



ARIZONA CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS ACT & RULES MANUAL



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Campaign Contributions and Expenses, A.R.S., Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 1

§16-901.01 Limitations on Certain Unreported Expenditures and Contributions

- A.** For the purposes of this chapter, “expressly advocates” means:
1. Conveying a communication containing a phrase such as “vote for,” “elect,” “reelect,” “support,” “endorse,” “cast your ballot for,” “(name of candidate) in (year),” “(name of candidate) for (office),” “vote against,” “defeat,” “reject” or a campaign slogan or words that in context can have no reasonable meaning other than to advocate the election or defeat of one or more clearly identified candidates, or
 2. Making a general public communication, such as in a broadcast medium, newspaper, magazine, billboard or direct mailer referring to one or more clearly identified candidates and targeted to the electorate of that candidate(s) that in context can have no reasonable meaning other than to advocate the election or defeat of the candidate(s), as evidenced by factors such as the presentation of the candidate(s) in a favorable or unfavorable light, the targeting, placement or timing of the communication or the inclusion of statements of the candidate(s) or opponents.
- B.** A communication within the scope of subsection A, paragraph 2 shall not be considered as one that expressly advocates merely because it presents information about the voting record or position on a campaign issue of three or more candidates, so long as it is not made in coordination with a candidate, political party, agent of the candidate or party or a person who is coordinating with a candidate or candidate's agent.

Citizens Clean Elections Act, A.R.S., Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 2

§16-940 Findings and Declarations.

- A.** The people of Arizona declare our intent to create a clean elections system that will improve the integrity of Arizona state government by diminishing the influence of special-interest money, will encourage citizen participation in the political process, and will promote freedom of speech under the U.S. and Arizona Constitutions. Campaigns will become more issue-oriented and less negative because there will be no need to challenge the sources of campaign money.
- B.** The people of Arizona find that our current election-financing system:
1. Allows Arizona elected officials to accept large campaign contributions from private interests over which they have governmental jurisdiction;
 2. Gives incumbents an unhealthy advantage over challengers;
 3. Hinders communication to voters by many qualified candidates;
 4. Effectively suppresses the voices and influence of the vast majority of Arizona citizens in favor of a small number of wealthy special interests;
 5. Undermines public confidence in the integrity of public officials;
 6. Costs average taxpayers millions of dollars in the form of subsidies and special privileges for campaign contributors;
 7. Drives up the cost of running for state office, discouraging otherwise qualified candidates who lack personal wealth or access to special-interest funding; and
 8. Requires that elected officials spend too much of their time raising funds rather than representing the public.

§16-941 Limits on Spending and Contributions for Political Campaigns

- A.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a participating candidate:
1. Shall not accept any contributions, other than a limited number of five-dollar qualifying contributions as specified in section 16-946 and early contributions as specified in section 16-945, except in the emergency situation specified in section 16-954, subsection F.
 2. Shall not make expenditures of more than a total of five hundred dollars of the candidate's personal monies for a candidate for the legislature or more than one thousand dollars for a candidate for statewide office.
 3. Shall not make expenditures in the primary election period in excess of the adjusted primary election spending limit.
 4. Shall not make expenditures in the general election period in excess of the adjusted general election spending limit.
 5. Shall comply with section 16-948 regarding campaign accounts and section 16-953 regarding returning unused monies to the citizens clean elections fund described in this article.
- B.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a nonparticipating candidate shall not accept contributions in excess of an amount that is twenty per cent less than the limits specified in section 16-905, subsections A through E, as adjusted by the secretary of state pursuant to section 16-905, subsection H. Any violation of this subsection shall be subject to the civil penalties and procedures set forth in section 16-905, subsections J through M and section 16-924.
- C.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a candidate, whether participating or nonparticipating:
1. If specified in a written agreement signed by the candidate and one or more opposing candidates and filed with the citizens clean elections commission, shall not make any expenditure in the primary or general election period exceeding an agreed-upon amount lower than spending limits otherwise applicable by statute.
 2. Shall continue to be bound by all other applicable election and campaign finance statutes and rules, with the exception of those provisions in express or clear conflict with this article.
- D.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any person who makes independent expenditures related to a particular office cumulatively exceeding five hundred dollars in an election cycle, with the exception of any expenditure listed in section 16-920 and any independent expenditure by an organization arising from a communication directly to the organization's members, shareholders, employees, affiliated persons and subscribers, shall file reports with the secretary of state in accordance with section 16-958 so indicating, identifying the office and the candidate or group of candidates whose election or defeat is being advocated and stating whether the person is advocating election or advocating defeat.

§16-942 Civil Penalties and Forfeiture of Office.

- A.** The civil penalty for a violation of any contribution or expenditure limit in section 16-941 by or on behalf of a participating candidate shall be ten times the amount by which the expenditures or contributions exceed the applicable limit.
- B.** In addition to any other penalties imposed by law, the civil penalty for a violation by or on behalf of any candidate of any reporting requirement imposed by this chapter shall be one hundred dollars per day for candidates for the legislature and three hundred dollars per day for candidates for statewide office. The penalty imposed by this

subsection shall be doubled if the amount not reported for a particular election cycle exceeds ten percent of the adjusted primary or general election spending limit. No penalty imposed pursuant to this subsection shall exceed twice the amount of expenditures or contributions not reported. The candidate and the candidate's campaign account shall be jointly and severally responsible for any penalty imposed pursuant to this subsection.

- C. Any campaign finance report filed indicating a violation of section 16-941, subsections A or B or section 16-941, subsection C, paragraph 1 involving an amount in excess of ten percent of the sum of the adjusted primary election spending limit and the adjusted general election spending limit for a particular candidate shall result in disqualification of a candidate or forfeiture of office.
- D. Any participating candidate adjudged to have committed a knowing violation of section 16-941, subsection A or subsection C, paragraph 1 shall repay from the candidate's personal monies to the fund all monies expended from the candidate's campaign account and shall turn over the candidate's campaign account to the fund.
- E. All civil penalties collected pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the fund.

§16-943 Criminal Violations and Penalties.

- A. A candidate, or any other person acting on behalf of a candidate, who knowingly violates section 16-941 is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.
- B. Any person who knowingly pays anything of value or any compensation for a qualifying contribution as defined in section 16-946 is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.
- C. Any person who knowingly provides false or incomplete information on a report filed under section 16-958 is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.

§16-944 Repealed

§16-945 Limits on Early Contributions.

- A. A participating candidate may accept early contributions only from individuals and only during the exploratory period and the qualifying period, subject to the following limitations:
 - 1. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no contributor shall give, and no participating candidate shall accept, contributions from a contributor exceeding one hundred dollars during an election cycle.
 - 2. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, early contributions to a participating candidate from all sources for an election cycle shall not exceed, for a candidate for governor, forty thousand dollars or, for other candidates, ten per cent of the sum of the original primary election spending limit and the original general election spending limit.
 - 3. Qualifying contributions specified in section 16-946 shall not be included in determining whether the limits in this subsection have been exceeded.
- B. Early contributions specified in subsection A of this section and the candidate's personal monies specified in section 16-941, subsection A, paragraph 2 may be spent only during the exploratory period and the qualifying period. Any early contributions not spent by the end of the qualifying period shall be paid to the fund.
- C. If a participating candidate has a debt from an election campaign in this state during a previous election cycle in which the candidate was not a participating candidate, then, during the exploratory period only, the candidate may accept, in addition to early contributions specified in subsection A of this section, contributions subject to the limitations in section 16-941, subsection B, or may exceed the limit on personal monies

in section 16-941, subsection A, paragraph 2, provided that such contributions and monies are used solely to retire such debt.

§16-946 Qualifying Contributions.

- A. During the qualifying period, a participating candidate may collect qualifying contributions, which shall be paid to the fund.
- B. To qualify as a qualifying contribution, a contribution must be:
 - 1. Made by a qualified elector as defined in section 16-121, who at the time of the contribution is registered in the electoral district of the office the candidate is seeking and who has not given another qualifying contribution to that candidate during that election cycle.
 - 2. Made by a person who is not given anything of value in exchange for the qualifying contribution.
 - 3. In the sum of five dollars, exactly.
 - 4. Received unsolicited during the qualifying period or solicited during the qualifying period by a person who is not employed or retained by the candidate and who is not compensated to collect contributions by the candidate or on behalf of the candidate.
 - 5. If made by check or money order, made payable to the candidate's campaign committee, or if in cash, deposited in the candidate's campaign committee's account.
 - 6. Accompanied by a three-part reporting slip that includes the printed name, registration address and signature of the contributor, the name of the candidate for whom the contribution is made, the date, and the printed name and signature of the solicitor. An electronic signature as defined in section 41-351 is deemed to comply with this paragraph.
- C. A copy of the reporting slip shall be given as a receipt to the contributor, and another copy shall be retained by the candidate's campaign committee. Delivery of an original reporting slip to the secretary of state shall excuse the candidate from disclosure of these contributions on campaign finance reports filed under article 1 of this chapter.

§16-947 Certification as a participating candidate.

- A. A candidate who wishes to be certified as a participating candidate shall file, before the end of the qualifying period, an application with the secretary of state, in a form specified by the citizens clean elections commission.
- B. The application shall identify the candidate, the office that the candidate plans to seek and the candidate's party, if any, and shall contain the candidate's signature, under oath, certifying that:
 - 1. The candidate has complied with the restrictions of section 16-941, subsection A during the election cycle to date.
 - 2. The candidate's campaign committee and exploratory committee have filed all campaign finance reports required under article 1 of this chapter during the election cycle to date and that they are complete and accurate.
 - 3. The candidate will comply with the requirements of section 16-941, subsection A during the remainder of the election cycle and, specifically, will not accept private contributions.
- C. The commission shall act on the application within one week. Unless, within that time, the commission denies an application and provides written reasons that all or part of a certification in subsection B of this section is incomplete or untrue, the candidate shall be certified as a participating candidate. If the commission denies an application for failure to file all complete and accurate campaign finance reports or failure to make the

certification in subsection B, paragraph 3 of this section, the candidate may reapply within two weeks of the commission's decision by filing complete and accurate campaign finance reports and another sworn certification.

- D. A candidate shall be denied certification if that candidate was removed from office by the commission or if the candidate is delinquent in payment of a debt to the commission. If the debt is paid in full or if the candidate is current on a payment agreement with the commission, the candidate may apply for certification as a participating candidate and is eligible to be certified if otherwise qualified by law.

§16-948 Controls on Participating Candidates' Campaign Accounts.

- A. A participating candidate shall conduct all financial activity through a single campaign account of the candidate's campaign committee. A participating candidate shall not make any deposits into the campaign account other than those permitted under sections 16-945 or 16-946.
- B. A candidate may designate other persons with authority to withdraw monies from the candidate's campaign account. The candidate and any person so designated shall sign a joint statement under oath promising to comply with the requirements of this title.
- C. The candidate or a person authorized under subsection B of this section shall pay monies from a participating candidate's campaign account directly to the person providing goods or services to the campaign and shall identify, on a report filed pursuant to article 1.4 of this chapter, the full name and street address of the person and the nature of the goods and services and compensation for which payment has been made. The following payments made directly or indirectly from a participating candidate's campaign account are unlawful contributions:
 - 1. A payment made to a private organization that is exempt under section 501(a) of the internal revenue code and that is eligible to engage in activities to influence the outcome of a candidate election.
 - 2. A payment made directly or indirectly to a political party.
- D. Notwithstanding subsection C of this section, a campaign committee may establish one or more petty cash accounts, which in aggregate shall not exceed one thousand dollars at any time. No single expenditure shall be made from a petty cash account exceeding one hundred dollars.
- E. Monies in a participating candidate's campaign account shall not be used to pay fines or civil penalties, for costs or legal fees related to representation before the commission, or for defense of any enforcement action under this chapter. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a participating candidate from having a legal defense fund.
- F. A participating candidate shall not use clean elections monies to purchase goods or services that bear a distinctive trade name, trademark or trade dress item, including a logo, that is owned by a business or other entity that is owned by that participating candidate or in which the candidate has a controlling interest. The use of goods or services that are prohibited by this subsection is deemed to be an unlawful in-kind contribution to the participating candidate.

§16-949 Caps on Spending From Citizens Clean Elections Fund

- A. The commission shall not spend, on all costs incurred under this article during a particular calendar year, more than five dollars times the number of Arizona resident personal income tax returns filed during the previous calendar year. The commission may exceed this limit during a calendar year, provided that it is offset by an equal reduction of the limit during another calendar year during the same four-year period beginning January 1 immediately after a gubernatorial election.
- B. The commission may use up to ten per cent of the amount specified in subsection A of

this section for reasonable and necessary expenses of administration and enforcement, including the activities specified in section 16-956, subsection A, paragraphs 3 through 7 and subsections B and C. Any portion of the ten per cent not used for this purpose shall remain in the fund.

- C.** The commission may apply up to ten per cent of the amount specified in subsection A of this section for reasonable and necessary expenses associated with public education regarding participation as a candidate or a contributor, or regarding the functions, purpose and technical aspects of the act. Reasonable and necessary expenditures made pursuant to section 16-956 are not included in this subsection.
- D.** The commission may spend monies in the fund for the reasonable and necessary expenses to implement the act but shall not use monies in the fund to promote the

benefits of the clean elections act. Expenditures made pursuant to subsection C of this section or in section 16-956, subsection A are deemed not to constitute promoting the benefits of the clean elections act. Expenditures pursuant to this subsection shall not be included in the limits prescribed in subsection C of this section.

- E. The state treasurer shall administer a citizens clean elections fund from which costs incurred under this article shall be paid. The auditor general shall review the monies in, payments into and expenditures from the fund no less often than every four years.

