

NEW JERSEY

CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND BALLOT MEASURE GUIDE

These resources are current as of 11/22/17: We do our best to periodically update these resources and welcome any comments or questions regarding new developments in the law. Please email us at advocacy@afj.org.

What's New in This Guide

The following changes/additions have been made since the previous version of this guide:

- ◆ Updated dollar figures for inflation-adjusted campaign-finance thresholds.
- ◆ Additional information on electronic filing of campaign-finance reports.

This guide summarizes key aspects of laws and regulations governing campaign finance on the state level. It is not intended to provide legal advice or to serve as a substitute for legal advice.

In some jurisdictions, city, county, or special district regulations may also apply to certain political activities. Check with the appropriate local jurisdiction before undertaking any activity.

GOVERNING LAW

- The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, (“Act”) N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.
- New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (“ELEC”) regulations N.J.A.C. 19:25-1.1 et seq.

CONTRIBUTION LIMITS AND SOURCE RESTRICTIONS

| | To Candidates <i>Limits are per election, with the primary and general counted separately</i> | | To Committees <i>Limits are per calendar year, with the exception of Political Committees, for which the limits are per election.</i> | | | | | |
|--|---|-------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| From: | Governor (for the general election the Lt. Gov. and Gov. share one limit) | Legislative | State Political Party Comm. | Legislative Leadership Comm. | Municipal Political Party Committee | County Political Party Comm. | Political & Continuing Comm. | Public Question and Comm. Making IEs ¹ |
| Individuals | \$4,300 | \$2,600 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$7,200 | \$37,000 | \$7,200 | Unlimited |
| PACs² | \$4,300 | \$8,200 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$7,200 | \$37,000 | \$7,200 | Unlimited |
| Unions and Corporations (except as noted below) | \$4,300 | \$2,600 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$7,200 | \$37,000 | \$7,200 | Unlimited |

N.J.A.C. § 19:25-11.2(a), available http://www.elec.state.nj.us/ForCandidates/elect_limits.htm.

Prohibited Contributors

- Government contractors and prospective government contractors face special restrictions and prohibitions. See the “Pay to Play” section below.
- Banks, insurance corporations, public utilities, cable television corporations, and certain casino interests are prohibited from making contributions under statutes that are not part of the Act. These prohibited contributors are therefore not under the jurisdiction of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, but rather the Attorney General.

¹ While PACs typically have a \$7,200 contribution limit, PACs can raise unlimited funds if the PAC will exclusively support and oppose candidates through independent expenditures. The legislature has not yet removed the statutory limitation, but ELEC has been permanently enjoined from enforcing the limits against committees that solely make IEs. Fund for Jobs, Growth & Security v. New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission et al. Civil Action No. 3:13-CV-02177-MAS-LHG.

² In this summary, the term “PAC” refers to both Political Committees and Continuing Political Committees, unless otherwise noted.

N.J.S.A. § 5:12-138, 19:34-45, 19:34-32. A number of Attorney General Advisory Opinions that provide additional guidance on these prohibitions are posted by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, available here: <http://www.elec.state.nj.us/legalresources/advisory.htm>

Contributions on Government Property

- Political contributions may not be solicited or delivered on government property. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-11.4; N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-19.1b. Initially this prohibition only applied to gubernatorial and legislative candidates, but it was recently amended to include local candidates as well. ELEC Advisory Opinion No. 02-2013.

Contributions by Corporations and Labor Organizations

- Corporations (other than banks, utilities and certain other entities, mentioned above) and labor organizations are subject to the same contribution limitations as individuals.
- For the purposes of contribution limits, contributions from a corporation, association, or union are aggregated with those from any subsidiary or local affiliate of that corporation, association, or union. Affiliated entities are therefore subject to a single combined contribution limit. Whether two entities are affiliated depends on the degree of control one exerts over the other, the source of funds, and the degree to which the entities are free to make independent decisions regarding support for candidates. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-11.9(a). However, two or more entities will be conclusively deemed to be affiliated if either there is at least 30% common ownership of the two entities or one entity owns more than a 30% interest in the other entity. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-11.9(b).

