediately prior to an election.

## Where to File Form 497

### State Committees

State committees file the Form 497 electronically with the Secretary of State; no paper copies are required. This is true even if the committee has not met the \$25,000 threshold that requires regular campaign disclosure reports to be filed online.

### Local Committees

The Form 497 must be filed by fax, guaranteed overnight delivery service, or personal delivery at the same locations where the committee files its campaign statement (Form 461). **Regular mail may not be used.** Check with the local jurisdiction for electronic filing requirements.

## 497 Contribution Report

Amounts may be rounded to whole dollars.

<b>1</b> NAME OF FILER New Ventures, Inc. AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER 916-333-3333 STREET ADDRESS 345 Stone Way CITY STATE ZIP CODE Sacramento CA 95826	<b>A</b> Date of This Filing 10/2/XX Report No. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to Report No. (explain below) No. of Pages 1	Date Stamp	<b>CALIFORNIA FORM 497</b> For Official Use Only	
<b>2 Contribution(s) Made</b>				
DATE MADE	FULL NAME, STREET ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE OF RECIPIENT (IF COMMITTEE, ALSO ENTER I.D. NUMBER)	CANDIDATE AND OFFICE OR MEASURE AND JURISDICTION	AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION	DATE OF ELECTION (IF APPLICABLE)
10/2/XX	Smith for Senate 20XX 10 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 #13003	Jack Smith, Senate District 2	\$2,000	

### How to Complete Form 497

#### 1 Filer's Information

Enter the committee's name, street address, city, state, and zip code.

#### 2 Contribution(s) Made

For contributions **made**, provide:

- The date made;
- The recipient's full name and address;
- Office sought or held (if to a candidate);
- Ballot measure number or letter and jurisdiction (if to a ballot measure committee);
- The date of the election, if a state committee is disclosing a late contribution to a local candidate; and
- The amount of the contribution.

**Nonmonetary Contributions:** In the field identifying the recipient's name and address, report the committee receiving the benefit of the contribution and not the vendor. For example a payment for a newspaper ad would identify "Committee to Support Measure B" as the recipient, rather than the Daily Press.

#### A Date of This Filing

Indicate the date of filing this report.

#### Report Number

Assign a unique number to each late contribution report, such as 1, 2, 3, PR-1, PR-2, PR-3, etc.

#### Amendments

To amend a previously filed Form 497, file a new Form 497 with the corrected information, a new report number, and the "Amendment" box checked. The report number assigned to the original report being amended should be entered on the "Amendment to Report No." line. There is no deadline for filing amendments. However, amendments should be filed as soon as practicable. File the amendment in the same location(s) as the original.

## Ballot Measure Ad – Paid Spokesperson Report (Form 511)

The Act requires specific disclosure when a committee pays an individual for his or her appearance in a ballot measure advertisement. The committee must file a Paid Spokesperson Report (Form 511) and include a disclaimer on the ad in the following situations:

- **\$5,000 payment to individual in ad:** The committee makes expenditures totaling \$5,000 or more to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement to support or oppose the qualification, passage or defeat of a state or local ballot measure.
- **Any payment to individual in ad portraying a professional (nurse, doctor, firefighter, scientist, engineer, lawyer, etc.):** The committee makes expenditures of any amount to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement to support or oppose the qualification, passage or defeat of a state or local ballot measure that states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training to engage in that occupation.

See Chapter 2 for information about the advertisement disclaimer requirements.

### When to File Form 511

A committee that makes an expenditure identified above must file the Form 511 within 10 days. An expenditure is made on the date the payment is made or the date the services are received, if any, whichever is earlier.

### Where to File Form 511

**State Committees:** File Form 511 with the Secretary of State. Committees required to E-file must also file a paper version.

**Local Committees:** File Form 511 in the same location the committee files its regular campaign statements (i.e., Form 461).

