

POLICY 2015-01

ELECTRONIC ETHICS FILINGS

To protect the integrity of the democratic process and to ensure transparency in elections, it is the policy of the State that the public have reasonable access to the disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures as well as the significant private interests of the public officers. As such, O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34, requires that certain candidates, candidate committees, public officers, political action committees, independent committees, and certain individuals file disclosure and expenditure reports with the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission (formerly known as the State Ethics Commission and hereinafter the "Commission") or with the local election superintendent depending upon whether the election is state or local. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34.1, individuals and organizations that are required to file with the Commission are required to file such reports electronically.

Disclosure and expenditure reports for individuals and organizations related to county elections are required to be filed with the County Election Superintendent. The Gwinnett County Board of Registrations and Elections (hereinafter the "Board") now has ability to accept filings for candidates electronically. Therefore, it is hereby the policy of the Board to encourage individuals and organizations which are required by the Commission to file disclosure reports with the Board to do so by the electronic means provided whenever possible. This policy will be effective upon adoption by the Board.

Information regarding the filing process will be provided to nonpartisan candidates by the Elections Office Staff during the time of qualification.

The same information will be provided to the chairman of each political party or body of Gwinnett County prior to qualifying for distribution to their candidates.

When reports have been filed, they will appear as a link on the Gwinnett County website for public viewing. This will include Personal Financial Disclosure Statements, Campaign Contribution Disclosure Reports, Declarations of Intention, and any other required form filings.

This policy will be implemented as follows:

1. In order to better track and maintain required disclosure reports, candidates, candidate committees, and public officers who are required to file campaign contribution disclosure reports with the county are encouraged to use the electronic program provided by the Board to file such reports whenever possible. If a candidate, candidate committee, or public officer is unable for whatever reason to utilize the electronic filing system, such reports may be filed by certified mail, statutory overnight delivery, or personal delivery to the Gwinnett County Office of Registrations and Elections pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34.1.
2. Political action committees, independent committees, and any persons otherwise required to file ethics reports shall use electronic means to file such reports, if and when such method becomes available. Until such method becomes available, such reports may be filed by certified mail, statutory overnight delivery, or personal delivery

to the Gwinnett County Office of Registrations and Elections pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34.1.

3. The electronic filing of any ethics reports as required by the Commission shall constitute an affirmation that the report is true, complete, and correct.

This 20th day of August, 2015.

BOARD OF REGISTRATIONS AND ELECTIONS
OF GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA

By:

Alice O'Lenick
Alice O'Lenick, Chair

Stephen W. Day
Stephen W. Day, Vice Chair.

Beauty Baldwin
Beauty Baldwin, Member

John Mangano
John Mangano, Member

Ben Satterfield
Ben Satterfield, Member