§16-950 Qualification for Clean Elections Funding

- A. A candidate who has made an application for certification may also apply, in accordance with subsection B of this section, to receive funds from the citizens clean elections fund, instead of receiving private contributions.
- B. To receive any clean elections funding, the candidate must present to the secretary of state no later than one week after the end of the qualifying period a list of names of persons who have made qualifying contributions pursuant to section 16-946 on behalf of the candidate. The list shall be divided by county. At the same time, the candidate must tender to the secretary of state the original reporting slips identified in section 16- 946, subsection C for persons on the list and an amount equal to the sum of the qualifying contributions collected. The secretary of state shall deposit the amount into the fund.
- C. The secretary of state shall select at random a sample of five per cent of the number of nonduplicative names on the list for a candidate for a statewide office and twenty per cent of the number of nonduplicative names on the list for a candidate for legislative office and shall forward facsimiles of the selected reporting slips to the county recorders for the counties of the addresses specified in the selected slips. Within ten days, the county recorders shall provide a report to the secretary of state identifying as disqualified any slips that are unsigned or undated or that the recorder is unable to verify as matching a person who is registered to vote in the electoral district of the office the candidate is seeking on the date specified on the slip. The secretary of state shall multiply the number of slips not disqualified by twenty for statewide candidates, and shall multiply the number of slips not disqualified by five for legislative candidates, and if the result is greater than one hundred ten per cent of the quantity required, shall approve the candidate for funds, and if the result is less than one hundred ten per cent of the quantity required, the secretary of state shall forward facsimiles of all of the slips to the county recorders for verification, and the county recorders shall check all slips in accordance with the process above. A county recorder shall not check slips already verified. A county recorder shall report verified totals daily to the secretary of state until a determination is made that a sufficient number of verified slips has been submitted. If a sufficient number of verified slips has been submitted to one or more county recorders, the county recorders may stop the verification process.
- D. To qualify for clean elections funding, a candidate must have been approved as a participating candidate pursuant to section 16-947 and have obtained the following number¹ of qualifying contributions:
 - 1. For a candidate for legislature, two hundred.
 - 2. For candidate for mine inspector, five hundred.
 - 3. For a candidate for treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, or corporation commission, one thousand five hundred.

4. For a candidate for Secretary of State or attorney general, two thousand five hundred.
 5. For a candidate for governor, four thousand.
- E. To qualify for clean elections funding, a candidate must have met the requirements of this section and either be an independent candidate or meet the following standards:
1. To qualify for funding for a party primary election, a candidate must have properly filed nominating papers and nominating petitions with signatures pursuant to chapter 3, articles 2 and 3 of this title in the primary of a political organization entitled to continued representation on the official ballot in accordance with section 16-804.
 2. To qualify for clean elections funding for a general election, a candidate must be a party nominee of such a political organization.

§16-951 Clean Elections Funding.

- A. At the beginning of the primary election period, the commission shall pay from the fund to the campaign account of each candidate who qualifies for clean elections funding:
1. For a candidate who qualifies for clean elections funding for a party primary election, an amount equal to the original primary election spending limit;
 2. For an independent candidate who qualifies for clean elections funding, an amount equal to seventy percent of the sum of the original primary election spending limit and the original general election spending limit; or
 3. For a qualified participating candidate who is unopposed for an office in that candidate's primary, in the primary of any other party, and by any opposing independent candidate, an amount equal to five dollars times the number of qualifying contributions for that candidate certified by the commission.
- B. At any time after the first day of January of an election year, any candidate who has met the requirements of section 16-950 may sign and cause to be filed a nomination paper in the form specified by section 16-311, subsection A, with a nominating petition and signatures, instead of filing such papers after the earliest time set for filing specified by that subsection. Upon such filing and verification of the signatures, the commission shall pay the amount specified in subsection A of this section immediately, rather than waiting for the beginning of the primary election period.
- C. At the beginning of the general election period, the commission shall pay from the fund to the campaign account of each candidate who qualifies for clean elections funding for the general election, except those candidates identified in subsection A, paragraph 2 or subsection D of this section, an amount equal to the original general election spending limit.
- D. At the beginning of the general election period, the commission shall pay from the fund to the campaign account of a qualified participating candidate who has not received funds pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 3 of this section and who is unopposed by any other party nominee or any opposing independent candidate an amount equal to five dollars times the number of qualifying contributions for that candidate certified by the commission.
- E. The special original general election spending limit, for a candidate who has received funds pursuant to subsection A, paragraphs 2 or 3 or subsection D of this section, shall be equal to the amount that the commission is obligated to pay to that candidate.

§16-952 One-Party-Dominant Legislative District

Upon applying for clean elections funding pursuant to section 16-950, a participating candidate for the legislature in a one-party-dominant legislative district who is qualified for clean elections funding for the party primary election of the dominant party may choose to reallocate a portion of funds from the general election period to the primary election period. At the beginning of the primary election period, the commission shall pay from the fund to the campaign account of a participating candidate who makes this choice an extra amount equal to fifty per cent of the original primary election spending limit, and the original primary election spending limit for the candidate who makes this choice shall be increased by the extra amount. If a participating candidate who makes this choice becomes qualified for clean elections funding for the general election, the amount the candidate receives at the beginning of the general election period shall be reduced by the extra amount received at the beginning of the primary election period, and the original general election spending limit for that candidate shall be reduced by the extra amount. For the purpose of this subsection, a one-party-dominant legislative district is a district in which the number of registered voters registered in the party with the highest number of registered voters exceeds the number of registered voters registered to each of the other parties by an amount at least as high as ten per cent of the total number of voters registered in the district. The status of a district as a one-party-dominant legislative district shall be determined as of the beginning of the qualifying period.

§16-953. Return of monies to the citizens clean elections fund

- A.** At the end of the primary election period, a participating candidate who has received monies pursuant to section 16-951, subsection A, paragraph 1 shall return to the fund all monies in the candidate's campaign account above an amount sufficient to pay any unpaid bills for expenditures made during the primary election period and for goods or services directed to the primary election.
- B.** At the end of the general election period, a participating candidate shall return to the fund all monies in the candidate's campaign account above an amount sufficient to pay any unpaid bills for expenditures made before the general election and for goods or services directed to the general election.
- C.** A participating candidate shall pay all uncontested and unpaid bills referenced in this section no later than thirty days after the primary or general election. A participating candidate shall make monthly reports to the commission concerning the status of the dispute over any contested bills. Any monies in a candidate's campaign account after payment of bills shall be returned promptly to the fund.
- D.** If a participating candidate is replaced pursuant to section 16-343, and the replacement candidate files an oath with the secretary of state certifying to section 16-947, subsection B, paragraph 3, the campaign account of the participating candidate shall be transferred to the replacement candidate and the commission shall certify the replacement candidate as a participating candidate without requiring compliance with section 16-950 or the remainder of section 16-947. If the replacement candidate does not file such an oath, the campaign account shall be liquidated and all remaining monies returned to the fund.
- E.** If a participating candidate who has received monies pursuant to section 16-951, subsection A, paragraph 1 does not qualify for the ballot for the primary election, the participating candidate shall:

1. Return to the fund all monies in the candidate's campaign account above the amount sufficient to pay any unpaid bills for expenditures made before the date the candidate failed to qualify for the primary ballot.
2. Return to the commission, within fourteen days, all remaining assets purchased with public funds in that election cycle, including all political signs. The disqualified participating candidate is not required to return political signs purchased in a previous election cycle.
3. Repay any monies paid to a family member unless the participating candidate demonstrates that the payment made was for goods or services actually provided before disqualification of the candidate and the payment was for fair market value. For the purposes of this paragraph, "family member" means a parent, grandparent, spouse, child or sibling of the candidate or a parent or spouse of any of those persons.

§16-954 Disposition of Excess Monies.

- A. Beginning January 1, 1999, an additional surcharge of ten per cent shall be imposed on all civil and criminal fines and penalties collected pursuant to section 12-116.01 and shall be deposited into the fund.
- B. At least once per year, the commission shall project the amount of monies that the fund will collect over the next four years and the time such monies shall become available. Whenever the commission determines that the fund contains more monies than the commission determines that it requires to meet current debts plus expected expenses, under the assumption that expected expenses will be at the expenditure limit in section 16-949, subsection A, and taking into account the projections of collections, the commission shall designate such monies as excess monies and so notify the state treasurer, who shall thereupon transfer the excess monies to the general fund.
- C. At least once per year, the commission shall project the amount of clean elections funding for which all candidates will have qualified pursuant to this article for the following calendar year. By the end of each year, the commission shall announce whether the amount that the commission plans to spend the following year pursuant to section 16-949, subsection A exceeds the projected amount of clean elections funding. If the commission determines that the fund contains insufficient monies or the spending cap would be exceeded were all candidates' accounts to be fully funded, the commission may include in the announcement specifications for decreases in the following parameters, based on the commission's projections of collections and expenses for the fund, including that the fund will provide monies under section 16-951 as a fraction of the amounts there specified.
- D. If the commission cannot provide participating candidates with all monies specified under sections 16-951 and 16-952, as decreased by any announcement pursuant to subsection C of this section, the commission shall allocate any reductions in payments proportionately among candidates entitled to monies and shall declare an emergency. Upon declaration of an emergency, a participating candidate may accept private contributions to bring the total monies received by the candidate from the fund and from such private contributions up to the adjusted spending limits, as decreased by any announcement made pursuant to subsection C of this section.

§16-955 Citizens Clean Election Commission; Structure

- A. The citizens clean elections commission is established consisting of five members. No more than two members of the commission shall be members of the same political party. No more than two members of the commission shall be residents of the same

county. No one shall be appointed as a member who does not have a registration pursuant to chapter 1 of this title that has been continuously recorded for at least five years immediately preceding appointment with the same political party or as an independent.

- B.** The candidates for vacant commissioner positions shall be persons who are committed to enforcing this article in an honest, independent and impartial fashion and to seeking to uphold public confidence in the integrity of the electoral system. Each candidate shall be a qualified elector who has not, in the previous five years in this state, been appointed to, been elected to or run for any public office, including precinct committeeman, or served as an officer of a political party.²
- C.** Initially, the commission on appellate court appointments shall nominate five slates, each having three candidates, before January 1, 1999. No later than February 1, 1999, the governor shall select one candidate from one of the slates to serve on the commission for a term ending January 31, 2004. Next, the highest-ranking official holding a statewide office who is not a member of the same political party as the governor shall select one candidate from another one of the slates to serve on the commission for a term ending January 31, 2003. Next, the second-highest-ranking official holding a statewide office who is a member of the same political party as the governor shall select one candidate from one of the three remaining slates to serve on the commission for a term ending January 31, 2002. Next, the second-highest-ranking official holding a statewide office who is not a member of the same political party as the governor shall select one candidate from one of the two remaining slates to serve on the commission for a term ending January 31, 2001. Finally, the third-highest-ranking official holding a statewide office who is a member of the same political party as the governor shall elect one candidate from the last slate to serve on the commission for a term ending January 31, 2000. For the purposes of this section, the ranking of officials holding statewide office shall be governor, secretary of state, attorney general, treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, corporation commissioners in order of seniority, mine inspector, senate majority and minority leaders and house majority and minority leaders.
- D.** One commissioner shall be appointed for a five-year term beginning February 1 of every year beginning with the year 2000. Before February 1 of each year beginning in the year 2000, the governor and the highest-ranking official holding a statewide office who is not a member of the same political party as the governor shall alternate filling such vacancies. The vacancy in the year 2000 shall be filled by the governor.
- E.** Members of the commission may be removed by the governor, with concurrence of the senate, for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, inability to discharge the powers and duties of office or violation of this section, after written notice and opportunity for a response.
- F.** If a commissioner does not complete the commissioner's term of office for any reason, a replacement shall be selected within thirty days after the vacancy occurs. The highest-ranking official holding a statewide office who is a member of the political party of the official who nominated the commissioner who vacated office shall nominate the replacement, who shall serve as commissioner for the unexpired portion

² The Arizona Supreme Court held that the Commission on Appellate Court Appointments did not have the authority to nominate Clean Elections Commissioners; members of the Arizona Supreme Court could not appoint Clean Elections Commissioners; and the provisions could be severed from the Act. *Citizens Clean Elections Commissioners v. Myers*, 196 Ariz. 516 (2000).

of the term. A vacancy or vacancies shall not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the board.

- G.** Commissioners are eligible to receive compensation in an amount of two hundred dollars for each day on which the commission meets and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38, chapter 4, article 2.
- H.** The commissioners shall elect a chair to serve for each calendar-year period from among their members whose terms expire after the conclusion of that year. Three commissioners shall constitute a quorum.
- I.** A member of the commission shall serve no more than one term and is not eligible for reappointment. No commissioner, during the commissioner's tenure or for three years thereafter, shall seek or hold any other public office, serve as an officer of any political committee or employ or be employed as a lobbyist.
- J.** The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall not be a member of the commission and who shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. The executive director is eligible to receive compensation set by the board within the range determined under section 38-611. The executive director, subject to title 41, chapter 4, articles 5 and 6, shall employ, determine the conditions of employment and specify the duties of administrative, secretarial and clerical employees as the director deems necessary.

§16-956 Voter Education and Enforcement Duties

A. The commission shall:

1. Develop a procedure for publishing a document or section of a document having a space of predefined size for a message chosen by each candidate. For the document that is delivered before the primary election, the document shall contain the names of every candidate for every statewide and legislative district office in that primary election without regard to whether the candidate is a participating candidate or a nonparticipating candidate. For the document that is delivered before the general election, the document shall contain the names of every candidate for every statewide and legislative district office in that general election without regard to whether the candidate is a participating candidate or a nonparticipating candidate. The commission shall deliver one copy of each document to every household that contains a registered voter. For the document that is delivered before the primary election, the delivery may be made over a period of days but shall be sent in time to be delivered to households before the earliest date for receipt by registered voters of any requested early ballots for the primary election. The commission may deliver the second document over a period of days but shall send the second document in order to be delivered to households before the earliest date for receipt by registered voters of any requested early ballots for the general election. The primary election and general election documents published by the commission shall comply with all of the following:
 - (a) For any candidate who does not submit a message pursuant to this paragraph, the document shall include with the candidate's listing the words "no statement submitted".
 - (b) The document shall have printed on its cover the words "citizens clean elections commission voter education guide" and the words "primary election" or "general election" and the applicable year. The document shall also contain at or near the bottom of the document cover in type that is no larger than one-half the size of the type used for "citizens clean elections commission voter education guide" the words "paid for by the citizens clean elections fund".