**Ex 3.5** – A corporation pays \$30,000 for a public relations firm to produce a television advertisement supporting Measure B. A celebrity is paid \$5,000 or more to appear in the ad. The corporation must file the Form 511. In addition, the ad must state that the individual was paid to appear.

## Paid Spokesperson Report

Type or print in ink. Amounts may be rounded to whole dollars.

Date Stamp	<b>CALIFORNIA FORM 511</b>
	For Official Use Only

**1**

NAME OF FILER New Ventures, Inc.		ID # (if required)
AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER 916-333-3333	E-MAIL (Optional)	
STREET ADDRESS 345 Stone Way		
CITY Sacramento	STATE CA	ZIP CODE 95826

**4**

Amendment (explain)

**2** **Payments Made** Attach additional information on appropriately labeled continuation sheets.

DATE	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SPOKESPERSON (OCCUPATION MAY BE REQUIRED - SEE INSTRUCTIONS)	BALLOT MEASURE SUPPORTED OR OPPOSED (INCLUDE BALLOT NUMBER OR LETTER AND JURISDICTION)	AMOUNT
5/20/XX	Frank Soto 124 Salem Drive Sacramento, CA 95816	Proposition 33 - state  <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	6,000
		<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	

**3** **Verification**

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this report. I have reviewed the report and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 5/27/XX By \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature Required)  
DATE SIGNATURE OF TREASURER/ASSISTANT TREASURER/FILER

## How to Complete Form 511

### 1 Filer's Information

Enter the committee's name, street address, city, state, and zip code.

### 2 Payments Made

In the first column, provide the date the payments were made or the services were received, whichever is earlier. In the second column, indicate the name and address of the individual who was paid to appear in the advertisement. In addition, the occupation of a spokesperson is required when an expenditure of any amount is paid to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement that supports or opposes the qualification, passage, or defeat of a state or local ballot measure and the advertisement

states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training as a prerequisite to engage in that occupation.

In the third column, provide the name, number or letter, and jurisdiction of the ballot measure supported or opposed by the advertisement. Finally, in the last column, indicate the total amount of the expenditure.

### 3 Verification

An attorney, a certified public accountant, or a responsible officer of an entity or an entity filing jointly with any number of affiliates may sign the verification on behalf of the entity or entities. However, a statement filed by an individual must be signed by the individual rather than the individual's attorney or certified public accountant. The Form 511 is not considered filed if it is not signed.



## 4 Amendments

To amend a previously filed Form 511, file another Form 511 with the corrected information. Check the “Amendment” box and give a brief description of the amendment. Like the original, the amendment must be signed and dated. There is no deadline for filing amendments. However, amendments should be filed as soon as practicable. File the amendment in the same location(s) as the original.

### Electioneering Communications Identifying State Candidates (Form E-530)

When an independent expenditure committee makes a payment or a promise of payment totaling \$50,000 or more for a communication that clearly identifies a state candidate who will appear on the ballot of an upcoming election, but the communication does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of that candidate, and the communication is disseminated during the 45 days before the election, a Form E-530 must be filed electronically with the Secretary of State. File Form E-530 within 48 hours of making payments, or promising to make payments, totaling \$50,000 or more. The report must disclose the amount and date of the payment(s), and the name of and office sought by the candidate identified in the communication. A separate report must be filed for each state candidate identified in the communication.

The report must be verified by a written “electronic filing declaration,” signed, dated, and verified on the same date that the report is transmitted to the Secretary of State. This declaration must be retained in the committee’s records for five years following the date that the campaign report to which it relates is filed. The statement must include the following language:

“I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this report and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.”

**Ex 3.6** – The Temple Company purchased billboard space up and down Interstate 5 stating, “Thank You, Governor Romez, for Supporting California’s Children.” The billboard space was rented for the 30 days prior to the Governor’s election. The total cost for design, printing, placement, and space rental was \$65,000 and was paid on October 6. By October 8, the company must file the Form E-530 electronically with the Secretary of State.

