# Quick Guide for 2024 Filing as Candidate Local Offices Primary 2024 Election

l	Sheriff	County Attorney	County Tax Assessor-Collector
	District Judge, 32 <sup>nd</sup> Judicial	District Attorney, 32 <sup>nd</sup> Judicial	County Commissioner Pct 1
	County Commissioner Pct 3	Constable Pct 2 & 3	

### Filing period November 11, 2023 – December 11, 2023

### **STEPS FOR FILING FOR LOCAL OFFICE:**

- 1. A candidate's treasurer appointment (typically Form CTA) MUST be filed on or before any of the following activity occurs:
  - Filing their application for a place on the ballot
  - Raising or spending any money
  - Announcing in public a definite intent to run in a particular election

#### 2. Treasurer appointments can be filed long before any of this happens

Texas Election Code 251.001 (1)

- www.ethics.state.tx.us (Form CTA) Form CTA (Appointment of a Campaign Treasurer by a Candidate) (state.tx.us)
- Candidates for county & precinct offices file with the County Clerk's office TEC Sec. 252.005(2)

#### 3. Optional – File Code of Fair Campaign Practices (Chapter 258)

- www.ethcis.state.tx.us (Form CFCP) <u>Form CFCP (Code of Fair Campaign Practices) (state.tx.us)</u>
- Candidates for county & precinct offices file with the County Clerk's office TEC Sec 258.003(a)

#### 4. File Application for a Place on the Primary Ballot and pay a filing fee

• Texas Secretary of State – Candidate's Guide to Nomination and General Election for 2024 <u>Candidate's Guide to Nomination and General Election for 2024 (texas.gov)</u>

Texas Democratic Party Chair – Brenda Cruz (956) 286-7622 primaryadmin@txdemocrats.org Democratic County Chair – vacant (contact Texas Democrat Party Chair) Republican County Chair – Kristin Browne (325) 242-0567 westtexaspatriotsmcr@gmail.com

County Clerk – Carla Kern (325) 728-3481 ckern@co.mitchell.tx.us County website www.co.mitchell.tx.us

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### **Texas Ethics Commission**

P.O. Box 12070 Austin, TX 78711-2070 (512) 463-5800

www.ethics.state.tx.us

Filed with the County Clerk's office and will be posted to county website for 5 years (HB 2626)

- 1. Candidate/Officeholder Campaign Finance Report
  - Form C/OH
  - Instructions
  - Correction Affidavit for Candidate/Officeholder (Form COR-C/OH)
- 2. Candidate/Officeholder Report of Unexpended Contributions
  - Form C/OH-UC
  - Instructions
  - Corrected C/OH-UC (Form COR-C/OH)
- 3. Other Resources TEC
  - Filing Schedules: Home Page Filing Schedules (under picture, on the left) Uniform (Local) Filing Schedule
  - Political Advertising: What You Need to Know (Home Page Resources Advertising)
  - Political Fundraising: What You Need to Know (Home Page Resources Resources – Reference Guides)
  - Guide To The Prohibition Against Using Political Subdivision Resources for Political Advertising: (Home Page Resources Reference Guides)

## **TEC - Basic Campaign Finance Info**

- 1. All candidates for public office must file a campaign treasurer appointment, even if they do not plan to raise or spend any money
- 2. Anyone with an active treasurer appointment on file must file at least two semiannual reports a year, in January and July; there are NO exceptions to this requirement; these reports must be filed even if they have not raised or spent any money
- 3. If a candidate does not plan to raise or spend over a certain amount (\$1,080 as of 1/1/2024), they can sign up for modified reporting on the back of their CTA form and be exempted from certain pre-election reports (but not semiannual)
- 4. The only way to terminate a treasurer appointment, which is the only way to stop a filer's continuing filing obligations, is to file a final report
- 5. Final reports are filed on the same forms as other campaign finance reports (Form C/OH for candidates and officeholders, and Form SPAC for specific-purpose political action committees); the filer just checks the box for "Final Report" under Report Type (Cover Sheet, Page 1, section 9)
- 6. Final reports can be filed at any time

### **TEC - Deadline to File Campaign Finance Reports**

- Local candidates and officeholders must file most campaign finance reports by 5:00 p.m. on the due date; see Filing Schedules here: https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/schedules/filing\_schedules.php
- 8. Pre-election reports (due 30 days and 8 days before an election) must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the due date; no mailing option
- 9. Local filing authorities must accept campaign finance reports via email; email must be received by 5:00 on the filing deadline to be timely

Texas Election Code 1.007, 251.007, 254.037

The County Clerk's office does not fill out forms for filers; filers cannot use public resources, including our time, for campaign purposes. We do not edit, amend or revise forms; that could be tampering with a governmental record. We do not misrepresent the date of filing of a document.

Texas Penal Code 37.10, 39.02 (a) (2)