

When to File

File the Form 410 within 10 days of receiving \$1,000 in contributions. See 24-hour reporting if the committee qualifies 16 days before an election. The date the form is postmarked is the date it is considered filed.

The “date qualified” as a committee is the date that the committee received contributions totaling \$1,000 or more during a calendar year. If a Form 410 is filed prior to receipt of \$1,000 in contributions, check the box “Not yet qualified.” Once the committee qualifies, file an amended Form 410 to report the date qualified.

Identification Number

Complete all sections applicable to your committee. Failure to provide all required information will result in rejection of the Form 410 and may put you in violation of the Act. After filing the Form 410, access the committee’s ID number at www.sos.ca.gov.

Where to File

All Committees: Original
Secretary of State
Political Reform Division
1500 11th Street, Rm 495
Sacramento, CA 95814

County & City Committees: Also file a copy with local filing officer who will receive the original campaign statements

Terminating

File statements until the termination rules are met and the Form 410 Termination is filed.

Amendments

When information contained in the committee’s Statement of Organization changes, file an amendment within 10 days of the change with the Secretary of State and local filing officer (if applicable). During the period 16 days before an election, file an amendment within 24 hours as described below.

24-Hour Reporting

In addition to the 10 day rule to file an original Form 410:

- a recipient committee that qualifies during the 16 days prior to an election in which it must file pre-election statements must file a Form 410 by fax, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours of qualification with the filing officer who will receive the committee’s original disclosure statements.
- a recipient committee that qualifies during the 16 days prior to an election in which the committee makes independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a candidate in that election must file the Form 410 within 24 hours of qualification with the filing officer who will receive the committee’s original disclosure statements and with the filing officer(s) for the candidate(s) supported or opposed by the independent expenditure. These filings must be made by fax, guaranteed overnight delivery, personal delivery or online (if online filing is available).
- if, during the 16 days prior to an election when a committee is required to file pre-election statements, a change occurs in the name of the committee, the treasurer or other principal

officers, or the controlling candidate, an amendment must be filed with the filing officer receiving the committee’s original campaign statements within 24 hours of the change. The amendment must be sent by fax, online transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery.

Recipient Committee Definition

A recipient committee is any individual (including an officeholder or a candidate), group of individuals, organization, or any other entity that receives contributions totaling \$1,000 or more during a calendar year. The term “contribution” includes monetary payments, loans and non-monetary goods and services received or made for a political purpose.

Candidates: The personal funds of a candidate or officeholder used in connection with seeking or holding elective office are contributions and are counted toward qualifying as a recipient committee. However, personal funds used to pay a candidate filing fee or a fee for the statement of qualifications to appear in the ballot pamphlet are not counted toward the \$1,000 threshold.

This form was prepared by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). For information on Political Reform Act (Act) requirements and the Information Practices Act of 1977, see the FPPC [Campaign Disclosure Manual](#) for your type of committee. Campaign filing deadlines, forms, and other informational materials are available on the FPPC website (www.fppc.ca.gov).

Statement Type:

Initial

The “date qualified” as a committee is the date that the committee received contributions totaling \$1,000 or more during a calendar year.

Amendment

If any of the information reported on an initial statement of organization changes:

- Mark the amendment box;
- Include the committee’s ID number and name;
- Provide the changed information; and
- Complete the verification.

Candidates:

Under certain circumstances, a candidate for local office may amend the Form 410 to indicate that he or she is seeking another term of the same office (re-election). A candidate for state office must open a separate committee for each term of office and may not amend the Form 410 to redesignate an election committee.

Termination

List the committee’s identification number and indicate the date of termination.

1. Committee Information:

Provide the full name of the committee. A committee may use only one name.

The committee’s street address must be reported. A post office box is not acceptable. The committee’s mailing address must also be reported if it is different from the committee’s street address. A post office box is acceptable for the mailing address. A committee’s “domicile” is its address as listed on the Form 410. Los Angeles is the county of domicile for committees located outside California.

Committee Name Requirements

The following committee name rules apply to the Form 410, the committee’s campaign statements and to any other references to the committee required by law. See the instructions for Part 4 for committee definitions.