- (c) In order to prevent voter confusion, the document shall be easily distinguishable from the publicity pamphlet that is required to be produced by the secretary of state pursuant to section 19-123.
- 2. Sponsor debates among candidates, in such manner as determined by the commission. The commission shall require participating candidates to attend and participate in debates and may specify by rule penalties for nonparticipation. The commission shall invite and permit nonparticipating candidates to participate in debates.
- 3. Prescribe forms for reports, statements, notices and other documents required by this article. The commission shall not require a candidate to use a reporting system other than the reporting system jointly approved by the commission and the office of the secretary of state.
- 4. Prepare and publish instructions setting forth methods of bookkeeping and preservation of records to facilitate compliance with this article and explaining the duties of persons and committees under this article.
- 5. Produce a yearly report describing the commission's activities and any recommendations for changes of law, administration or funding amounts and accounting for monies in the fund.
- 6. Adopt rules to implement the reporting requirements of section 16-958, subsections D and E.
- 7. Enforce this article, ensure that money from the fund is placed in candidate campaign accounts or otherwise spent as specified in this article and not otherwise, monitor reports filed pursuant to this chapter and financial records of candidates as needed and ensure that money required by this article to be paid to the fund is deposited in the fund. The commission shall not take action on any external complaint that is filed more than ninety days after the postelection report is filed or ninety days after the completion of the canvass of the election to which the complaint relates, whichever is later.
- B.** The commission may subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance and testimony, administer oaths and affirmations, take evidence and require by subpoena the production of any books, papers, records or other items material to the performance of the commission's duties or the exercise of its powers.
- C.** The commission may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this article and to govern procedures of the commission. The commission shall propose and adopt rules in public meetings, with at least sixty days allowed for interested parties to comment after the rules are proposed. The commission shall also file the proposed rule in the format prescribed in section 41-1022 with the secretary of state's office for publication in the Arizona administrative register. After consideration of the comments received in the sixty day comment period, the commission may adopt the rule in an open meeting. Any rules given final approval in an open meeting shall be filed in the format prescribed in section 41-1022 with the secretary of state's office for publication in the Arizona administrative register. Any rules adopted by the commission shall only be applied prospectively from the date the rule was adopted.
- D.** Rules adopted by the commission are not effective until January 1 in the year following the adoption of the rule, except that rules adopted by unanimous vote of the commission may be made immediately effective and enforceable.
- E.** If, in the view of the commission, the action of a particular candidate or committee requires immediate change to a commission rule, a unanimous vote of the commission

is required. Any rule change made pursuant to this subsection that is enacted with less than a unanimous vote takes effect for the next election cycle.

- F. Based on the results of the elections in any quadrennial election after 2002, and within six months after such election, the commission may adopt rules changing the number of qualifying contributions required for any office from those listed in section 16-950, subsection D, by no more than twenty per cent of the number applicable for the preceding election.

§16-957 Enforcement Procedure

- A. If the commission finds that there is reason to believe that a person has violated any provision of this article, the commission shall serve on that person an order stating with reasonable particularity the nature of the violation and requiring compliance within fourteen days. During that period, the alleged violator may provide any explanation to the commission, comply with the order, or enter into a public administrative settlement with the commission.
- B. Upon expiration of the fourteen days, if the commission finds that the alleged violator remains out of compliance, the commission shall make a public finding to that effect and issue an order assessing a civil penalty in accordance with section 16-942, unless the commission publishes findings of fact and conclusions of law expressing good cause for reducing or excusing the penalty. The violator has fourteen days from the date of issuance of the order assessing the penalty to appeal to the superior court as provided in title 12, chapter 7, article 6.
- C. Any candidate in a particular election contest who believes that any opposing candidate has violated this article for that election may file a complaint with the commission requesting that action be taken pursuant to this section. If the commission fails to make a finding under subsection A of this section within thirty days after the filing of such a complaint, the candidate may bring a civil action in the superior court to impose the civil penalties prescribed in this section.

§16-958 Manner of Filing Reports

- A. Any person who has previously reached the dollar amount specified in section 16-941, subsection D for filing an original report shall file a supplemental report each time previously unreported independent expenditures specified by that subsection exceeds one thousand dollars. Such reports shall be filed at the times specified in subsection B of this section and shall identify the dollar amount being reported, the candidate and the date, and no other detail is required in reports made pursuant to this section.
- B. Any person who must file an original report pursuant to section 16-941, subsection D or who must file a supplemental report for previously unreported amounts pursuant to subsection A of this section shall file as follows:
 - 1. Before the beginning of the primary election period, the person shall file a report on the first of each month, unless the person has not reached the dollar amount for filing an original or supplemental report on that date.
 - 2. Thereafter, except as stated in paragraph 3 of this subsection, the person shall file a report on any Tuesday by which the person has reached the dollar amount for filing an original or supplemental report.
 - 3. During the last two weeks before the primary election and the last two weeks before the general election, the person shall file a report within one business day of reaching the dollar amount for filing an original or supplemental report.
- C. Any filing under this article on behalf of a candidate may be made by the candidate's campaign committee. All candidates shall deposit any check received by and intended

for the campaign and made payable to the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee, and all cash received by and intended for the campaign, in the candidate's campaign account before the due date of the next report specified in subsection B of this section. No candidate or person acting on behalf of a candidate shall conspire with a donor to postpone delivery of a donation to the campaign for the purpose of postponing the reporting of the donation in any subsequent report.

- D. The secretary of state shall immediately notify the commission of the filing of each report under this section and deliver a copy of the report to the commission, and the commission shall promptly mail or otherwise deliver a copy of each report filed pursuant to this section to all participating candidates opposing the candidate identified in section 16-941, subsection D.
- E. Any report filed pursuant to this section or section 16-916, subsection A, paragraph 1 or subsection B shall be filed in electronic format. The secretary of state shall distribute computer software to political committees to accommodate such electronic filing.
- F. During the primary election period and the general election period, all candidates shall make available for public inspection all bank accounts, campaign finance reports and financial records relating to the candidate's campaign, either by immediate disclosure through electronic means or at the candidate's campaign headquarters, in accordance with rules adopted by the commission.

§16-959 Inflationary and Other Adjustments of Dollar Values

- A. Every two years, the secretary of state shall modify the dollar values specified in the following parts of this article, in the manner specified by section 16-905, subsection H, to account for inflation: section 16-941, subsection A, paragraph 2 or subsection D; section 16-942, subsection B; section 16-945, subsection A, paragraphs 1 and 2; section 16-948, subsection C; section 16-955, subsection G; and section 16-961, subsections G and H. In addition, the secretary of state shall make a similar inflation adjustment by modifying the dollar values in section 16-949, subsection A to reflect cumulative inflation since the enactment of this article. In addition, every two years, the secretary of state shall change the dollar values in section 16-961, subsections G and H in proportion to the change in the number of Arizona resident personal income tax returns filed during the previous calendar year.
- B. Based on the results of the elections in any quadrennial election after 2002, and within six months after such election, the commission may adopt rules in a public meeting reallocating funds available to all candidates between the primary and general elections by selecting a fraction for primary election spending limits that is between one-third and one-half of the spending limits for the election as a whole. For each office, the primary election spending limit shall be modified to be the sum of the primary and general spending limits times the selected fraction, and the general election spending limit shall be modified to be the same sum times one less the selected fraction.

§16-960 Severability

If a provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable. In any court challenge to the validity of this article, the commission and Arizonans for clean elections shall have standing to intervene.

§16-961 Definitions

- A.** The terms "candidate's campaign committee," "contribution," "expenditures," "exploratory committee," "independent expenditure," "personal monies," "political committee" and "statewide office" are defined in section 16-901.
- B.**
1. "Election cycle" means the period between successive general elections for a particular office.
 2. "Exploratory period" means the period beginning on the day after a general election and ending the day before the start of the qualifying period.
 3. "Qualifying period" means the period beginning on the first day of August in a year preceding an election and ending one week before the primary election.
 4. "Primary election period" means the nine-week period ending on the day of the primary election.
 5. "General election period" means the period beginning on the day after the primary election and ending on the day of the general election.
 6. For any recall election, the qualifying period shall begin when the election is called and last for thirty days, there shall be no primary election period and the general election period shall extend from the day after the end of the qualifying period to the day of the recall election. For recall elections, any reference to "general election" in this article shall be treated as if referring to the recall election.
- C.**
1. "Participating candidate" means a candidate who becomes certified as a participating candidate pursuant to section 16-947.
 2. "Nonparticipating candidate" means a candidate who does not become certified as a participating candidate pursuant to section 16-947.
 3. Any limitation of this article that is applicable to a participating candidate or a nonparticipating candidate shall also apply to that candidate's campaign committee or exploratory committee.
- D.** "Commission" means the citizens clean elections commission established pursuant to section 16-955.
- E.** "Fund" means the citizens clean elections fund defined by this article.
- F.**
1. "Party nominee" means a person who has been nominated by a political party pursuant to section 16-301 or 16-343.
 2. "Independent candidate" means a candidate who has properly filed nominating papers and nominating petitions with signatures pursuant to section 16-341.
 3. "Unopposed" means with reference to an election for:
 - (a) A member of the house of representatives, opposed by no more than one other candidate who has qualified for the ballot and who is running in the same district.
 - (b) A member of the corporation commission, opposed by a number of candidates who have qualified for the ballot that is fewer than the number of corporation commission seats open at that election and for which the term of office ends on the same date.
 - (c) All other offices, opposed by no other candidate who has qualified for the ballot and who is running in that district or running for that same office and term.
- G.** "Primary election spending limits" means:
1. For a candidate for the legislature, twelve thousand nine hundred twenty-one dollars.³
 2. For a candidate for mine inspector, forty-one thousand three hundred forty-nine dollars.

3. For a candidate for treasurer, superintendent of public instruction or the corporation commission, eighty-two thousand six hundred eighty dollars.
 4. For a candidate for secretary of state or attorney general, one hundred sixty-five thousand three hundred seventy-eight dollars.
 5. For a candidate for governor, six hundred thirty-eight thousand two hundred twenty-two dollars.
- H.** "General election spending limits" means amounts fifty per cent greater than the amounts specified in subsection G of this section.
- I.**
1. "Original" spending limit means a limit specified in subsections G and H of this section, as adjusted pursuant to section 16-959, or a special amount expressly set for a particular candidate by a provision of this title.
 2. "Adjusted" spending limit means an original spending limit as further adjusted pursuant to section 16-952.

Article 1. General Provisions

R2-20-101. Definitions

In addition to the definitions provided in A.R.S. § 16-961, the following shall apply to the Chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. **“Act”** means the Citizens Clean Elections Act set forth in the Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 2.
2. **“Audit”** means a written report pertaining to an examination of a candidate’s campaign finances that is reviewed by the Commission in accordance with A.A.C. Title 2, Chapter 20, Article 4.
3. **“Campaign account”** means an account at a financial institution designated by a political committee that is used solely for political campaign purposes.
4. **“Candidate”** means natural person who receives or gives consent for receipt of a contribution for the person’s nomination for or election to any office in this state, and includes the person’s campaign committee, the political committee designated and authorized by the person, or any agents or personnel of the person. When not otherwise specified by statute or these rules, “Candidate” includes a Candidate for Statewide Office or a Legislative Candidate.
5. **“Candidate for Statewide Office”** means:
A natural person seeking the office of governor, attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, or mine inspector
6. **“Current campaign account”** means a campaign account used solely for election campaign purposes in the present election cycle.
7. **“Direct campaign purpose”** includes, but is not limited to, materials, communications, transportation, supplies and expenses used toward the election of a candidate. This does not include the candidate’s personal appearance, support, or support of a candidate’s family member.
8. **“Early contributions”** means private contributions that are permitted pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-945.
9. **“Examination”** means an inspection by the Commission or agent of the Commission of a candidate’s books, records, accounts, receipts, disbursements, debts and obligations, bank account records, and campaign finance reports related to the candidate’s campaign, which may include fieldwork, or a visit to the campaign headquarters, to ensure compliance with campaign finance laws and rules.
10. **“Executive Director”** means the highest-ranking Commission staff member, who is appointed pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-955(J) and is responsible for directing the day-to-day operations of the Commission.
11. **“Expressly advocates”** means:
 - a. Conveying a communication containing a phrase such as “vote for,” “elect,” “re-elect,” “support,” “endorse,” “cast your ballot for,” “(name of candidate) in (year),” “(name of candidate) for (office),” “vote against,” “defeat,” “reject,” or a campaign slogan or words that in context can have no reasonable meaning other than to advocate the election or defeat of one or more clearly identified candidates.
 - b. Making a general public communication, such as in broadcast medium, newspaper, magazine, billboard, or direct mailer referring to one or more clearly identified candidates and targeted to the electorate of that candidate(s)—that in context can have no reasonable meaning other than to advocate the election or defeat of the candidate(s), as evidenced by factors such as the presentation of the candidate(s) in

- a favorable or unfavorable light, the targeting, placement, or timing of the communication, or the inclusion of statements of the candidate(s) or opponents.
- c. A communication within the scope of subsection (10)(b) shall not be considered as one that “expressly advocates” merely because it presents information about the voting record or position on a campaign issue of three or more candidates, so long as it is not made in coordination with a candidate, political party, agent of the candidate or party, or a person who is coordinating with a candidate or candidate’s agent.
12. **“Extension of credit”** means the delivery of goods or services or the promise to deliver goods or services to a candidate in exchange for a promise from the candidate to pay for such goods or services at a later date.
13. **“Family member”** means parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, child or sibling of the candidate or the candidate’s spouse, including the spouse of any of the listed family members, regardless of whether the relation is established by marriage or adoption.
14. **“Fair market value”** means the amount at which property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or sell and both having reasonable knowledge of the relevant facts.
15. **“Fixed Asset”** means tangible property usable in a capacity that will benefit the candidate for a period of more than one year from the date of acquisition.
16. **“Fund”** means the Citizens Clean Elections Fund established pursuant to A.R.S. §16-949(D).
17. **“Future campaign account”** means a campaign account that is used solely for campaign election purposes in an election that does not include the present or prior primary or general elections.
18. **“Independent candidate”** means a candidate who is registered as an independent or with no party preference or who is registered with a political party that is not eligible for recognition on the ballot.
19. **“Legislative candidate”** means:
A natural person seeking the office of state senator or state representative.
20. **“Officeholder”** means a person who has been elected to a statewide office or the legislature in the most recent election, as certified by the Secretary of State, or who is appointed to or otherwise fills a vacancy in such office.
21. **“Person,”** unless stated otherwise, or having context requiring otherwise, means:
A corporation, company, partnership, firm, association or society, as well as a natural person.
22. **“Prior campaign account”** means a campaign account used solely for campaign election purposes in a prior election.
23. **“Public funds”** includes all funds deposited into the Citizens Clean Elections Fund and all funds disbursed by the Commission to a participating candidate.
24. **“Solicitor”** means a person who is eligible to be registered to vote in this state and seeks qualifying contributions from qualified electors of this state.
25. **“Unopposed”** means:
In reference to state senate candidates and statewide candidates other than corporation commission, that the candidate is opposed by no candidates who will appear on the ballot. In reference to candidates for the House of Representatives and corporation commission, “unopposed” means that no more candidates will appear on the ballot than the number of seats available for the office sought.