“Pay-to-Play” Law

- To prevent the appearance of impropriety in awarding government contracts, New Jersey has enacted “Pay-to-Play” laws. These laws impose limits, prohibitions, and reporting requirements on political contributions and solicitations by certain business entities (and associated individuals) that hold or are seeking New Jersey government contracts. A reportable contribution³ made prior to the award of a contract may disqualify an entity from receiving a contract, and making a reportable contribution during the term of a contract is prohibited. See N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-20.13 *et seq.*

³ A contribution is reportable if it exceeds \$300 per reporting period. The reporting period for a candidate recipient is per election; the reporting period for a PAC, political party, or legislative leadership committee is per calendar year.

- While true government grants are not subject to New Jersey’s Pay-to-Play laws, the state’s Pay-to-Play rules may apply to certain grants from public entities when such grants are deemed “contracts to provide services.”
- In addition to the restrictions on government contractors, New Jersey imposes disclosure requirements on certain business entities under the pay-to-play law. However, these do not apply to non-profits. See N.J.S.A. §§ 19:44A-20.26(c), -20.27(d).
- Municipalities and counties may enact their own “Pay-to-Play” ordinances in addition to those set by state law. To date, more than 150 local government entities have adopted their own local pay-to-play ordinances that govern eligibility for government contracts in those jurisdictions. As local pay to play rules are diverse and complex, they are beyond the scope of this summary.

Currency and In-Kind Contributions

- Contributions in the form of currency are subject to a \$200 limitation per reporting period. Any currency contribution must be reported in detail regardless of the amount. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.6.
- An “in-kind” contribution is a contribution of goods or services contributed to a candidate or committee. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.4. A contribution received in the form of goods is reported in an amount equal to the fair market value of the goods to the candidate or committee receiving them.

COMMUNICATIONS

Issue Advocacy vs. Express Advocacy

- New Jersey regulates “political communications,” which are ones that expressly advocate the election or defeat of a specified candidate. The state’s express advocacy standard is based on the federal standard set in *Buckley v. Valeo*. Under this test, a statement – whether in writing, broadcast, or on the internet – is a “political communication” if it includes words such as “vote for,” “vote against,” and other similar phrases. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.10(a); see also ELEC Advisory Opinion 10-2001, available (<http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/ao/2001/ao102001.pdf>); ELEC Advisory Opinion 01-2011, available (http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/ao/2011/ao_012011.pdf).
- A communication that does not contain any of the so-called “magic words” – such as “vote for” or “vote against” a candidate – is still considered a “political communication” if all of the following conditions are met:
 - The communication is distributed within 90 days of an election involving the candidate on whose behalf the communication is

made (for gubernatorial candidates, the period extends from January 1 through Election Day);

- The communication is circulated or broadcast to an audience substantially comprised of persons eligible to vote for the candidate supported by the communication;
- The communication contains a statement or reference concerning the governmental or political objectives or achievements of the candidate; and
- The communication has been coordinated at least partially with the candidate or made at least partially or at the candidate's suggestion or request.

N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.10(b).

- Issue advocacy communications – that is, those that do not satisfy the test to be “political communications” as discussed above – are not regulated by campaign finance laws. See N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.10(a); see also ELEC Advisory Opinion 10-2001, available (<http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/ao102001.pdf>). They do not need to be reported, nor do they need to include “paid-for” disclosures. However, issue advocacy communications made by a grassroots lobbying organizations are subject to the reporting requirements of the Lobbying Act. For further information, see the Alliance for Justice summary of New Jersey lobbying laws or consult the manual for Government Affairs Agents found here: (http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/forms/lobbyforms/Lobbying_Manual.pdf)

Membership Communications

- Communications by a non-profit organization or union limited to its members and their families, or by a corporation to its stockholders and their families, are not contributions, even if the communications expressly advocate a candidate's election or defeat. As such, there is no limit on the amount a non-profit organization may spend on communications made only to its members, and there is no reporting requirement. See N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-29(f). Solicitation of nonmembers to pay for such communications is prohibited.

Independent Expenditures

- An “independent expenditure” is an expenditure supporting or opposing a candidate, made without the coordination, consultation or consent of a candidate or their agent, and not made at the request or suggestion of a candidate or their agent. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-12.7.

