

CINCINNATI ELECTIONS COMMISSION

SUMMARY OF THE CITY OF CINCINNATI CHARTER REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR CANDIDATES IN THE 2013 MAYORAL AND COUNCIL ELECTION

NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. THE INDIVIDUAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLYING WITH ALL STATE AND LOCAL ELECTION LAWS.

I. Nomination Deadlines

In accordance with Article IX, Section 4, of the Charter of the City of Cincinnati, the deadline for filing a nominating petition for a member of council or for mayor shall be assembled and filed with the election authorities as one instrument at least 75 days prior to any election at which candidates are to be determined or elected.

For a mayoral candidate, the nominating petition shall be due **June 27, 2013**, 75 days prior to the non-partisan primary to be held on **September 10, 2013**.

For Council candidates, nominating petitions shall be due **August 22, 2013**, 75 days before the general election to be held on **November 5, 2013**.

II. Reporting Requirements

Article XIII of the Charter of the City of Cincinnati imposes reporting requirements on campaign committees for mayoral and council candidates in Council elections. The due dates for the reports to be filed with the Cincinnati Elections Commission are the same as the dates reports are to be filed with the Hamilton County Board of Elections.

Council Candidates

- A report must be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on **July 31, 2013**. The report must identify contributions and expenditures that occur on or after November 9, 2011, and on or before June 30, 2013.
- A report must be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on **December 13, 2013**. The report must identify contributions and expenditures that occur on or after July 1, 2013, and on or before December 6, 2013.

Please note: These reports are not cumulative and should not include contributions previously reported.

Mayoral Candidates

If there is a mayoral primary:

- A report must be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on **July 31, 2013**. The report must identify contributions received and expenditures made from the close of business

on the last day reflected in the last previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on June 30, 2013.

- The two successful mayoral primary candidates shall file a report of contributions and expenditures by no later than 4:00 p.m. on **September 17, 2013**. This report must identify the contributions received and expenditures that occur on or after July 1, 2013 to the close of business on September 10, 2013.
- A report must be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on **December 13, 2013**. The report must identify contributions and expenditures that occur on or after September 11, 2013, and on or before December 6, 2013.

Please note: These reports are not cumulative and should not include contributions previously reported.

If there is **not** a mayoral primary:

- A report must be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on **July 31, 2013**. The report must identify contributions received and expenditures made from the close of business on the last day reflected in the last previously filed statement, if any, to the close of business on June 30, 2013.
- A report must be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on **December 13, 2013**. The report must identify contributions and expenditures that occur on or after July 1, 2013, and on or before December 6, 2013.

Please note: These reports are not cumulative and should not include contributions previously reported.

These reports shall be submitted to the Cincinnati Elections Commission and may be delivered in any of the following manners: (1) By email to electioncommission@cincinnati-oh.gov using a Word, Excel, or PDF document; (2) By facsimile, 513-352-1515; (3) In person, to City Hall, Room 214; (4) By mail to Chairperson, Cincinnati Elections Commission, care of City of Cincinnati Law Department, 801 Plum Street, Room 214, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. The preferred method for filing is by email to electioncommission@cincinnati-oh.gov using a Word, Excel, or PDF document. Copies of these reports shall also be delivered to the Hamilton County Board of Elections.

Please note that the listed contribution/expenditure items contained in a candidate's initial report to the Cincinnati Elections Commission in an election cycle should not be included in any of the candidate's subsequent reports or in any subsequent contribution/expenditure reports. In other words, each contribution or expenditure should only be reported a single time by the candidate to the Cincinnati Elections Commission.

These filing requirements are in addition to filing requirements imposed under state law. Either the same Secretary of State forms or the forms or methods approved by the Hamilton County Board of Elections must be used for all Cincinnati Elections Commission filings. The data should be entered directly onto the state forms or the forms approved by the Hamilton County Board of Elections. The filing requirements under state law are contained in Ohio Revised Code § 3517.10 and are further explained in the Ohio Campaign Finance Reporting Handbook issued

by the Ohio Secretary of State. Questions and requests for additional information regarding state law requirements should be addressed to the Hamilton County Board of Elections, 513-632-7000, or the Secretary of State, Campaign Finance Section, 614-466-3111.

Questions and requests for additional information regarding the Cincinnati Elections Commission or the contribution and filing requirements in the Cincinnati Charter should be addressed to the City of Cincinnati Law Department at 352-3334.

III. Contribution Limits

Article XIII of the Charter of the City of Cincinnati establishes campaign contribution limits for both mayoral and council candidates. Pursuant to Section 4.f.2 of Article XIII, these limits are adjusted every four years, if required. No adjustment is required for the 2013 election. The contribution limits for candidates for the 2013 election are as follows:

- Total individual contribution: \$1100;
- Political action committee: \$2700;
- Political party or legislative campaign fund: \$10,500.

After a mayoral primary campaign concludes with a primary election, the contribution limits start over for mayoral candidates only.