Campaign Finance Filing Obligations

Once an individual meets the definition of a candidate, a candidate committee is ***required*** to be formed and registered with their campaign finance filing official.

According to Section 3 of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, an individual becomes a candidate as soon as he or she:

- files a fee, Affidavit of Identity or nominating petition for an elective office; **OR**
- is nominated as a candidate for elective office by a political party convention or caucus and certified to the appropriate filing official; **OR**
- receives a contribution or makes an expenditure in an attempt to be nominated or elected to office; **OR**
- gives consent to someone else to receive a contribution or make an expenditure in an attempt to be nominated or elected to office.

Filing the Statement of Organization

The candidate committee must be formed within 10 calendar days of the date the individual meets the definition of a candidate. The Statement of Organization is then due 10 calendar days after the date of the committee's formation. *This is true regardless of the level of financial activity the committee has had in an effort to further the candidate's nomination or election.*

A state-level candidate must file the Statement of Organization electronically. All Statements of Organization are filed through MiTN.

Late filing fees

Late filing fees are assessed for any filings received late or not received at all. A candidate who has filed an affidavit or nominating petition for a state-level office but fails to file the Statement of Organization WILL be assessed late filing fees for the Statement of Organization and any missed campaign statements.

For more information

More information regarding campaign finance filing obligations can be found by visiting the Campaign Finance Disclosure website.

Please email MDOS-CampaignFinance@Michigan.gov with any questions.

INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BY THE MICHIGAN BUREAU OF ELECTIONS
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