- Expenditures totaling \$1,600 or less per election by individuals and corporations to support or oppose candidates are not reportable as independent expenditures. N.J.A.C. 19:25-12.7(b).
- Independent expenditures by PACs and other registered committees are reportable regardless of the amount. *Id.*
- While contributions to directly support candidates are subject to limits, independent expenditures are not. Additionally, contributions to independent spending-only committees are not subject to the PAC contribution limits. Fund for Jobs, Growth & Security v. New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission et al. Civil Action No. 3:13-CV-02177-MAS-LHG.
- Reporting Independent Expenditures
 - PACs – PACs disclose their independent expenditures on the campaign finance reports they file on the PAC filing schedule described below.
 - New Jersey PACs must disclose all independent expenditures, regardless of the amount, on their campaign finance reports. Independent expenditures over \$1,600 trigger 48-hour reporting for PACs during the final 13 days before an election.
 - While PACs are typically subject to a \$7,200 contribution limit, a committee can raise unlimited funds if the committee will exclusively support and oppose candidates through independent expenditures. The legislature has not yet removed the statutory limitation, but ELEC has been permanently enjoined from enforcing the limits against committees that solely make IEs. Fund for Jobs, Growth & Security v. New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission et al. Civil Action No. 3:13-CV-02177-MAS-LHG.
 - Corporations, Out-of-State PACs and Individuals –
 - Independent expenditures by entities other than New Jersey PACs must be reported on Form IND, available at: (http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/files/forms/compliance/indexp_report.pdf) if the entity spent more than \$1,600 to support or oppose a candidate or ballot question. Reports must disclose the expenditure's date, recipient, purpose, amount and check number.
 - Reports are due on the following schedule:
 - Quarterly, due on the first business day on or following April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15;

- 29 days before the election, complete through the 32nd day before the election;
- 11 days before the election, complete through the 14th day before the election; and
- Within 48 hours of any independent expenditure over \$1,600 made or authorized during the final 13 days before the election.

Reports must disclose all activity since the closing date of the previous report. N.J.A.C. §§ 19:25-8.2, 19:25-8.10, 19:25-12.8.

- Disclaimer – Independent expenditures must identify the person paying for the advertisement.
 - PAC communications must clearly state the PAC’s name and address, as the information appears on the Statement of Organization and the Designation of Depository that the PAC filed with ELEC. N.J.A.C § 19:25-13.2(a).
 - Independent expenditures by a non-PAC must include the name and address of the corporation or other entity as it appears in public records or a current telephone directory. *Id.*
 - Additionally, independent expenditures must contain in “a clear and conspicuous statement” that the expenditure was not coordinated with any candidate or candidate’s committee. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-13.3. ELEC provides an example:
 - *“Paid for by John Doe, 1234 Main Street, Anytown, New Jersey. This expenditure was not made with the cooperation or prior consent of, or in consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate, or person or committee acting on behalf of the candidate.”*

Coordination

New Jersey’s coordination regulations appear only in the context of gubernatorial elections. In the absence of further instruction in non-gubernatorial elections, practitioners look to the gubernatorial regulations for guidance in all election contexts.

- A political communication has been “coordinated” by a candidate if a person, corporation or PAC makes the expenditure with the cooperation, prior consent, or in consultation with or at the request or suggestion of the candidate or someone acting on his behalf. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-12.3.
- When an express advocacy political communication has been “coordinated” with a candidate or a candidate’s agent, the costs are reportable as an “in-kind” contribution to the candidate, and they are subject to contribution limits. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.11.

- PACs, corporations or others paying for or authorizing “coordinated expenditures” must immediately notify the candidate’s campaign of the expenditure. N.J.A.C. §§ 19:25-12.3(a)-(b). Written notice must be delivered to the candidate or campaign within 48 hours of making or authorizing the expenditure. The notice must contain the following information:
 - Date of authorizing or making the expenditure;
 - Name and address of payee;
 - Purpose of the expenditure; and
 - Amount of the expenditure.

