Administration of Campaign Finance, Conflict of Interest & Lobbying Laws



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#### **GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION**

www.kansas.gov/ethics

# Outline History of Governmental Ethics Commission

#### Commission Established in 1974

#### Commission Members

11 members from 1974 - 1981

5 members from 1981 - 1991

9 members since 1991

2 year terms - staggered

Current Commission - 5 Republicans, 3 Democrats, 1 Libertarian

Monthly meetings

Paid per diem

85 Individuals have served on the Commission in the past 39 years

### Commission's Name Changes

Governmental Ethics Commission until 1981 Kansas Public Disclosure Commission until 1991 Kansas Commission Standards and Conduct until 1998 Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission since 1998

### Laws the Commission Administers, Interprets, and Enforces

Campaign Finance Act State Governmental Ethics Laws State Lobbying Laws

#### Staff:

Who Hires Staff of 5 FTE 1 part-time in 1974 Staff of 9 FTE 1 part-time in 1999 Current Staff of 7 FTE 2 part-time

# Campaign Finance Work Load In Odd/Even Numbered Fiscal Years

Odd Numbered Fiscal Years

This year 537 state candidates

1168 County candidates

190 First Class City Candidates filed for office January 22, 2013

Approximately. 5,200 receipts and expenditures reports will have a comprehensive desk review this fiscal year

#### Even Numbered Fiscal Years

21 audits in FY 2012

How audits are chosen

### Lobbying

Who must register

2012 Lobbying Statistics

550 lobbyists in 2012

1531 Registrations in 2012

4881 Lobbyist Employment and Expenditures Reports filed

510 Affidavits filed

What is reported

What is on Internet

### **State Conflict of Interests**

Who the law impacts

Difference in laws for legislative and executive branch officers and employees 6,372 Statements of Substantial Interests filed in 2012

### Budget

1975 - \$105,000

2013 - \$696,800 SGF \$427,500 FF \$269,299

## Significant Legislation Impacting Commission

1990 Jurisdiction expanded to include all county and 1st class city offices

1991 Became fee agency - 2000 was last year fees increased

1998 Given Subpoena Power

## 13 Subpoenas issued in past 15 years

2000 Enacted Meaningful Disclosure of Lobbying Expenditures

#### Complaints

Complaint Process

Confidentiality Requirements

Intent is Required

- \*829 Complaints have been filed with the Commission
- \*All but 59 of these complaints have been filed by Commission staff
- \*In the past 3 years 30 of these 59 complaints have been filed by individuals
- \*711 campaign finance complaints
  - 641 failure to file reports or statement
  - 70 other violations (giving in the name of another, fraudulent reporting, personal use)
- \*115 conflict of interests complaints
  - 80 failure to file SSIs
  - 35 other violations (contract violations, nepotism, soliciting gifts, accepting gifts)
- \*3 lobbying complaints
  - 2 failure to register or file report
  - 1 false registration

#### **Civil Fines**

Law changed in 1988 to permit Commission to assess civil fines for campaign finance, lobbying and conflict of interest violations

#### 67 Civil Fines Assessed Since 1988

- 54 Fines assessed in Campaign Finance
- 10 Fines assessed in State Conflict of Interests
- 3 Fines assessed in Lobbying

Largest fine \$45,000 - Fraudulent campaign reports 2<sup>nd</sup> largest - \$15,000 - Laundering campaign money

### Discrepancies Requiring Amendments - 2012 Primary Election Cycle Reports

Accepting Contributions in Excess of Limit - 48

Accepting Excess Cash Contributions - 23

Accepting Contributions During Session - 17

Accepting Excess Anonymous Contributions - 6

Misreporting of Contributions, Expenditures and Loans - 58

Incomplete Reports - 51

Loans Not Reported Correctly - 35

Accepting Contributions Before Appointment of Treasurer Form Filed - 39 Failure to Provide Back-up Documentation for Advertising - 13 Need for Further Explanation of Campaign Expenditures - 9