R2-20-103. Communications: Time and Method

- A. General rule: in computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by the Act or these rules, unless otherwise specified, days are calculated by calendar days, and the day of the act, event, or default from which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday. The term “legal holiday” includes New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and any other day appointed as a holiday for employees of the state.
- B. Special rule for periods less than seven days: when the period of time prescribed or allowed is less than seven days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays shall be excluded in the computation.
- C. Whenever the Commission or any person has the right or is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of any paper by or upon the Commission by regular mail, three calendar days shall be added to the prescribed period.
- D. Whenever the Commission or any person is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of paper by or upon the Commission by overnight delivery, the time period shall begin on the date the recipient signs for the overnight delivery.
- E. The Commission shall use the address of the candidate that is provided on the application for certification filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-947. A candidate may designate in writing for the Commission to send written correspondence to a person other than the candidate.
- F. If possible, the Commission shall furnish a copy of all communications electronically.
- G. Delivery of subpoenas, orders and notifications to a natural person may be made by handing a copy to the person, or leaving a copy at his or her office with the person in charge thereof, by leaving a copy at his or her dwelling place or usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and discretion residing therein, by mailing a copy by overnight delivery to his or her last known address, or by any other method whereby actual notice is given.
- H. When the person to be served is not an individual, delivery of subpoenas, orders and notifications may be made by mailing a copy by overnight delivery to the person at its place of business or by handing a copy to a registered agent for service, or to any officer, director, or agent in charge of any office of such person, or by mailing a copy by overnight delivery to such representative at his or her last known address, or by any other method whereby actual notice is given.

R2-20-104. Certification as a Participating Candidate

- A. A nonparticipating candidate who accepts contributions up to the limits authorized by A.R.S. § 16-941(B), but later chooses to run as a participating candidate, shall:
 - 1. Make the change to participating candidate status during the exploratory and qualifying periods only;
 - 2. Return the amount of each contribution in excess of the individual contribution limit for participating candidates;
 - 3. Return all Political Action Committee (PAC) monies received;
 - 4. Not have made expenditures exceeding the early contribution limit, or have spent any part of a contribution exceeding the early contribution limit;
 - 5. Comply with all provisions of A.R.S. § 16-941 and Commission rules.
 - 6. Return all contributions received from another candidate’s candidate committee.

- B. Money from prior election.** If a nonparticipating candidate has a cash balance remaining in the campaign account from the prior election cycle, the candidate may seek certification as a participating candidate in the current election after:
1. Transferring money from the prior campaign account to the candidate's current election campaign account. The amount transferred shall not exceed the permitted personal monies, early contributions, and debt-retirement contributions, as defined in A.R.S. § 16-945(C), and shall contain contributions received from individuals only;
 2. Spending the money lawfully prior to April 30 of an election year in a way that does not constitute a direct campaign purpose and does not meet the definition of "expenditure" under A.R.S. § 16-901(24); and the event or item purchased is completed or otherwise used and depleted prior to April 30 of an election year;
 3. Remitting the money to the Fund; or
 4. Holding the money in the prior election campaign account, not to be used during the current election, except as provided pursuant to this Section.
- C. Application for certification as a participating candidate.** Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-947, a candidate seeking certification shall file with the Secretary of State a Commission-approved application and a campaign finance report reflecting all campaign activity to date. In the application, a candidate shall certify under oath that the candidate:
1. Agrees to use all Clean Elections funding for direct campaign purposes only;
 2. Has filed a campaign finance report, showing all campaign activity to date in the current election cycle;
 3. Will comply with all requirements of the Act and Commission rules;
 4. Is subject to all enforcement actions by the Commission as authorized by the Act and Commission rules;
 5. Has the burden of proving that expenditures made by or on behalf of the candidate are for direct campaign purposes;
 6. Will keep and furnish to the Commission all documentation relating to expenditures, receipts, funding, books, records (including bank records for all accounts), and supporting documentation and other information that the Commission may request;
 7. Will permit an audit or examination by the Commission of all receipts and expenditures including those made by the candidate. The candidate shall also provide any material required in connection with an audit, investigation, or examination conducted by the Commission. The candidate shall facilitate the audit by making available in one central location, such as the Commission's office space, records and such personnel as are necessary to conduct the audit or examination, and shall pay any amounts required to be repaid;
 8. Will submit the name and mailing address of the person who is entitled to receive primary and general election funding on behalf of the candidate and the name and address of the campaign depository designated by the candidate. Changes in the information required by this subsection shall not be effective until submitted to the Commission in a letter signed or submitted electronically, by the candidate or the committee treasurer;
 9. Will pay any civil penalties included in a conciliation agreement or otherwise imposed against the candidate;
 10. Will timely file all campaign finance reports with the Secretary of State in an electronic format; and

11. Will file an amended application for certification reporting any change in the information prescribed in the application for certification within five days after the change.
- D.** If certified as a participating candidate, the candidate shall:
1. Only accept early contributions from individuals during the exploratory and qualifying periods in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-945. No contributions may be accepted from political action committees, political parties or corporations;
 2. Not accept any private contributions, other than early contributions and a limited number of \$5 qualifying contributions;
 3. Make expenditures of personal monies of no more than the amounts prescribed in A.R.S. § 16-941(A)(2) for legislative candidates and for statewide office candidates;
 4. Conduct all campaign activity through a single campaign account. A participating candidate shall only deposit early contributions, qualifying contributions and Clean Elections funds into the candidate's current campaign account. The campaign account shall not be used for any non-direct campaign purpose as provided in Article 7 of these rules;
 5. Attend a Commission sponsored candidate training class within 60 days of being certified or within 60 days of the beginning of the qualifying period if the candidate is certified before the beginning of the qualifying period. If the candidate is unable to attend a training class, the candidate shall:
 - a. Notify the Commission that the candidate is unable to attend a training class. The Commission then will send that person the Commission training materials; and
 - b. The candidate shall sign and send to the Commission a statement certifying that he or she has received and reviewed the Commission training materials; and
 6. Limit campaign expenditures. Prior to qualifying for Clean Elections funding, a candidate shall not incur debt, or make an expenditure in excess of the amount of cash on hand. Upon approval for funding by the Secretary of State, a candidate may incur debt, or make expenditures, not to exceed the sum of the cash on hand and the applicable spending limit.
- E.** A participating candidate may raise early contributions for election to one office and choose to run for election to another office.
- F.** Contributions to officeholder expense accounts are subject to the restrictions of A.R.S. § 41-1234.01, contributions prohibited during session; exceptions.

R2-20-105. Certification for Funding

- A.** After a candidate is certified as a participating candidate, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-947, in accordance with the procedure set forth in R2-20-104, that candidate may collect qualifying contributions only during the qualifying period.

- B.** A participating candidate must submit to the Secretary of State, a list of names of persons who made qualifying contributions, an application for funding prescribed by the Secretary of State, the minimum number of original reporting slips, and an amount equal to the sum of the qualifying contributions collected pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-950 no later than one week after the end of the qualifying period. Any and all expenses associated with obtaining the qualifying contributions, including credit card processing fees must be paid for from the candidate's early contributions or personal monies. A candidate may develop his or her own three-part reporting slip for qualifying contributions, or one that is photocopied or computer reproduced, if the form substantially complies with the form prescribed by the Commission⁴. The candidate must comply with the Act and ensure that the original qualifying slip is tendered to the Secretary of State, a copy remains with the candidate, and that a copy is given to the contributor.
- C.** A candidate may accept electronic \$5 qualifying contributions for the elected office sought by the candidate. The Secretary of State's secured internet portal must be used to collect electronic \$5 qualifying. A \$5 contribution must accompany every \$5 qualifying contribution form and must be submitted via the Secretary of State's portal using a private electronic payment service, specified by the Secretary of State's Office, bank account, credit or debit card. A non-refundable transaction fee may be assessed on electronic \$5 qualifying contribution transactions. The transaction fee is not a contribution to the candidate's campaign and is paid by the contributor. If excess funds are accumulated by the candidate's campaign based on the transaction fee then all excess funds must be given to the Commission and must be entered into the candidate's campaign finance report in a manner that indicates the transaction fees have been accumulated and transferred.
- D.** A solicitor who seeks signatures and qualifying contributions on behalf of a participating candidate shall provide his or her residential address, typed or printed name and signature on each reporting slip. The solicitor shall also sign a sworn statement on the contribution slip avowing that the contributor signed the slip, that the contributor contributed the \$5, that based on information and belief, the contributor's name and address are correctly stated and that each contributor is a qualified elector of this state. Nothing in this rule shall prohibit the use of direct mail or the Internet to obtain qualifying contributions as long as an original signature is provided on the qualifying contribution form. The candidate may sign the qualifying contribution form as the solicitor and is accountable for all of the responsibilities of a solicitor. For qualifying contributions received in accordance with subsection C of this section, the residential address and signature of the solicitor is not required.
- E.** The Secretary of State has the authority to approve or deny a candidate for Clean Elections funding, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-950(C) based upon the verification of the qualifying contribution forms by the appropriate county recorder. The county recorder shall disqualify any qualifying contribution forms that are:
1. Unsigned by the contributor;
 2. Undated; or
 3. That the recorder is unable to verify as matching signature of a person who is registered to vote, on the date specified inside the electoral district the candidate is seeking.

⁴ A.R.S. § 39-103(A) requires public forms to conform to standard letter size of eight and one-half by eleven inches

- F. The Secretary of State will notify the candidate and the Commission regarding the approval or denial of Clean Elections funds. A candidate who is denied Clean Elections funding after all of the slips are verified is eligible to submit supplemental qualifying contribution forms for one additional opportunity to be approved for funding pursuant to subsection (G) of this rule.
- G. The amount equal to the sum of the qualifying contributions collected and tendered to the Secretary of State pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-950(B) will be deposited into the fund, and the amount tendered will not be returned to a candidate if a candidate is denied Clean Elections funding.
- H. In accordance with the procedure set forth at A.R.S. § 16-950(C), if the Secretary of State determines that the result of the five percent random sample is less than 110 percent of the slips needed to qualify for funding, then the Secretary of State shall send all of the slips for verification. If the county recorder has verified all of the candidate's signature slips and there is an insufficient number of valid qualifying contribution slips to qualify the candidate for funding, the candidate may make only one supplemental filing of additional qualifying contribution slips and qualifying contributions to the Secretary of State if all of the following apply:
 - 1. The candidate files at least the minimum number of additional slips needed to qualify for funding;
 - 2. The slips are not receipts for duplicate contributions from individuals who have previously contributed to that candidate; and
 - 3. The period for filing qualifying contributions slips has not expired.
- I. The Secretary of State shall forward facsimiles of all of the supplemental qualifying contribution slips to the appropriate county recorders for the county of the contributors' addresses as shown on the contribution slips. The county recorder shall verify all of the supplemental slips within 10 business days after receipt of the facsimiles and shall provide a report to the Secretary of State identifying as disqualified any slips that are unsigned by the contributor or undated or that the recorder is unable to verify as matching the signature of a person who is registered to vote, on the date specified on the slip, inside the electoral district of the office the candidate is seeking. On receipt of the report of the county recorder on all supplemental slips, the Secretary of State shall calculate the candidate's total number of valid qualifying contribution slips and shall approve or deny the candidate for funds.