Disclaimers

- All PAC expenditures for communications, and all independent expenditures, must include a political identification statement identifying the name and residential or business address of the committee or individual sponsoring the communication and the required “paid for by” language described below:
 - PAC communications must clearly state the PAC’s name and address, as the information appears on the Statement of Organization and the Designation of Depository that the PAC filed with ELEC.
 - Communications by a non-PAC must include the name and address of the corporation or other entity as it appears in public records or a current telephone directory. N.J.A.C § 19:25-13.2(a).
- The following items are *exempt* from the labeling requirement:
 - Small items of *de minimis* value commonly used in election campaigns to convey a political message, including, but not limited to, buttons, combs, and nail files; and
 - Advertising space costing no more than \$50 in a political program book distributed at a fundraising event, provided that the payment for the advertising space is subject to reporting under the Reporting Act.
- The following is an example of political identification statements: “Paid for by the ABC PAC, 1234 Main Street, Anytown, N.J.

REGISTRATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Definitions

Continuing Political Committee (“CPC”) – A “continuing political committee” is any corporation, entity or group of two or more persons⁴ acting together that contributes or expects to contribute at least \$6,300 in a calendar year to support one or more candidates or ballot measures, and which may be expected to make contributions to support or defeat candidates or measures in a subsequent election. In essence, this is a PAC that spends \$6,300 or more in one year, and that expects to be an on-going PAC in future elections. N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-3n.

- Political Committee (“PC”) – A “political committee” is any corporation, entity or group of two or more persons acting together that raises or spends \$2,800 or more in an election to support or oppose one or more candidates or ballot measures but that is not expected to be active in subsequent elections. N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-3i.
- A CPC or PC could also include a non-profit, union or out-of-state or federal PAC if it has raised funds to aid or promote New Jersey candidates and committees or has a “major purpose” of influencing New Jersey elections. Specifically, ELEC considers whether the entity, while raising money, made “any representation about what candidates will be supported or what issues will be endorsed” or whether it planned “to aid or promote New Jersey candidates and committees.” ELEC does not specifically define what is considered a “major purpose,” but it would include activities that are more than merely episodic or a portion of overall activities. In practice, ELEC has determined that a federal PAC’s New Jersey activities did not qualify as a “major purpose” of the organization when approximately 2% of the federal PAC contributors and contributions were from New Jersey residents and approximately 1% of the federal PAC’s candidate expenditures were to New Jersey candidates. ELEC Advisory Opinion No. 06-2001; ELEC Advisory Opinion 02-2003.

Continuing Political Committees (“CPCs”)

Registration

- Only CPCs that raise or spend \$6,300 or more in a calendar year, and which are active in two or more elections, are required to file with ELEC. For reporting purposes, an “election” begins with the receipt of the first contribution or making of the first expenditure, and it concludes on the 17th day following the election.

⁴ Separate laws and regulations apply to candidate committees and political party committees in New Jersey. An overview of these requirements is beyond the scope of this summary.

- Within 10 days of being established, a CPC must file a Registration Statement and Designation of Organizational Depository (Form D-4, available here http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cpc_forms.htm), certified by the chairperson and treasurer. The form must include the name and contact information for the CPC, for its Treasurer and its Chairman, for anyone authorized to sign the committee's checks, for entities and people that have direct or indirect control over the committee, and for anyone involved with establishing the CPC. The CPC must also designate a New Jersey resident to receive service of legal process and identify its bank name and account number, its purposes, and various information regarding in-state and out-of-state activities. If any of this information changes, an amended Form D-4 must be filed within three days. N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-8.1; N.J.A.C. § 19:25-4.5.

Reporting

- Reporting Manual – ELEC prepared a reporting manual for CPCs. This manual is available online here: http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/files/forms/compliance/man_cpc.pdf
- Annual Short-Form Report – A CPC that expects to spend \$6,300 or less in a given calendar year may file a single report, on Form A-3, submitted by January 15 of that year.
 - Filers of Form A-3 that receive aggregate contributions over \$300 from any single source must file Form C-3 by the end of the calendar quarter.
- Quarterly Reports – CPCs that anticipate spending more than \$6,300 in a given calendar year must report quarterly, within 15 days of the end of the calendar quarter. N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-8(b)(2). CPCs file quarterly Form R-3 reports, available at: (http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cpc_forms.htm), disclosing the CPC's receipts and expenditures.
 - Contributions aggregating \$300 per source per calendar year must be disclosed in detail, setting forth the date of contribution, amount, contributor's name and address, if the contributor is an individual, the contributor's occupation, employer, and employer address.
 - All expenditures and currency contributions must be disclosed in detail regardless of the amount.
 - Although aggregate contributions of \$300 or less from any one source are not required to be disclosed (except for currency contributions), the CPC is required to maintain records of such contributions.
- 48-hour Reports – CPCs that receive contributions from a single source aggregating more than \$1,600, or that make expenditures aggregating more than \$1,600, between the last filing date and Election Day are required to report those activities within 48 hours. However, if the CPC