Candidate Controlled Committees (including ballot measure committees): Any committee that is controlled by a state or local candidate or officeholder must include the last name of the candidate in the name of the committee. In addition, the following rules also apply:

- An **election committee** controlled by one or more state or local candidates must also include the office the candidate(s) is seeking and the year of the election (e.g., Friends of Smith for Assembly 2010, Jones for Council 2010).
- An **officeholder committee** set up by a state officeholder must also include the office held, the year the officeholder was elected to the current term of office, and the words “Officeholder Account,” as part of the committee name (e.g., Anderson Assembly 2010 Officeholder Account).
- A **legal defense fund** set up by a state or local candidate or officeholder must also include the words “Legal Defense Fund” as part of the committee name (e.g., Senator Smith Legal Defense Fund).
- A **ballot measure committee** controlled by one or more state candidates must also state that it is a ballot measure committee (e.g., Senator Lee’s Ballot Measure Committee). See additional requirements for primarily formed committees.

Sponsored Committees: A sponsored committee (including most political action committees) must include the full name of its sponsor in the name of the committee. If the committee has more than one sponsor and the sponsors are members of an industry or other identifiable group, include a term identifying that industry or group.

Primarily Formed Committees

Ballot Measures: The name of each committee primarily formed to support or oppose a ballot measure must include:

- A statement identifying the ballot measure(s) number or letter and whether it supports or opposes the measure(s) (e.g., Committee For Proposition/Measure __ or Committee Against Proposition/Measure __).
- The name must include the economic or other special interests of its major donors of \$50,000 or more, in descending order based on the amount contributed to the committee. The list of these economic or special interests may not be interspersed with constituencies such as “concerned citizens, or consumers.”
- The name of any state or local candidate that contributes \$50,000 or more.
- Prior to the designation of the ballot measure number, a primarily formed ballot measure committee controlled by a state candidate must also state that it is a ballot measure committee (e.g., Senator Gomez’s Ballot Measure Committee).

Recalls: Each committee established for a recall election must include the name of the officeholder subject to the recall. If the committee is not controlled by the officeholder, the committee must state its support or opposition (e.g., Committee Opposing the Recall of Council Member Doe).

Supporting or Opposing a Candidate: The name of each committee primarily formed to support or oppose a state or local candidate(s) being voted on in a single election, other than a recall election, must include the name of each candidate, the office sought, the year of the election and must state whether the committee supports or opposes the candidate(s) (e.g., Committee to Support Doe for Senate 2010).

2. Treasurer and Other Principal Officers:

The committee may have only one treasurer and one assistant treasurer. A candidate may be his or her own treasurer or assistant treasurer. A committee may not accept a contribution or make an expenditure without a treasurer.

A committee that is not controlled by a candidate or officeholder must disclose the name, street address, and telephone number of the committee's principal officer(s). The principal officer(s) of a committee are the individual(s) primarily responsible for approving the political activity of the committee, including authorizing the content of committee communications, authorizing the committee's contributions and other expenditures, and determining the committee's campaign strategy. If more than three individuals qualify as principal officers of the committee, identify no fewer than three. If no individual other than the committee treasurer qualifies as a principal officer, identify that individual as both the treasurer and the principal officer. An attachment may be necessary.

3. Verification:

The committee treasurer or assistant treasurer must sign the Form 410. Also, each controlling officeholder, candidate or state ballot measure proponent must sign the Form 410. If more than three control the committee, one of them may sign on behalf of all controlling individuals. If a candidate will serve as his or her own treasurer, he or she must sign as the candidate and again as the treasurer.

4. Type of Committee: Controlled Committee

A "controlled committee" is one which is controlled directly or indirectly by an officeholder, candidate, or state measure proponent, or which acts jointly with an officeholder, candidate, state measure

proponent, or another controlled committee in connection with making expenditures.

A committee is controlled if the officeholder, candidate, or proponent, his/her agent, or any other committee he/she controls, has a significant influence on the actions or decisions of the committee.

"Proponents" of state measures are persons who request the Attorney General to prepare a title and summary of a state initiative, referendum, or measure.

- **Candidate Election Committee:** A candidate must disclose bank account information on the Form 410. List the name and address of the financial institution where the campaign bank account is located and the bank account number.

If a campaign bank account is not open at the time of filing an initial Form 410, amend the Form 410 within 10 days of opening the bank account.

- **Ballot Measure Committee Controlled by State Candidate:** Identify each measure on which the committee has spent or anticipates spending \$50,000 or more in the current two-year period, beginning with January 1 of an odd-numbered year. If the ballot designation has not been assigned, describe the purpose of the anticipated measure(s). Amend the Form 410 when a ballot designation is assigned. Provide this information in the primarily formed or general purpose section or on an attachment.
- **Legal Defense Committee:** On an attachment, describe the specific legal dispute or disputes for which the legal defense fund was established. The Form 410 must be amended within 10 days when legal disputes are either resolved or new disputes are initiated.