R2-20-106. Distribution of Funds to Certified Candidates

- A. The Commission staff shall not authorize any disbursements to a participating candidate's campaign account until that candidate submits a sworn, notarized statement stating that under penalty of perjury:
 - 1. All campaign finance reports have been filed.
 - 2. All campaign finance reports are complete and accurate including all reporting requirements related to vendors and subcontractors.
 - 3. All conditions related to the use consultants have been met.
 - 4. Stipulating that, once funding is authorized, the Commission may make a rebuttable presumption pursuant to R2-20-706 that a candidate has not used funds for direct campaign expenses within five days after the failure file a campaign finance report.
- B. Before the initial disbursement of funds, the Commission shall review the candidate's funding application and all relevant facts and circumstances and:
 - 1. Verify that the number of signatures on the candidate's nominating petitions equals

or exceeds the number required pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-322 as follows:

- a. If the application is submitted before the March 1 voter registration list is determined, the Commission shall verify that the number of signatures on the candidate's nominating petitions equals or exceeds 115 percent of the number required pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-322 based on the prior election voter registration list as determined by the Secretary of State; or
 - b. If the application is submitted after the current year March 1 voter registration list is determined the Commission shall verify that the number of signatures on the candidate's nominating petitions is equal to or greater than the number required pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-322.
2. Determine that the required number of qualifying contributions have been received and paid to the Secretary of State for deposit in the Fund; and
 3. Determine whether the candidate is opposed in the election.
- C.** In making the determinations described in subsection (A)(3), the Commission shall consider all relevant facts and circumstances, and it shall not be bound by election formalities such as the filing of nominating petitions by others in determining whether an applicant is opposed. Among other evidence the Commission may consider is the existence of exploratory committees or filings made to organize campaign committees of opponents and other like indicia.
- D.** The Commission may review and affirm or change its determination that the candidate is or is not opposed until the ballot for the election is established.
- E.** Within seven days after a primary election and before the Secretary of State completes the canvass, the Commission shall disburse funds for general election campaigns to the participating candidates who received the greatest number of votes at each primary election, provided that the candidate with the highest number of votes out of the total number of votes, has at least two percentage points greater than the candidate with the next highest votes based on the unofficial results as of that date. In a legislative race for the Arizona House of Representatives, the Commission shall disburse funds for general election campaigns to participating candidates with the highest or second highest number of votes cast, provided such candidate received votes totaling at least two percentage points, of the total ballots cast, larger than the vote total cast for the candidate with the third highest vote total.
- F.** Promptly after the Secretary of State completes the canvass, the Commission shall disburse funds for general election campaigns to all eligible participating candidates to whom payment has not been made. If a participating candidate has received funds from the Commission pursuant to subsection (D) and the canvass or recount determines that the candidate is not eligible to appear on the general election ballot, the participating candidate shall return all unused funds to the Fund within 10 days after such determination is made. That candidate shall make no from general election funds from the date of the canvass.
- G.** The Commission may refuse to distribute funds to participating candidates in cases in which the Commission finds evidence of fraud or illegal activity committed by the participating candidate.
- H.** Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-953 a participating candidate shall return to the Fund:
1. All of primary election funds not committed to expenditures (1) during the primary election period; and (2) for goods or services directed to the primary election. A candidate shall not be deemed to have violated A.R.S. § 16-953(A) or this subsection on account of failure to use all materials purchased with primary election funds prior to the primary election, provided such candidate exercises good

faith and diligent efforts to comply with the requirement that goods and services purchased with primary election funds be directed to the primary election. Subject to A.R.S. § 16-953(A) and this subsection, a candidate may continue to use goods purchased with primary election funds during the general election period.

2. All general funds not committed to expenditures (1) during the general election period; and (2) for goods or services directed to the general election.
- I. All funds returned to the Commission pursuant to subsection (G) of this rule, shall be returned to the Fund by a cashier's check drawn on the candidate's campaign bank account. Any fee associated with the issuance of a cashier's check shall be deemed a direct campaign expenditure and reported on the candidate's campaign finance report.
- J. If a participating candidate does not account for any outstanding expenditures in the amount of the funds returned to the Commission, the participating candidate must reconcile the outstanding expenditures with personal monies. Once funds have been returned to the Commission, no further reimbursements from the Clean Elections Fund shall be permitted. Participating candidates may not exceed the primary or general election spending limits.
- K. Commission staff may waive the return of funds if:
 1. The Commission staff determines the amount to be returned is de minimus;
 2. The Commission staff determines the cost of recovery exceeds the amount of the return;
 3. The funds to be returned shall not exceed \$25; and
 4. The Commission is notified of any waiver of the return of funds.

R2-20-107. Candidate Debates

- A. The Commission shall sponsor debates among candidates prior to the primary and general elections. Except as set forth in subsection (D) below, the Commission shall not be required to sponsor a debate if there is no participating candidate in the election for a particular office.
- B. In the primary election period, the Commission shall sponsor political party primary election debates for every office in which:
 1. There are more candidates appearing on the ballot than there are seats available for the political party's nomination for general election candidates, and
 2. At least one of the candidates is a participating candidate.
- C. The following candidates will not be invited to participate in debates as follows:
 1. In the primary election, write-in candidates for the primary election, independent candidates, no party affiliation or unrecognized party candidates.
 2. In the general election, write-in candidates.
- D. In the event that there is no participating candidate in a primary or general election but there is an election involving candidates who are not unopposed, a candidate may request that the Commission sponsor a debate pursuant to this rule. If the requesting candidate is the sole participant in the debate the format shall be as prescribed in R2- 20-107(K).
 1. A nonparticipating candidate who requests a debate pursuant to this rule shall complete and return the invitation form sent to the candidate by the Commission by the deadline identified on the form. Forms received by the Commission past the deadline may still be considered at the discretion of the Commission. Commission staff shall notify all invited candidates if a debate will be sponsored by the Commission and which candidates will participate.
 2. If a candidate requests that the Commission sponsor a debate and fails or refuses to attend the debate, or a candidate agrees to participate in a debate and subsequently

fails or refuses to attend the debate sponsored by the Commission, each candidate who fails or refuses to attend the debate shall reimburse the Commission for the cost of debate preparations not to exceed \$10,000 for a non-participating candidate for the legislature and \$25,000 for a non-participating candidate for statewide office. In the event that a candidate requests a general election debate or agrees to participate in a general election debate but does not advance to the general election, the candidate shall not be liable for the reimbursement.

- E. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(2), all participating candidates certified pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-947 shall attend and participate in the debates sponsored by the Commission. No proxies or representatives are permitted to participate for any candidate and no statements may be read on behalf of an absent candidate.
- F. Unless exempted, if a participating candidate fails to participate in any Commission-sponsored debate, the participating candidate shall be fined \$500.00. For purposes of this Section, each primary or general election shall be considered a separate election.
- G. A participating candidate may request to be exempt from participating in a required debate by doing the following:
 - 1. Submit a written request to the Commission at least one week prior to the scheduled debate, and
 - 2. State the reasons and circumstances justifying the request for exemption.
- H. After examining the request to be exempt, the Commission will exempt a candidate from participating in a debate if at least three Commissioners determine that the circumstances are:
 - 1. Beyond the control of the candidate; or
 - 2. Of such nature that a reasonable person would find the failure to attend justifiable or excusable.
- I. A participating candidate who fails to participate in a required debate may submit a request for excused absence to the Commission.
 - 1. The candidate's request for excused absence shall:
 - a. State the reason the candidate failed to participate in the debate, and
 - b. State the reason the candidate failed to request an exemption in advance, and
 - c. Be submitted to the Commission no later than five business days after the date of the debate the candidate failed to attend.
 - 2. After examining the request for excused absence, the Commission may excuse a candidate from the penalties imposed if at least three Commissioners determine that the circumstances were:
 - a. Beyond the control of the candidate;
 - b. Of such nature that a reasonable person would find the failure to attend justifiable or excusable.
- J. When a participating candidate is not opposed in the general election, the candidate shall be exempt from participating in a Commission-sponsored debate for the general election.
- K. In the event that a participating candidate is opposed in the primary election or general election but is the only candidate taking part in a primary election period or general election period debate, as applicable, the debate will be held and will consist of a 30-minute question and answer session for the single participating candidate. If more than one candidate takes part in the debate, regardless of participation status, the debate will be held in accordance with the procedures established by the Commission staff.

R2-20-108. Termination of Participating Candidate Status

- A. A candidate may voluntarily terminate his or her participating candidate status at any

time prior to notification by the Commission that such candidate has qualified for Clean Elections funding. To withdraw from participating candidate status, a candidate shall send a letter to the Commission stating the candidate's intent to withdraw and the reason for the withdrawal. The candidate shall not accept any private monies until the withdrawal is approved by the Commission. The Commission shall act on the withdrawal request within seven days. If the Commission takes no action in the seven-day time period, the withdrawal is automatic.

- B. A candidate's participating candidate status shall automatically terminate if (1) the candidate fails to make such submissions to the Secretary of State as prescribed in A.A.C. R2-20-105(B) within seven days after the end of the qualifying period; or (2) the candidate is denied Clean Elections funding by the Secretary of State and the candidate is ineligible to make a supplemental filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with A.A.C. R2-20-105(G).
- C. A candidate whose participating candidate status has been terminated in accordance with this Section shall be ineligible to receive Clean Elections funding for that election cycle unless he/she reapplies for certification and is in compliance with R2-20-104(A) and R2-20-104(C).
- D. In the event that a candidate who has collected qualifying contributions decides not to seek certification as a participating candidate, the candidate shall return all qualifying contributions received from contributors who have not given written permission to use their qualify contributions as campaign contributions. Written permission may include a check box on the original \$5 form that authorizes a candidate to treat the qualifying contribution as a general campaign contribution if he or she decides not to participate in the Clean Elections system. If a good faith attempt to return the funds to the contributor is unsuccessful, the contributions shall be submitted to the Fund.

R2-20-109. Reporting Requirements

- A. In accordance with A.R.S. § 16-958(E), all persons obligated to file any campaign finance report under any provisions of Chapter 6, Article 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes shall file such reports using the Secretary of State's Internet-based finance-reporting system, except if:
 - 1. Expressly provided otherwise by another Commission rule; or
 - 2. That system, or the necessary function on the system, is unavailable, in which case the executive director shall implement a suitable process.
- B. Independent Expenditure Reporting Requirements.
 - 1. Any person making independent expenditures cumulatively exceeding the amount prescribed in A.R.S. § 16-941(D) in an election cycle shall file campaign finance reports in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-958 and Commission rules.
 - 2. Any person who fails to file a timely campaign finance report pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(D), A.R.S. § 16-958, shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed in A.R.S. § 16-942(B). Subsection R2-20-109(B)(4) does not apply to reports pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 16-941(D) and -958 or this subsection. Any expenditure advocating against one or more candidates shall be considered an expenditure on behalf of any opposing candidate(s). Penalties shall be assessed as follows:
 - a. For an election involving a candidate for statewide office, the civil penalty shall be \$300 per day.
 - b. For an election involving a legislative candidate, the civil penalty shall be \$100 per day.
 - c. The penalties in (a) and (b) shall be doubled if the amount not reported for a

- particular election cycle exceeds ten (10%) percent of the applicable adjusted primary election spending limit or adjusted general election spending limit.
- d. The dollar amounts in items (a) and (b), and the spending limits in item (c) are subject to adjustment of A.R.S. § 16-959.
 - e. Penalties imposed pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed twice the amount of expenditures not reported.
3. A.R.S. § 16-942(B) applies to any entity including political committees that accepts contributions or makes expenditures on behalf of any candidate regardless of any other contributions taken or expenditures made and fails to timely file a campaign finance report under Chapter 6 of Title 16, Arizona Revised Statutes. Any expenditure advocating against one or more candidates shall be considered an expenditure on behalf of any opposing candidate(s). Penalties shall be assessed as follows:
- a. For an election involving a candidate for statewide office, the civil penalty shall be \$300 per day.
 - b. For an election involving a legislative candidate, the civil penalty shall be \$100 per day.
 - c. The penalties in (a) and (b) shall be doubled if the amount not reported for a particular election cycle exceeds ten (10%) percent of the applicable adjusted primary election spending limit or adjusted general election spending limit.
 - d. The dollar amounts in items (a) and (b), and the spending limits in item (c) are subject to adjustment of A.R.S. § 16-959.
 - e. Penalties imposed pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed twice the amount of expenditures not reported.
4. For purposes of A.A.C. R2-20-109(B)(3):
- a. An entity shall not be found to have the predominant purpose of influencing elections unless, a preponderance of the evidence establishes that during a two-year legislative election cycle, the total reportable contributions made by the entity, in any combination, in a calendar year exceeds \$1,000 and is more than fifty percent (50%) of the entity's total spending during the election cycle.
 - i. For purposes of this provision, a "reportable contribution" or "reportable expenditure" shall be limited to a contribution or expenditure, as defined in title 16 of the Arizona revised statutes, that must be reported to the Arizona secretary of state, the Arizona citizens clean elections commission, or local filing officer in Arizona. A contribution or expenditure that must be reported to the federal election commission or to the election authority of any other state, but not to the Arizona secretary of state, the Arizona citizens clean elections commission or a local filing officer in Arizona, shall not be considered a reportable contribution or reportable expenditure.
 - ii. For purposes of this provision, "total spending" shall not include volunteer time or fundraising and administrative expenses but shall include all other spending by the organization.
 - iii. For purposes of this provision, grants to other organizations shall be treated as follows:
 - (1) A grant made to a political committee or an organization organized under section 527 of the internal revenue code shall be counted in total spending and as a reportable contribution or reportable expenditure, unless expressly designated for use outside Arizona or for federal elections, in which case such spending shall be counted in total

goods or services. Candidates may make a joint expenditure on behalf of one or more other campaigns, but must be authorized in advance by the other candidates involved in the expenditure, and must be reimbursed within seven days.

Participating candidates may participate in joint expenditures for the cost of goods and services with one or more candidates, subject to the following:

- a. Joint expenditures must be allocated fairly among candidates. An allocated share of a joint expenditure paid by one candidate pursuant to such an agreement must be reimbursed within seven days.
 - b. Any violator of part (a) shall be liable for a penalty pursuant to R2-20-222, in addition to penalties prescribed by any other law.
 - c. If a fairly allocated share of any joint expenditure is not reimbursed to a candidate, the unreimbursed amount of the joint expenditure fairly allocated to that candidate shall be deemed a contribution to that candidate by the campaign committee of the candidate obligated to reimburse the share.
 - d. If a fairly allocated share of any joint expenditure is not reimbursed to a participating candidate, the candidate obligated to reimburse the share shall reimburse the fund for the unreimbursed amount of the joint expenditure fairly allocated to the obligated candidate, in addition to any penalty specified by law.
 - e. A candidate's payment for an advertisement, literature, material, campaign event or other activity shall be considered a joint expenditure including, but not limited to, the following criteria:
 - (i) The activity includes express advocacy of the election or defeat of more than 2 candidates;
 - (ii) The purpose of the material or activity is to promote or facilitate the election of a second candidate;
 - (iii) The use and prominence of a second candidate or his or her name or likeness in the material or activity;
 - (vi) The material or activity includes an expression by a second candidate of his or her view on issues brought up during the election campaign;
 - (v) The timing of the material or activity in relation to the election of a second candidate;
 - (vi) The distribution of the material or the activity is targeted to a second candidate's electorate; or
 - (vii) The amount of control a second candidate has over the material or activity.
5. For the purposes of the Act and Commission rules, a candidate or campaign shall be deemed to have made an expenditure as of the date upon which the candidate or campaign promises, agrees, contracts or otherwise incurs an obligation to pay for goods or services.