## How to File Form E-530

There is no paper version of the Form E-530. To access the online form, go to the Secretary of State's website ([www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)) and click on "~~For Filers Only~~" "**Campaign Forms**" under Campaign Finance. You must apply for a Filer ID and password using the form provided. Then, from the same location on the website, you can click on the E-530 link to access the form.

### Authority

The following Government Code sections and Title 2 regulations provide authority for the information in this chapter:

#### Government Code Sections

- 81004 Reports and Statements; Perjury; Verification.
- 81004.5 Reports and Statements; Amendments.
- 81007 Mailing of Report or Statement.
- 82015 Contribution.
- 82036 Late Contribution.
- 82036.5 Late Independent Expenditure.
- 82044 Payment.
- 82046 Period Covered.
- 84200 Semi-Annual Statements.
- 84200.6 Special Campaign Statements and Reports.
- 84202.7 Time for Filing by Committees of Odd-Numbered Year Reports.
- 84203 Late Contribution; Reports.
- 84203.5 Supplemental Independent Expenditure Report.
- 84204 Late Independent Expenditures; Reports.
- 84211 Contents of Campaign Statement.
- 84213 Verification.
- 84215 Campaign Reports and Statements; Where to File.
- 84303 Expenditure by Agent or Independent Contractor.
- 84511 Ballot Measure Ads; Paid Spokesperson Disclosure.
- 84605 Who Shall File Online.
- 84615 Campaign Reports and Statements – Electronic Filing for Local Agencies.

- 85310 Communications Identifying State Candidates.
- 85500 Independent Expenditures; 24-hour Disclosure; Coordination.

## Title 2 Regulations

- 18116 Reports and Statements; Filing Dates.
- 18215 Contribution.
- ~~18225 Expenditure.~~
- 18227.5 General Purpose Committees: State, County, or City.
- 18402.1 Principal Officers.
- 18423 Payments for Personal Services as Contributions and Expenditures.
- 18426 Semi-Annual Statement Early Filing.
- 18428 Reporting of Contributions and Independent Expenditures Required to be Aggregated.
- 18431 Reporting of Expenditures by an Agent or Independent Contractor.
- 18465.1 Verification of Online Filers.

# APPENDIX- ABOUT THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT/ HOW TO GET HELP

## The Political Reform Act of 1974

The Political Reform Act (the “Act”) was a voter-approved initiative on the 1974 primary election ballot. One of the major provisions of the Act requires the truthful and accurate disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures during elections.

## The Fair Political Practices Commission

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) is the independent, nonpartisan state agency authorized to implement, interpret, and enforce the provisions of the Political Reform Act. A full-time chair appointed by the Governor, and four part-time commissioners, one each appointed by the Controller, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Governor comprise the Commission. Each member serves a four-year term and no more than three members may be from the same political party. FPPC staff is composed of five divisions: Executive, Administration and Technology, Enforcement, Legal, and External Affairs and Education.

## Governing Statutes

The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000-~~91015~~ 91014.

## Regulations

Regulations interpreting the Political Reform Act are located at Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations, beginning at Section ~~48109~~ 18110.

## Opinions and Advice Letters

The FPPC periodically issues opinions interpreting provisions of the Political Reform Act. The opinions are adopted at a public meeting, with opportunity for input from interested persons.

In addition, FPPC staff issues written advice letters as to the applicability of the Political Reform Act and regulations to a particular factual situation. Refer to the information on requesting written advice from the FPPC available on the FPPC website.

### Obtaining Information from Contact Information for the FPPC

Fair Political Practices Commission

1102 Q Street, Suite 3000

Sacramento, CA 95811

(916) 322-5660

(866) 275-3772 – Toll-free

[www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

Twitter: @CA\_FPPC

Facebook: CA FPPC

### FPPC Website

Visit the FPPC website ([www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)) to get copies of specific advice letters, sign up for RSS Feeds, or to be put on mailing lists. The Commission's website also contains a wealth of helpful information, including:

- The Political Reform Act and its corresponding regulations
- Commission opinions
- Advice letters
- Notices of Commission meeting dates and agendas, supporting documentation for agenda items, and meeting summaries
- Forms required by the Political Reform Act (also available at the FPPC office, the Secretary of State's Office, and many local clerks' offices)

- Manuals, fact sheets, and useful summaries of the law
- Campaign filing schedules
- Enforcement closure letters

### **Additional Campaign Manuals**

Additional copies of this manual, and manuals for other types of campaign committees are available from the FPPC, the Secretary of State, and many city clerks or county elections offices.