Important: Primarily formed committees have more disclosure requirements than general

purpose committees such as more frequent filings and disclosure mandates on committee communications. Committees shall not knowingly file in an incorrect jurisdiction or as an incorrect type of committee. Seek advice from the FPPC if you are unclear as to whether your committee is primarily formed or general purpose.

Primarily Formed Committee

A committee is "primarily formed" when it makes or initially plans to make more than 70% of its contributions and expenditures to support or oppose a specific candidate or measure, or a group of measures or specific local candidates all being voted upon in the same election on the same date. (FPPC Regulation 18247.5)

New committees: A new committee formed within six months of a statewide regular election or within 30 days of a state special election is presumed to be primarily formed if the committee makes at least \$25,000 in independent expenditures to support or oppose a state candidate or measure. Monthly review is required for other new committees that spend at least \$1,000 a month and were formed within six months of an election in connection with which the committee makes contributions or expenditures.

Quarterly review at the end of March, June, September and December is required for other committees.

A committee controlled by a candidate for his or her own candidacy is not a primarily formed committee.

Recall Committees: A committee supporting or opposing a recall must list the committee measure's title, and the officeholder's name and office. A recall committee will mark whether it supports or opposes the officeholder.

General Purpose Committee

A committee is a “general purpose committee” if its principal activity is supporting or opposing a variety of candidates or measures voted on in different elections. (FPPC regulation 18227.5)

- A state committee makes contributions or expenditures to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in state elections, or in more than one county; it does not make over 70% of its contributions or expenditures in a single local jurisdiction. State contributions include contributions to other state general purpose committees. All political party committees (including county central committees) are state committees.
- A county committee makes more than 70% of its contributions or expenditures to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in a single county, or in more than one jurisdiction within one county. This includes contributions to other general purpose committees in the same county.
- A city committee makes more than 70% of its contributions or expenditures to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in a single city, or in one consolidated city and county. This includes contributions to other city general purpose committees in the same city.

A city or county committee may make up to four contributions a calendar year to candidates for elective state office whose districts are within the same jurisdiction and is not required to change status as a state committee.

A committee that has made contributions or expenditures of \$5,000 or more during a quarter must review its activity at the end of March, June, September and December to determine if the committee is filing reports in the appropriate jurisdiction. During the first six months, a new

committee must check its jurisdictional status each month the committee makes expenditures of \$1,000 or more. If a change of filing locations occurs, reports must be filed in both the new and old jurisdiction through the calendar year.

After marking the appropriate state, county or city box, provide a brief description of the committee’s political activities such as whether it supports candidates or measures that share a common political affiliation.

Sponsored Committee

A “sponsored committee” is a general purpose or primarily formed committee, other than an officeholder or candidate controlled committee, that has one or more sponsors.

An organization, business, or other entity is a sponsor if one or more of the following apply:

- The committee receives 80% or more of its contributions from the entity or organization or its members, officers, employees, or shareholders.
- The entity or organization collects contributions for the committee by use of payroll deductions or dues from its members, officers or employees.
- The entity or organization, alone or in combination with other entities or organizations, provides all or nearly all of the administrative services for the committee.
- The entity or organization, alone or in combination with other entities or organizations, sets the policies for contribution solicitations or payment of expenditures from committee funds.

See the instructions for Part 1 for a sponsored committee’s name requirements.

Small Contributor Committee

A “small contributor committee” is one that has been in existence for more than six months;

receives contributions from 100 or more persons; makes contributions to five or more candidates; and has not received more than \$200 from one person in a calendar year.

5. Termination Requirements

Recipient committees may only terminate when:

- They have ceased to receive contributions and make expenditures; and
- They do not anticipate receiving contributions, repayments of outstanding loans made to others, or any other receipts in the future, and they do not anticipate making expenditures in the future; and
- They have eliminated or have no intention or ability to discharge all their debts, loans received, and other obligations; and
- They have no funds; and
- They have filed all required campaign statements disclosing all reportable transactions, including disposition of funds.

State Candidates: There are mandatory termination deadlines applicable to your committees.

How to Terminate

State Committees: Complete page one of the Form 410 and mark the termination box. Send the Form and last Form 450 or 460 (mark the termination box) to the Secretary of State.

Local Committees: Complete page one of the Form 410, mark the termination box and send the Form to the Secretary of State. Send a copy of the Form 410 and last Form 450 or 460 (mark the termination box) to your city or county filing officer.