B. Timing of reporting expenditures.

1. Except as set forth in subsection (A)(2) above, a participating candidate shall report a contract, promise or agreement to make an expenditure resulting in an extension of credit as an expenditure, in an amount equal to the full future payment obligation, as of the date the contract, promise or agreement is made.
2. In the alternative to reporting in accordance with subsection (A)(1) above, a participating candidate may report a contract, promise or agreement to make an expenditure resulting in an extension of credit as follows:
 - a. For a month-to-month or other such periodic contract or agreement that is terminable by a candidate at will and without any termination penalty or payment, the candidate may report an expenditure, in an amount equal to each

future periodic payment, as of the date upon which the candidate's right to terminate the contract or agreement and avoid such future periodic payment elapses.

- b. For a contract, promise or agreement to provide goods or services during the general election period that is contingent upon a candidate advancing to the general election period, the candidate may report an expenditure, in an amount equal to the general election period payment obligation, as of the date upon which such contingency is satisfied.
- c. For a contract, promise or agreement to pay rent, utility charges or salaries payable to individuals employed by a candidate's campaign committee as staff, the candidate may report an expenditure, in an amount equal to each periodic payment, as of the date that is the sooner of (i) the date upon which payment is made; or (ii) the date upon which payment is due.

C. Reports and Refunds of Excess Monies by Participating Candidates

1. In addition to any campaign finance report required by Chapter 6 of Title 16, Arizona Revised Statutes, participating candidates shall file the following campaign finance reports and dispose of excess monies as follows:
 - a. Prior to filing the application for funding pursuant to A.R.S. §16-950, participating candidates shall file a campaign finance report with the names of the persons who have made qualifying contributions to the candidate.
 - b. At the end of the qualifying period, a participating candidate shall file a campaign finance report consisting of all early contributions received, including personal monies and the expenditures of such monies.
 - i. The campaign finance report shall be filed with the Secretary of State no later than five days after the last day of the qualifying period and shall include all campaign activity through the last day of the qualifying period.
 - ii. If the campaign finance report shows any amount unspent monies, the participating candidate, within five days after filing the campaign finance report, shall remit all unspent contributions to the Fund, pursuant to A.R.S. §16-945(B). Any unspent personal monies shall be returned to the candidate or the candidates' family member within five days.
2. Each participating candidate shall file a campaign finance report consisting of all expenditures made in connection with an election, all contributions received in the election cycle in which such election occurs, and all payments made to the Clean Elections Fund. If the campaign finance report shows any amount unspent, the participating candidate, within five days after filing the campaign finance report, shall send a check from the candidate's campaign account to the Commission in the amount of all unspent monies to be deposited the Fund.
 - a. The campaign finance report for the primary election shall be filed within five days after the primary election day and shall reflect all activity through the primary election day.
 - b. The campaign finance report for the general election shall be filed within five days after the general election day and shall reflect all activity through the general election day.
3. In the event that a participating candidate purchases goods or services from a subcontractor or other vendor through an agent pursuant to subsection (A)(3), the candidate's campaign finance report shall include the same detail as required in A.R.S. § 16-948(C) for each such subcontractor or other vendor. Such detail is also required when petty cash funds are used for such expenditures.

R2-20-111. Non-participating Candidate Reporting Requirements and Contribution Limits.

- A.** Any person may file a complaint with the Commission alleging that any non-participating candidate or that candidate's campaign committee has failed to comply with or violated A.R.S. § 16-941(B). Complaints shall be processed as prescribed in Article 2 of these rules. In addition to those penalties outlined in R2-20-222(B), a non-participating candidate or candidate's campaign committee violating A.R.S. § 16-941(B) shall be subject to penalties prescribed in A.R.S. § 16-941(B) and A.R.S. § 16-942(B) and (C) as applicable:
- B.** Penalties under A.R.S. § 16-942(B):
 - 1. For an election involving a candidate for statewide office, the civil penalty shall be \$300 per day.
 - 2. For an election involving a legislative candidate, the civil penalty shall be \$100 per day.
 - 3. The penalties in (a) and (b) shall be doubled if the amount not reported for a particular election cycle exceeds ten percent (10%) of the applicable one of the adjusted primary election spending limit or adjusted general election spending limit.
 - 4. The dollar amounts in items (a) and (b), and the spending limits in item (c) are subject to adjustment of A.R.S. § 16-959.
- C.** Penalties under A.R.S. § 16-942(C): Where a campaign finance report filed by a non-participating candidate or that candidate's campaign committee indicates a violation of A.R.S. § 16-941(B) that involves an amount in excess of ten percent (10%) of the sum of the adjusted primary election spending limit and the adjusted general election spending limits specified by A.R.S. § 16-961(G) and (H) as adjusted pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-959, that violation shall result in disqualification of a candidate or forfeiture of office.
- D.** Penalties under A.R.S. § 16-941(B): Regardless of whether or not there is a violation of a reporting requirement, a person who violates A.R.S. § 16-941(B) is subject to a civil penalty of three times the amount of money that has been received, expended, or promised in violation of A.R.S. § 16-941(B) or three times the value in money for an equivalent of money or other things of value that have been received, expended, or promised in violation of A.R.S. § 16-941(B).
- E.** The twenty percent reduction in A.R.S. § 16-941(B) applies to all campaign contributions limits on contributions that are permitted to be accepted by nonparticipating candidates.
- F.** Contribution limits as adjusted by A.R.S. § 16-931 shall be the base level contribution limits subject to reduction pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

R2-20-112. Political party exception

The provisions of A.R.S. § 16-911(B)(4) shall apply to a candidate, whether participating or nonparticipating, who becomes a nominee as defined in A.R.S. § 16-901(38).

R2-20-113. Candidate Statement Pamphlet

- A.** The Commission shall publish a candidate statement pamphlet in both the primary and general elections as required by A.R.S. §16-956(A)(1). Commission staff shall send invitations for submission of a 200-word statement, 100-word biography, and photograph to every statewide and legislative candidate who has qualified for the ballot. Statements submitted for the primary candidate statement pamphlet shall be used for the

general candidate statement pamphlet unless otherwise stated by the candidate.

- B.** The following candidates will not be invited to submit a statement for the candidate statement pamphlet:
 - 1. In the primary election: write-in candidates for the primary election, independent candidates, no party affiliation or unrecognized party candidates.
 - 2. In the general election: write in candidates

R2-20-114. Candidate Campaign Bank Account

- A.** Each participating candidate shall designate a single campaign bank account for conducting campaign financial activity. During an election cycle, each participating candidate shall conduct all campaign financial activities through a single, current election campaign bank account and any petty cash accounts as are permitted by law.
- B.** A participating candidate may maintain a campaign bank account other than the current election campaign bank account described in subsection (A) if the other campaign account is for a campaign in a prior election cycle in which the candidate was not a participating candidate.
- C.** During the exploratory period, a candidate may receive debt-retirement contributions for a campaign during a prior election cycle if the funds are deposited in the bank account for that prior campaign. A candidate shall not deposit debt-retirement contributions into the current election campaign bank accounts.

R2-20-115. Books and Records Requirements

- A.** All candidates shall maintain, at a single location within the state, the books and records of financial transactions, and other information required by A.R.S. § 16-907.
- B.** All candidates shall ensure that the books and records of accounts and transactions of the candidate are recorded and preserved as follows:
 - 1. The treasurer of a candidate's campaign committee is the custodian of the candidate's books and records of accounts and transactions, and shall keep a record of all of the following:
 - a. All contributions or other monies received by or on behalf of the candidate.
 - b. The identification of any individual or political committee that makes any contribution together with the date and amount of each contribution and the date of deposit into the candidate's campaign bank account.
 - c. Cumulative totals contributed by each individual or political committee.
 - d. The name and address of every person to whom any expenditure is made, and the date, amount and purpose or reason for the expenditure.
 - e. All periodic bank statements or other statements for the candidate's campaign bank account.
 - f. In the event that the campaign committee uses a petty cash account the candidate's campaign finance report shall include the same detail for each petty cash expenditure as required in ARS 16-948(C) for each vendor.
 - 2. No expenditure may be made for or on behalf of a candidate without the authorization of the treasurer or his or her designated agent.
 - 3. Unless specified by the contributor or contributors to the contrary, the treasurer shall record a contribution made by check, money order or other written instrument as a contribution by the person whose signature or name appears on the bottom of

- the instrument or who endorses the instrument before delivery to the candidate. If a contribution is made by more than one person in a single written instrument, the treasurer shall record the amount to be attributed to each contributor as specified.
4. All contributions other than in-kind contributions and qualifying contributions must be made by a check drawn on the account of the actual contributor or by a money order or a cashier's check containing the name of the actual contributor or must be evidenced by a written receipt with a copy of the receipt given to the contributor and a copy maintained in the records of the candidate.
 5. The treasurer shall preserve all records set forth in subsection (B) and copies of all campaign finance reports required to be filed for three years after the filing of the campaign finance report covering the receipts and disbursements evidenced by the records.
 6. If requested by the attorney general, the county, city or town attorney or the filing officer, the treasurer shall provide any of the records required to be kept pursuant to this Section.
- C. Any request to inspect a candidate's records under A.R.S. § 16-958(F) shall be sent to the candidate, with a copy to the Commission, 10 or more days before the proposed date of the inspection. If the request is made within two weeks before the primary or general election, the request shall be delivered at least two days before the proposed date of inspection. Every request shall state with reasonable particularity the records sought.
1. The inspection shall occur at a location agreed upon by the candidate and the person making the request. If no agreement can be reached, the inspection shall occur at the Commission office. The inspection shall occur during the Commission's regular business hours and shall be limited to a two-hour time period.
 2. The requesting party may obtain copies of records for a reasonable fee. The Commission shall not be responsible for making copies. The person in possession of the records shall produce copies within a reasonable time of the receipt of the copying request and fees.
 3. The Commission will not permit public inspection of records if it determines that the inspection is for harassment purposes.
 4. If a person who requests to inspect a candidate's records under A.R.S. § 16-958(F) is denied such a request, the requesting party may notify the Commission. The Commission may enforce the public inspection request by issuing a subpoena pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-956(B) for the production of any books, papers, records, or other items sought in the public inspection request. The subpoena shall order the candidate to produce:
 - a. All papers, records, or other items sought in the public inspection request;
 - b. No later than two business days after the date of the subpoena; and
 - c. To the Commission's office during regular business hours.
 5. Any person who believes that a candidate or a candidate's campaign committee has not complied with this Section may appeal to Superior Court.

Article 2. Compliance and Enforcement Procedures

R2-20-201. Scope

These rules provide procedures for processing possible violations of the Citizens Clean

R2-20-202. Initiation of compliance matters

Compliance matters may be initiated by a complaint or on the basis of information ascertained by the Commission in the normal course of carrying out its statutory responsibilities.

R2-20-203. Complaints

- A. Any person who believes that a violation of any statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or is about to occur may file a complaint in writing to the Executive Director.
- B. A complaint shall conform to the following:
 - 1. Provide the full name and address of the complainant; and
 - 2. Contents of the complaint shall be sworn to and signed in the presence of a notary public and shall be notarized.
- C. All statements made in a complaint are subject to the statutes governing perjury. The complaint shall differentiate between statements based upon personal knowledge and statements based upon information and belief.
- D. The complaint shall conform to the following provisions:
 - 1. Clearly identify as a respondent each person or entity who is alleged to have committed a violation;
 - 2. Statements which are not based upon personal knowledge shall be accompanied by an identification of the source of information which gives rise to the complainant's belief in the truth of such statements;
 - 3. Contain a clear and concise recitation of the facts which describe a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction; and
 - 4. Be accompanied by any documentation supporting the facts alleged if such documentation is known of, or available to, the complainant.

R2-20-204. Initial complaint processing; notification

- A. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Executive Director shall review the complaint for substantial compliance with the technical requirements of A.A.C. R2-20-203, and, if it complies with those requirements, shall within 5 days after receipt of the complaint notify each respondent that the complaint has been filed, advise each respondent of Commission compliance procedures, and provide each respondent a copy of the complaint.
- B. If a complaint does not comply with the requirements of A.A.C. R2-20-203, the Executive Director shall so notify the complainant and any person or entity identified therein as respondent, within the 5 day period specified in subsection A, that no action should be taken on the basis of that complaint. A copy of the complaint shall be provided with the notification to each respondent.

R2-20-205. Opportunity for no action on complaint-generated matters

- A. A respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that no action should be taken on the basis of a complaint by submitting, within 5 days from receipt of a written copy of the complaint, a letter or memorandum setting forth reasons why the Commission should take no action.
- B. The Executive Director shall not take any action, or make any finding, against a respondent other than action dismissing the complaint, unless it has considered such

response or unless no such response has been served upon the Commission within the 5-day period specified in subsection A.

- C. The respondent's response shall be sworn to and signed in the presence of a notary public and shall be notarized. The respondent's failure to respond in accordance with subsection A within 5 days of receiving the written copy of the complaint may be viewed as an admission to the allegations made in the complaint for purposes of the reason to believe finding pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-206.

R2-20-206. Executive Director's recommendation on complaint-generated matters

- A. Following either the expiration of the 5-day period specified by A.A.C. R2-20-205 or the receipt of a response as specified by A.A.C. R2-20-205(A), whichever occurs first, the Executive Director:
 - 1. may recommend there is reason to believe that a respondent has committed or is about to commit a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction;
 - 2. may recommend that there is no reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has been committed or is about to be committed, or that the Executive Director otherwise dismiss a complaint without regard to the provisions of A.A.C. R2-20-205(A); or,
 - 3. may close the complaint generated matter without a reason to believe recommendation from the Executive Director based upon Respondent complying with the statute or rule on which the complaint is founded
- B. Neither the complainant nor the respondent has the right to appeal the Executive Director's recommendation made pursuant to subsection (A) because the recommendation is not an appealable agency action.
- C. If the complaint relates to a violation of A.R.S. § 16-941(B) by a non-participating candidate or that candidate's campaign committee, the Executive Director shall not proceed pursuant to R2-20-206 (A) or R2-20-207(A), without first receiving Commission approval to initiate an inquiry.
- D. The respondent shall not have the right to appeal the Executive Director's decision to authorize an inquiry pursuant to subsection (C) because the Executive Director's decision whether or not to authorize an inquiry is not an appealable agency action.