Manuals are available for:

- State candidates and officeholders, and committees primarily formed to support/oppose candidates
- Local candidates and officeholders, and committees primarily formed to support/oppose candidates
- Ballot measure committees
- General purpose recipient committees
- Major donor committees
- Slate mailer organizations

### **Obtaining Information Elsewhere**

A subscription for regulations is available from:

Barclay's Law Publishing  
P.O. Box 3066  
South San Francisco, CA 94083  
(800) 888-3600

Opinions and advice letters are available from these subscription services:

Westlaw (800) 328-9352  
Database: "CA-ETH"  
(Advice letters from 1986 to present)

Lexis-Nexis (800) 227-9597  
Database: "CA Fair Political Practices Commission"  
(Advice letters from 1990 to present)

## **Other Resources**

The Secretary of State, city clerks, and county elections offices are the filing officers for campaign disclosure statements. Committee statements will be filed with the Secretary of State or a local clerk or elections office depending on whether the filer is a state candidate, a candidate running for local election, or a state or local committee.

## **Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State is also responsible for issuing campaign committee identification numbers and for advice on election procedures.

(916) 653-6224  
(916) 653-5045  
[www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)

## **Federal Election Commission**

The Federal Election Commission answers questions regarding federal elections and contributions to all candidates from national banks, national corporations, and foreign nationals.

Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20463  
(800) 424-9530  
[www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov)

## Franchise Tax Board

The Franchise Tax Board is responsible for responding to questions regarding 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) tax status, tax-deductibility of political contributions, audits, or any tax related questions.

(800) 852-5711 or (800) 338-0505

[www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov)

## Internal Revenue Service

The Internal Revenue Service provides assistance regarding federal tax laws and obtaining a taxpayer identification number.

(877) 829-5500 (located in Washington, D.C.)

(800) 829-4933 (taxpayer ID number)

[www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

## Federal Communications Commission

The Federal Communications Commission can answer questions regarding rates for purchasing broadcast time and equal access to broadcast media.

(888) 225-5322 (located in Washington, D.C.)

[www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov)

email: [fccinfo@fcc.gov](mailto:fccinfo@fcc.gov)

## Local Campaign Ordinances

A city or county officeholder, candidate, or committee may be subject to additional reporting or other requirements such as electronic filing. For example, there may be contribution limits or lower itemization thresholds. A city or county campaign ordinance may never preempt state law.



## Privacy Information Notice

Information required on all FPPC forms is used by the FPPC to administer and enforce the Political Reform Act (Government Code sections 81000-91014 and California Code of Regulations sections **18110 18109**-18997). All information required by these forms is mandated by the Political Reform Act. Failure to provide all of the information required by the Act is a violation subject to administrative, criminal, or civil prosecution. All reports and statements provided are public records open for public inspection and reproduction.

If you have any questions regarding this Privacy Notice please contact the FPPC at:

General Counsel  
Fair Political Practices Commission  
**1102 Q Street, Suite 3000**  
**Sacramento, CA 95811**  
(916) 322-5660

## Enforcement

The Fair Political Practices Commission, the Attorney General, county district attorneys, and elected city attorneys of charter cities have enforcement authority under the Act. Failure to provide all or any part of the information required by the Political Reform Act is a violation subject to:

- An administrative enforcement proceeding before the Fair Political Practices Commission;
- A criminal misdemeanor proceeding;
- A civil action; and
- Levying of late penalties by filing officers.

Penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation may be imposed for violating the Act, including not filing campaign statements.