

Who Files:

A candidate for state or local office must file this form for each election, including reelection to the same office. Exception: Candidates for county central committee that do not raise or spend \$2,000 or more in a calendar year.

When to File:

File the Form 501 before you solicit or receive any contributions or before you make expenditures from personal funds on behalf of your candidacy. This form is considered filed the date it is postmarked or hand delivered.

Ensure campaign deadlines are met. Go to www.fppc.ca.gov for most campaign disclosure filing schedules or check with your local filing officer.

Where to File:

State Candidates (including Judges):

Secretary of State
Political Reform Division
1500 11th Street, Room 495
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone (916) 653-6224
www.sos.ca.gov

Local Candidates:

Generally your county election office or city clerk. Electronic filing may be required.

Bank Account:

A separate campaign bank account must be established including campaigns that are self funded by the candidate. Exception: A bank account is not required if a candidate will not receive contributions or make personal expenditures of less than \$2,000. The filing and statement of qualification fees are not included in calculating the \$2,000.

How to Complete:

All candidates: Complete Parts 1 and 3.

Candidates for elective state office: Complete Parts 1, 2, and 3.

Exception: Candidates for an election to the State Public Employees Retirement Board and the Teachers' Retirement Board do not complete Part 2.

Part 1. Candidate Information

- Enter your name and street address.
- Enter the title of the office sought, agency name and district number if any (e.g., City Council member, City of Smalltown, Dist. 5), and political party affiliation, if seeking a partisan office.
- Check the appropriate box regarding the office's jurisdiction.

Part 2. Voluntary Expenditure Ceiling

This section applies to certain candidates for elective state offices, including State Senate and Assembly and statewide offices.

The voluntary expenditure ceiling applicable to your office is set forth in FPPC Regulation 18545. You must state whether you accept or reject the expenditure ceiling. Candidates who accept the voluntary expenditure limit will be designated in either the state ballot pamphlet (statewide candidates) or the voter information portion of the sample ballot (Senate and Assembly candidates) and may purchase space for a 250-word statement there.

You may amend the Form 501 to change your acceptance or rejection of the voluntary expenditure ceiling only under the following circumstances:

- Between the date of filing an initial Form 501 for an election and the deadline for filing nomination papers for that election, you may amend your statement of acceptance or rejection of the voluntary expenditure ceiling no more than two times as long as the limit has not been exceeded.
- If you reject the voluntary expenditure ceiling in the primary or special election but do not exceed the ceiling during that election, you may amend the Form 501 to accept the expenditure ceiling for the general or special runoff election and receive all of the benefits accompanying the acceptance of the expenditure ceiling. The amended Form 501 must be filed within 14 days following the primary or special election.

Personal Funds Notification:

You must disclose, if applicable, the date you contribute personal funds to your own campaign that exceed the expenditure ceiling. File an amended Form 501 within 24 hours by guaranteed overnight delivery, personal delivery, or, if applicable, by electronic means.

Part 3. Verification

The verification is signed under penalty of perjury.

This form was prepared by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). For detailed information on campaign reporting requirements and the Information Practices Act of 1977, see the FPPC Campaign Disclosure Manual for your type of committee.