R2-20-207. Internally Generated Matters; Referrals

- A. On the basis of information ascertained by the Commission in the normal course of carrying out its statutory responsibilities, or on the basis of a referral from an agency of the state, the Executive Director may recommend in writing there is reason to believe that a person or entity has committed or is about to commit a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction.
- B. If the Executive Director finds reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or is about to occur, the Executive Director shall notify the respondent of the decision and shall include a copy of a staff report setting forth the legal basis and the alleged facts which support the Executive Director's action.

R2-20-208. Complaint processing; notification

- A. If the Executive Director, either after reviewing a complaint-generated recommendation as described in A.A.C. R2-20-206 and any response of a respondent submitted pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-205, or after reviewing an internally generated recommendation as described in A.A.C. R2-20-207, determines that there is reason

to believe a respondent has violated a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction, the Executive Director shall notify such respondent of the the finding, setting forth the sections of the statute or rule alleged to have been violated and the alleged factual basis supporting the finding. In accordance with A.R.S. § 16-957(A), the Executive Director shall serve on the respondent an order requiring compliance within 14 days. During that period, the respondent may provide any explanation to the Commission, comply with the order, or enter into a public administrative settlement with the Commission.

If the Executive Director finds no reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred, or otherwise terminates its proceedings, the Executive Director shall so notify both the complainant and respondent.

- B. The complainant may bring an action in Superior Court in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-957(C) if the Executive Director finds there is no reason to believe a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred, or otherwise terminates its proceedings.

R2-20-209. Investigation

- A. The Executive Director or any other person designated by the Executive Director shall conduct an investigation in any case in which the Executive Director finds reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or is about to occur.
- B. The investigation may include, but is not limited to, field investigations, audits, and other methods of information gathering.

R2-20-210. Written questions under order

The Commission may issue an order requiring any person to submit sworn, written answers to written questions, and may specify a date by which such written answers must be submitted to the Commission.

R2-20-211. Subpoenas and Subpoenas Duces Tecum; Depositions

- A. The Commission may authorize its Executive Director or Assistant Attorney General to issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of any person by deposition and to issue subpoenas duces tecum for the production of documentary or other tangible evidence in connection with a deposition or otherwise.
- B. If the Commission orders oral testimony to be taken by deposition or for documents to be produced, the subpoena shall so state and shall advise the deponent or person subpoenaed that all testimony will be under oath. The Commission may authorize its Executive Director to take a deposition and have the power to administer oaths.
- C. The deponent shall have the opportunity to review and sign depositions taken pursuant to this rule.

R2-20-212. Reserved

R2-20-213. Motions to Quash or Modify a Subpoena

- A. Any person to whom a subpoena is directed may, prior to the time specified therein for compliance, but in no event more than five days after the date of receipt of such subpoena, apply to the Commission to quash or modify such subpoena, accompanying such application with a brief statement of the reasons therefore.
- B. The Commission may deny the application, quash the subpoena or modify the subpoena.
- C. The person subpoenaed and the Executive Director may agree to change the date, time, or place of a deposition or for the production of documents without affecting the force and effect of the subpoena, but such agreements shall be confirmed in writing.

R2-20-214. The probable cause to believe recommendation; briefing procedures

- A. Upon completion of the investigation conducted pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-209, the Executive Director shall prepare a brief setting forth his or her position on the factual and legal issues of the case and containing a recommendation on whether there is probable cause to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or is about to occur.
- B. The Executive Director shall notify each respondent of the recommendation and enclose a copy of his or her brief.
- C. Within 5 days from receipt of the Executive Director's brief, the respondent may file a brief with the Commission setting forth the respondent's position on the factual and legal issues of the case.
- D. After reviewing the respondent's brief, the Executive Director shall promptly advise the Commission in writing whether he or she intends to proceed with the recommendation or to withdraw the recommendation from Commission consideration.

R2-20-215. Probable Cause to Believe Finding

- A. If the Commission, , determines by an affirmative vote of at least three of its members that there is probable cause to believe that a respondent has violated a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction, the Commission shall authorize the Executive Director to so notify the respondent by an order, that states the nature of the violation, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-957.
- B. If the Commission finds no probable cause to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or otherwise orders a termination of Commission proceedings, it shall authorize the Executive Director to notify both respondent and complainant by letter that the proceeding has ended. The Executive Director's letter also will inform the parties that the Commission is not precluded from taking action on this matter in the future if evidence is discovered which may alter the decision of the Commission.

R2-20-216. Conciliation

- A. Upon a Commission finding of probable cause to believe that the respondent has violated a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction, the Executive Director shall attempt to settle the matter as authorized by A.R.S. § 16-957(A) by informal methods of administrative settlement or conciliation, and shall attempt to reach a tentative conciliation agreement with the respondent.
- B. A conciliation agreement pursuant to subsection A of this section is not binding upon either party unless and until it is signed by the respondent and by the Executive

Director upon approval by the affirmative vote of at least 3 members of the Commission.

- C. If a conciliation agreement is reached between the Commission and the respondent, the Executive Director shall send a copy of the signed agreement to both complainant and respondent.

R2-20-217. Enforcement proceedings

- A. Upon a finding of probable cause that the alleged violator remains out of compliance, the Executive Director may recommend to the Commission that the Commission authorize the issuance of an order and assess civil penalties pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-957(B).
- B. The Commission may, by an affirmative vote of at least 3 of its members, authorize the Executive Director to issue an order and assess civil penalties pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-957(B).
- C. Subsections A and B of this rule shall not preclude the Commission, upon request of a respondent, from entering into a conciliation agreement pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-216 even after the Commission authorizes the Executive Director to issue an order and assess civil penalties pursuant to subsection B of this rule. Any conciliation agreement reached under this subsection is subject to the provisions of A.A.C. R2-20-216(B) and shall have the same force and effect as a conciliation agreement reached under A.A.C. R2-20-216(D).

R2-20-218. Reserved

R2-20-219. Reserved

R2-20-220. Ex parte communications

- A. In order to avoid the possibility of prejudice, real or apparent, to the public interest in enforcement actions pending before the Commission pursuant to its compliance procedures, except to the extent required for the disposition of ex parte matters as required by law (for example, during the normal course of an investigation or a conciliation effort), no interested person outside the agency shall make or cause to be made to any Commissioner or any member of the Commission's staff any ex parte communication relative to the factual or legal merits of any enforcement action, nor shall any Commissioner or member of the Commission's staff make or entertain any such ex parte communications.
- B. This rule shall apply from the time a complaint is filed with the Commission or from the time that the Commission determines on the basis of information ascertained in the normal course of its statutory responsibilities that it has reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or may occur, and remains in force until the Commission has finally concluded all action with respect to the matter in question.
- C. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit contact between a respondent or respondent's attorney and any attorney or the Executive Director or the Assistant Attorney General in the course of representing the Commission or the respondent with respect to an enforcement proceeding or civil action. No statement made by a Commission attorney or staff member shall bind or stop the Commission.

R2-20-221. Representation by counsel; notification

- A. If a respondent wishes to be represented by counsel with regard to any matter pending before the Commission, respondent shall so advise the Commission by sending a letter of representation signed by the respondent stating the following:
 - 1. The name, address, and telephone number of the counsel; and
 - 2. A statement authorizing such counsel to receive any and all notifications and other communications from the Commission on behalf of respondent.
- B. Upon receipt of a letter of representation, the Commission shall have no contact with respondent except through the designated counsel unless authorized in writing by respondent. The Commission will send a copy of this letter to the respondent's attorney.

R2-20-222. Civil Penalties

- A. If the Commission has reason to believe by a preponderance of the evidence that a participating candidate is not in compliance with the Act or Commission rules, then in addition to other penalties under law, the Commission may decertify a candidate, deny or suspend funding, order repayment of funds, or impose a penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for a participating candidate for the legislature and \$5,000 for a participating candidate for statewide office.
- B. If the Commission has reason to believe by a preponderance of the evidence that a person other than a participating candidate is not in compliance with the Act or Commission rules, then in addition to other penalties under law, the Commission may impose a penalty not to exceed \$1,000.

R2-20-223. Notice of appealable agency action

If the Commission makes a probable cause finding pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-215 or decides to initiate an enforcement proceeding pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-217, the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) shall draft and serve notice of an appealable agency action pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.03 and § 41-1092.04 on the respondent. The notice shall identify the following:

- A. The statute or rule violated and specific facts constituting the violation;
- B. A description of the respondent's right to request a hearing and to request an informal settlement conference; and
- C. A description of what the respondent may do if the respondent wishes to remedy the situation without appealing the Commission's decision.

R2-20-224. Request for an administrative hearing

- A. The respondent must file a request for a hearing with the Commission within 30 days of receipt of the notice prescribed in A.A.C. R2-20-223.
- B. If the respondent requests a hearing, the AAG shall notify the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) of the appeal and shall coordinate a hearing date with the Commission's AAG and Commission staff that may be called as witnesses and OAH. The hearing must be held within 60 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Commission.
- C. The AAG shall prepare and serve a notice of hearing on all parties to the appeal at least 30 days before the hearing date, unless an expedited hearing is requested and granted. The notice of hearing shall be drafted in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-1092.05(D).

R2-20-225. Informal settlement conference

- A. If the respondent requests an informal settlement conference, the informal settlement conference shall be held within 15 days after the Commission receives the request. A request for an informal settlement conference shall be in writing and must be filed with the Commission no later than 20 days before the hearing date. A person with the authority to act on behalf of the Commission must represent the Commission at the conference. The AAG shall attend the settlement conference, but shall not be the individual authorized to act on behalf of the Commission.
- B. The Commission representative shall notify the respondent in writing that the statements, either written or oral, made by the appellant at the conference, including a written document, created or expressed solely for the purpose of settlement negotiations, are inadmissible in any subsequent administrative hearing. The parties participating in the settlement conference waive their right to object to the participation of the agency representative in the final administrative decision.

R2-20-226. Administrative hearing

- A. If the matter continues to a hearing, the hearing shall be held in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-1092.07. The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) must issue a written recommended decision within 20 days after the hearing is concluded.
- B. If the enforcement action occurs within 6 months of the primary or general election, the Commission will request an expedited review of the matter.

R2-20-227. Review of administrative decision by Commission

- A. Within 30 days after the date OAH sends a copy of the ALJ's decision to the Commission, the Commission may review the ALJ's decision and accept, reject or modify the decision.
- B. If the Commission declines to review the ALJ's decision, the Commission shall serve a copy of the decision on all parties. If the Commission modifies or rejects the decision, the Commission shall file with OAH and serve on all parties a copy of the ALJ's decision with the rejection or modification and a written justification setting forth the reasons for the rejection or modification. If the Commission accepts, rejects or modifies the decision, the Commission's decision will be certified as final.
- C. If the Commission does not accept, reject or modify the decision within 30 days after OAH sends the ALJ's decision to the Commission, the ALJ's decision will be certified as final.

R2-20-228. Judicial review

A party to the administrative proceeding may appeal a final administrative decision pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-901 et. seq. (Judicial Review of Administrative Decisions). A party does not have the right to judicial review unless that party first exhausts its administrative remedies by going through the above steps. After a hearing has been held and a final administrative decision has been entered pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.08, a party is not required to file a motion for rehearing or review of the decision in order to exhaust the party's administrative remedies.

Article 3. Standard of Conduct for Commissioners and Employees

R2-20-301. Purpose and applicability

- A.** The Commission is committed to implementing the Act in an honest, independent and impartial fashion and to seeking to uphold public confidence in the integrity of the electoral system. To ensure public trust in the fairness and integrity of the Arizona elections process, all Commissioners and employees must observe the highest standards of conduct. This Article prescribes standards of ethical conduct for Commissioners and employees of the Commission relating to conflicts of interest arising from outside employment, private businesses, professional activities, political activities, and financial interests. The avoidance of misconduct and conflicts of interest on the part of the Commissioners and the employees through informed judgment is indispensable to the maintenance of these prescribed ethical standards. Attainment of these goals necessitates strict and absolute fairness and impartiality in the administration of the law.
- B.** This Article applies to all persons included within the terms “employee” and “Commissioner” of the Commission.
- C.** These Standards of Conduct shall be construed in accordance with any applicable laws, regulations and agreements between the Commission and a labor organization.
- D.** Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-955(I), for three years after a Commissioner completes his or her tenure, Commissioners shall not seek or hold any public office, serve as an officer of any political committee, or employ or be employed as a lobbyist.

R2-20-302. Definitions

- 1. **“Commission”** means the Citizens Clean Elections Commission of Arizona.
- 2. **“Commissioner”** means a voting member of the Commission, appointed pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-955.
- 3. **“Conflict of interest”** means a situation in which a Commissioner’s or an employee’s private interest is or appears to be inconsistent with the efficient and impartial conduct of his or her official duties and responsibilities.
- 4. **“Employee”** means an employee or staff member of the Commission.
- 5. **“Former employee”** means one who was, and is no longer, an employee of the Commission.
- 6. **“Official responsibility”** means the direct administrative or operating authority, whether intermediate or final, to approve, disapprove, or otherwise direct Commission action. Official responsibility may be exercised alone or with others and either personally or through subordinates.
- 7. **“Outside employment”** or **“outside activity”** means any work, service or other activity performed by a Commissioner or employee other than in the performance of the Commissioner’s or employee’s official employment duties. It includes such activities as writing and editing, publishing, teaching, lecturing, consulting, self-employment, and other services or work performed, with or without compensation.
- 8. **“Person”** means an individual, corporation, company, association, firm, partnership, society, joint stock company, political committee, or other group, organization, or institution.

R2-20-303. Notification to Commissioners and Employees

The Executive Director shall provide to each Commissioner and employee of the Commission, upon commencement of his or her term or employment and at least annually

thereafter, a copy of this Article and such other information regarding standards of conduct as the Commission and/or applicable law may prescribe.

R2-20-304. Interpretation and Advisory Service

Commissioners or employees seeking advice and guidance on questions of conflict of interest and on other matters covered by this Article shall consult with the Commission's Chair or Executive Director. The Commission's Chair or Executive Director shall be consulted prior to the undertaking of any action that might violate this Article governing the conduct of Commissioners or employees.