expects to have numerous such transactions, it may report all of those made before the 13th day prior to the election on a single report filed 11 days prior to the election. Any subsequent transactions must be reported within 48 hours. *Id.*; N.J.A.C. §§ 19:25-9.3, -9.4. Contributions received are reported on Form C-3 and expenditures made are reported on Form E-3, available at: (http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cpc_forms.htm). All activity reported on the 11-day “cumulative” report and on 48-hour reports must also be reported on the subsequent quarterly report.

Termination/Dissolution of a CPC

- A CPC may terminate if:
 1. The CPC ceases making contributions and expenditures;
 2. It files a Form CPC-F, certifying that it has halted its election-influencing activities;
 3. It files a final quarterly Form R-3, providing a final accounting of funds and the disposition of any remaining balance; and
 4. The CPC is dissolved.

Political Committees (“PCs”)

Registration

- Only PCs that raise or spend \$2,800 or more in an election are required to file with ELEC. For reporting purposes, an “election” begins with the receipt of the first contribution or making of the first expenditure, and it concludes on the 17th day following the election.
- Within 10 days of being established, a PC must file a “Political Committee Registration Statement and Designation of Campaign Treasurer and Depository” (Form PC), available at (http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cf_forms.htm#pc). The form must include the name and contact information for the PC, for its Treasurer and its Chairman, and for anyone authorized to sign the committee’s checks. Furthermore, the PC must disclose any organizations that control the PC’s activities, and the name of the person who is designated to receive service of legal process. If any information submitted on the form changes, the PC must submit and amended Form PC within three days. A Form PC must be filed in each election in which the PC’s activity equals or exceeds \$2,800. N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-8.1; N.J.A.C. § 19:25-4.4.
- If the PC expects to raise or spend money in two or more successive elections, the treasurer should contact ELEC to discuss whether the PC should be certified as a CPC.

Reporting

- Reporting Manual – ELEC prepared a compliance manual for PCs, which covers the reporting obligations in great detail. This manual is available online here:

http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/files/forms/compliance/man_pc.pdf

- Initial Report – A PC’s first report is due on a date that depends on when the committee is established. If the PC is established in the last 5 months and 29 days before the election in which it is participating, its initial report will be its 29-day pre-election report. Otherwise, its first report will be the first quarterly report that is due after the PC is established.
- Quarterly Reports – Reports are due on first business day on or following April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15 Use Form R-1, available at: http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cf_forms.htm#pc
- Pre-election Report – A report is due 29 days before the election, covering all activity through the 32nd day before the election. Use Form R-1, available at: http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cf_forms.htm#pc
- 48-hour Reports – During the period from the 13th day before the election through Election Day, reports are due within 48 hours of receiving contributions aggregating over \$1,600 from a single contributor, or making an expenditure over \$1,600 to support or defeat a candidate or a ballot measure. The contribution reports are filed using Form C-1, and the expenditure reports on Form E-1, both of which are available at: http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cf_forms.htm#pc N.J.A.C. § 19:25-8.1., 8.8-8.10.
- PCs must disclose on their Form R-1 any contributor whose aggregate contributions during a reporting period exceed \$300. Once a contributor has exceeded the \$300 aggregate contribution threshold, all subsequent contributions from the contributor must be disclosed, regardless of amount.
 - Contributions aggregating \$300 per source per calendar year must be disclosed in detail, setting forth the date of contribution, amount, contributor’s name and address, if the contributor is an individual, the contributor’s occupation, employer, and employer address.
 - All expenditures and currency contributions must be disclosed in detail regardless of the amount.
 - Although aggregate contributions of \$300 or less from any one source are not required to be disclosed (except for currency contributions), the PC is required to maintain records of such contributions. N.J.A.C. § 19:25-10.3.

Terminating a PC

- To terminate further reporting for an election, the PC treasurer must certify its first quarterly post-election report or its 20-day post-election report as its final report for the election. Termination is conditioned upon the following requirements:

1. The committee's bank accounts must have balances of \$0;
 2. The committee's outstanding debts must be less than \$1,000 or less than 10% of the PC's expenditures for the election (whichever figure is less), or the PC must produce documented evidence that excessive obligations are likely to be discharged; and,
 3. The committee has been dissolved and wound up its business for the past election.
- The PC must file a final "Report of Contributions and Expenditures" (Form R-1) and complete the appropriate section "Declaration of Final Report" (Form R-1, page 11), available at: http://www.elec.state.nj.us/forcandidates/cf_forms.htm#pc

Filing for Committees

- All reports and forms must be filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission.

For Regular U.S. Mail, send to:

NJ Election Law Enforcement Commission
P.O. Box 185
Trenton, NJ 08625-0185

For Commercial Delivery (Fed Ex, UPS, etc.), send to:

NJ Election Law Enforcement Commission
25 South Stockton Street
5th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608

Electronic Filing

- Some but not all forms may be filed electronically. Electronic filing information is available at the Commission's website at http://www.elec.state.nj.us/ElecWeb/eForms/eforms_index.htm. Registration for electronic filing is required for those who plan to file electronically.

Public Inspection of Documents

- All public documents filed with the commission may be examined or received upon request.
- Most campaign and committee reports filed from May of 1999 to present are available via the Commission's website, available at: www.elec.state.nj.us.

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

- New Jersey Law imposes strict penalties for violations of the Reporting Act. The following actions constitute an offense subject to the penalties imposed by N.J.S.A. § 19:44A-22:
 - Failure to report a reportable transaction;
 - Failure to accurately and sufficiently record a transaction;
 - Accepting, soliciting, or making a contribution in excess of or in violation of the limitations proscribed in the Act; and,
 - Failure to observe any other requirements of the Act.
- The Commission has the authority to conduct investigations, subpoena records and testimony, hold hearings and impose monetary fines for each offense. Willful violations of the Reporting Act could result in criminal penalties.

BALLOT MEASURES

- Organizations that meet the expenditure limits of a PC or CPC to support a public question (ballot measure) are subject to the same filing requirements of a PC or CPC organized to support or defeat a candidate.
- A public question committee may accept and make contributions without limit.
 - Public question (ballot measure) PCs may accept contributions without limits from a contributor and may make contributions without limit to another PC or CPC.
- Contributions to public question committees do not trigger registration or reporting requirements if the contributing individual or entity's contact with the state is *de minimis* or isolated. For example:
 - A organization that limits its communications to its members is not required to register; and,
 - Organizations that make single or isolated contributions to a public question committee are not required to register. ELEC Advisory Opinion No. 06-2001; ELEC Advisory Opinion 02-2003.
- Independent expenditure rules to support or oppose a public question are the same as independent expenditure rules to support or defeat a candidate. Thus, an individual, group, partnership, corporation or association may spend up to \$1,600 without having to file with the Commission. Expenditures exceeding \$1,600 require the filing of a "Form IND" with the Commission.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES

(For general campaign finance matters)
New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC)
P.O. Box 185
Trenton, NJ 08625-0185
(609) 292-8700
Web site: <http://www.elec.state.nj.us>

(For Pay-to-Play information)
New Jersey Department of Treasury
P. O. Box 002
Trenton, NJ 08625-0002
Web site: <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury> ; <http://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase>

(Repository for local Pay-to-Play provisions)
New Jersey Department of State
P.O. Box 300
Trenton, NJ 08625
Web site: http://www.nj.gov/state/dos_pay_to_play.html

(Local Guidance on Pay-to-Play)
Department of Community Affairs
101 South Broad Street
P.O. Box 800
Trenton, NJ 08625-0800
(609) 292- 6420
Web site: <http://www.state.nj.us/dca> ;
<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/p2p/index.shtml>

FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE

For assistance regarding these resources or for more information about federal law, please contact our attorney one-on-one counseling service:

**Email: Advocacy@afj.org
Telephone: 1-866-NPLOBBY
(675-6229)**

For assistance regarding state law in New Jersey, please contact:

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