R2-20-305. Reporting suspected violations

- A. Commissioners and employees who have information, which causes them to believe that there has been a violation of a statute or a rule set forth in this Article, shall report promptly, in writing, such incident to the Commission's Chair or Executive Director.
- B. When information available to the Commission indicates a conflict between the interests of a Commissioner or employee and the performance of his or her Commission duties, the Commissioner or employee shall be provided an opportunity to explain the conflict or appearance of conflict in writing.

R2-20-306. Disciplinary and other remedial action

- A. A violation of this Article by an employee may be cause for disciplinary action, which may be in addition to any penalty prescribed by law.
- B. When the Commission's Executive Director determines that an employee may have or appears to have a conflict of interest, the Commission's Executive Director may question the employee in the matter and gather other information. The Commission's Executive Director and the employee's supervisor shall discuss with the employee possible ways of eliminating the conflict or appearance of conflict. If the Commission's Executive Director, after consultation with the employee's supervisor, concludes that remedial action should be taken, he or she shall refer a statement to the Commission containing his or her recommendation for such action. The Commission, after consideration of the employee's explanation and the results of any investigation, may direct appropriate remedial action as it deems necessary.
- C. Remedial action pursuant to subsection B of this rule may include, but is not limited to:
 - 1. Changes in assigned duties;
 - 2. Divestment by the employee of his or her conflicting interest;
 - 3. Disqualification for particular action; or
 - 4. Disciplinary action.

R2-20-307. General prohibited conduct

- A. A Commissioner or employee shall avoid any action whether or not specifically prohibited by this rule that might result in, or create the appearance of:
 - 1. Using public office for unlawful private gain;
 - 2. Giving favorable or unfavorable treatment to any person or organization due to any partisan or political consideration;
 - 3. Impeding Commission efficiency or economy;
 - 4. Losing impartiality;
 - 5. Making a Commission decision without Commission approval; or

6. Adversely affecting the confidence of the public in the integrity of the Commission.
- B.** A Commissioner or employee of the Commission shall not solicit or accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, gratuity, favor, entertainment, loan, or any other thing of monetary value, from a person who:
1. Has, or is seeking to obtain, contractual or other business or financial relations with the Commission;
 2. Conducts operations or activities that are regulated or examined by the Commission; or
 3. Has an interest that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the Commissioner or employee's official duty.
- C.** Subsection B of this rule shall not apply:
1. When circumstances make it clear that obvious family or personal relationships, rather than the business of the persons concerned, are the motivating factors;
 2. To the acceptance of food, refreshments, and accompanying entertainment of nominal value in the ordinary course of a social occasion or a luncheon or dinner meeting or other function where a Commissioner or an employee is properly in attendance;
 3. To the acceptance of unsolicited advertising or promotional material or other items of nominal value such as pens, pencils, note pads, calendars; and
 4. To the acceptance of loans from banks or other financial institutions on customary terms to finance proper and usual activities, such as home mortgage loans.
- D.** A Commissioner or an employee shall not solicit a contribution from another employee for a gift to an official superior, make a donation as a gift to an official superior, or accept a gift from an employee receiving less pay than himself or herself. However, this subsection does not prohibit a voluntary gift of nominal value or donation in a nominal amount made on a special occasion such as birthday, holiday, marriage, illness, or retirement.
- E.** This rule does not preclude a Commissioner or employee from receipt of reimbursement, unless prohibited by law, for expenses of travel and such other necessary subsistence as is compatible with this Article for which no state payment or reimbursement is made. However, this rule does not allow a Commissioner or employee to be reimbursed, or payment to be made on his or her behalf, for excessive personal living expenses, gifts, entertainment, or other personal benefits, nor does it allow a Commissioner or employee to be reimbursed by a person for travel on official business under Commission orders when reimbursement is prescribed by statute.

R2-20-308. Outside employment or activities

- A.** A Commissioner or employee shall not engage in outside employment that is incompatible with the full discharge of his or her duties as a Commissioner or employee.
- B.** Incompatible outside employment or other activities by Commissioners or employees include, but are not limited to:
1. Outside employment or other activities that involve illegal activities;
 2. Outside employment or other activities that would give rise to a real or apparent conflict of interest situation even though no violation of a specific statutory provision was involved;

3. Acceptance of a fee, compensation, gift, payment of expense, or any other thing of monetary value in circumstances where acceptance may result in, or create the appearance of, a conflict of interest;
 4. Outside employment or other activities that might bring discredit upon the state or Commission;
 5. Outside employment or other activities that establish relationships or property interests that may result in a conflict between the Commissioner's or the employee's private interests and official duties;
 6. Outside employment or other activities which would involve any contractor or subcontractor connected with any work performed for the Commission or would involve any person or organization in a position to gain advantage in its dealings with the state through the Commissioner's or employee's exercise of his or her official duties;
 7. Outside employment or other activities that may be construed by the public to be the official acts of the Commission. In any permissible outside employment, care shall be taken to ensure that names and titles of Commissioners and employees are not used to give the impression that the activity is officially endorsed or approved by the Commission or is part of the Commission's activities;
 8. Outside employment or other activities which would involve use by a Commissioner or employee of his or her official duty time; use of official facilities, including office space, machines, or supplies, at any time; or use of the services of other employees during their official duty hours;
 9. Outside employment or other activities which impair the Commissioner's or employee's mental or physical capacities to perform Commission duties and responsibilities in an acceptable manner; or
 10. Use of information obtained as a result of state employment that is not freely available to the general public or would not be made available upon request. However, written authorization for the use of any such information may be given when the Commission determines that such use would be in the public interest.
- C.** Commissioners and employees shall not receive any salary or anything of monetary value from a private source as compensation for the Commissioner's or employee's services to the state.
- D.** Commissioners and employees are encouraged to engage in teaching, lecturing, and writing that is not prohibited by law or this Article. However, Commissioners and employees shall not, either with or without compensation, engage in teaching or writing that is dependent on information obtained as a result of his or her Commission employment, except when that information has been made available to the public or will be made available on request, or when the Commission gives written authorization for the use of nonpublic information on the basis that the use is in the public interest.
- E.** This rule does not preclude a Commissioner or employee from participating in the activities of or acceptance of an award for meritorious public contribution or achievement given by a charitable, religious, professional, social, fraternal, nonprofit, educational, recreational, public service or civic organization.
- F.** An employee who intends to engage in outside employment shall obtain the approval of the Executive Director. The request shall include the name of the person, group, or organization for whom the work is to be performed, the nature of the services to be rendered, the proposed hours of work, or approximate dates of employment, and the

employee's certification as to whether the outside employment (including teaching, writing or lecturing) will depend in any way on information obtained as a result of the employee's official position. The employee will receive, from the Executive Director, written notice of approval or disapproval of any written request. A record of the decision shall be placed in each employee's official personnel folder.

R2-20-309. Financial interests

- A. Commissioners and employees shall not engage in, directly or indirectly, a financial transaction as a result of, or primarily relying on, information obtained through the Commissioner's or employee's duties or employment.
- B. Commissioners and employees shall not have a direct or indirect financial interest that conflicts substantially, or appears to conflict substantially, with the Commissioner's or employee's official duties and responsibilities, except in cases where the Commissioner or employee makes full disclosure, and disqualifies himself or herself from participating in any decisions, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or in any proceeding of the Commission in which the financial interest is or appears to be affected. Full disclosure by a Commissioner or employee will require that individual to submit a written statement to the Executive Director or Chair disclosing the particular financial interest which conflicts substantially, or appears to conflict substantially, with the Commissioner's or employee's duties and responsibilities.
- C. Commissioners and employees shall disqualify themselves from a proceeding in which the Commissioner's or employee's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, such as in a situation where the Commissioner or employee knows that he or she, or his or her family member, has an interest in the subject matter in controversy or is a party to the proceeding, or has any other interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding.
- D. This rule does not preclude a Commissioner or employee from having a financial interest or engaging in financial transactions to the same extent as a private citizen not employed by the Commission, as long as the Commissioner's or employee's financial interest does not conflict with official Commission duties.

R2-20-310. Political and organization activity

- A. Due to the Commission's role in the political process, the following restrictions on political activities are required:
 - 1. Commissioners and employees shall not advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate, nor make contributions to a candidate, political party, or political committee subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Commissioners and employees, however, are not prohibited from signing candidate nomination petitions;
 - 2. Commissioners and employees shall not provide volunteer or paid services for a candidate, political party or political committee subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission; and
 - 3. Commissioners and employees shall not display partisan buttons, badges or other insignia on Commission premises.
- B. Employees on leave, leave without pay, or on furlough or terminal leave, even though the employees' resignations have been accepted, are subject to the restrictions of this rule. A separated employee who has received a lump-sum payment for annual leave, however, is not subject to the restrictions during the period covered by the lump-sum payment or thereafter, provided he or she does not return to state

employment during that period. An employee is not permitted to take a leave of absence to work with a political candidate, committee, or organization or become a candidate for office despite any understanding that he or she will resign his or her position if nominated or elected.

- C. A Commissioner or employee is accountable for political activity by another person acting as his or her agent or under the Commissioner's or employee's direction or control if the Commissioner or employee is thus accomplishing what he or she may not lawfully do directly and openly.

R2-20-311. Membership in associations

Commissioners or employees who are members of nongovernmental associations or organizations shall avoid activities on behalf of those associations or organizations that are incompatible with their official positions.

R2-20-312. Use of state property

A Commissioner or employee shall not directly or indirectly use, or allow the use of, state property of any kind, including property leased to the state, for other than officially approved activities. Commissioners and employees have a positive duty to protect and conserve state property including equipment, supplies, and other property entrusted or issued to him or her.

Article 4. Audits

R2-20-401. Purpose and scope

This article prescribes procedures for conducting examinations and audits of participating candidates' campaign finances.

R2-20-402. General

The Commission may conduct an examination and audit of the receipts, disbursements, debts and obligations of each candidate. In addition, the Commission may conduct other examinations and audits as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act and regulations. Information obtained pursuant to any audit and examination may be used by the Commission as the basis, or partial basis, for its repayment determinations.⁵

R2-20-402.01. Audits of participating legislative candidates.

To ensure compliance with the Act and Commission rules, the Commission shall conduct audits of all participating legislative candidates after each election. Candidates who win their primary election will not be subject to an audit until after the general election. Audits shall include the review of campaign finance reports for the entire election cycle and related documentation in accordance with procedures established by the Commission. The Commission may hire independent accounting firms to carry out the audits.

R2-20-402.02. Audits of participating statewide candidates.

All participating statewide candidates shall be audited after each primary election period and each general election period.

R2-20-403. Conduct of fieldwork

- A. The Commission will provide the candidate 2 days' notice of the Commission's intention to commence fieldwork on the audit and examination. The Commission

will conduct fieldwork at a site provided by the candidate or via electronic disbursement as determined by the Commissioner and auditor. During or after fieldwork, the Commission may request additional or updated information, which expands the coverage dates of information previously provided. During or after fieldwork, the Commission may also request additional information that was created by or becomes available to the candidate that is of assistance in the Commission's audit. The candidate shall produce the additional or updated information no later than 2 days

after service of the Commission's request.

- B.** On the date scheduled for the commencement of fieldwork, the candidate shall facilitate the examination or audit by making records available in one central location, such as the Commission's office space, or via electronic disbursement or shall provide the Commission with office space and records. The candidate shall be present at the site of the fieldwork. The candidate shall be familiar with the candidate's records and shall be available to the Commission to answer questions and to aid in locating records.⁶
- C.** If the candidate fails to provide adequate office space, personnel or committee records, the Commission may seek judicial intervention to enforce the request or assess other penalties.
- D.** If, in the course of the examination or audit process, a dispute arises over the documentation sought, the candidate may seek review by the Commission of the issues raised. To seek review, the candidate shall submit a written statement within 5 days after the disputed Commission request is made, describing the dispute and indicating the candidate's proposed alternatives.

⁵ For computation of time, refer to A.A.C. R2-20-103.

⁶ The candidate and the campaign committee treasurer shall attend the examination, or shall appoint such campaign workers to attend who have the same knowledge of the campaign's finances and are authorized to answer questions and help locate records.

R2-20-404. Preliminary audit report

- A.** After the completion of fieldwork, the auditors may prepare a written preliminary audit report, which will be provided to the candidate after it is reviewed by the Executive Director or Director's designee. The preliminary audit report may include:
 - 1. An evaluation of procedures and systems employed by the candidate to comply with applicable provisions of the Act and Commission rules;
 - 2. The accuracy of statements and campaign finance reports filed with the Secretary of State by the candidate; and
 - 3. Preliminary findings.
- B.** The candidate may submit in writing within 10 days after receipt of the preliminary audit report, legal and factual materials disputing or commenting on the proposed findings contained in the preliminary audit report. In addition, the candidate shall submit any additional documentation requested by the Commission.
- C.** If the preliminary audit report cannot be completed, the Commission shall notify the candidate in writing that the audit report will not be completed.

R2-20-405. Final audit report

- A.** Before voting on whether to approve and issue a final audit report, the Commission will consider any written legal and factual materials timely submitted by the candidate in accordance with A.A.C. R2-20-404. The Commission-approved final audit report may address issues other than those contained in the preliminary audit report.
- B.** The final audit report may identify issues that warrant referral for possible enforcement proceedings.
- C.** Addenda to the final audit report may be approved and issued by the Commission from time to time as circumstances warrant and as additional information becomes available. Such addenda may be based on follow-up fieldwork conducted, or information ascertained by the Commission in the normal course of carrying out its responsibilities. The procedures set forth in A.A.C. R2-20-404 and subsections A and B of this rule will be followed in preparing such addenda.

R2-20-406. Release of audit report

- A.** The Commission will consider the final audit report specified in A.A.C. R2-20-405 in an open meeting. The Commission will provide the candidate with copies of the final audit report to be considered in an open meeting 24 hours prior to the public meeting.
- B.** Following Commission approval of the final audit report, the report will be forwarded to the candidate within 5 days after the public meeting.

Article 5. Rulemaking

R2-20-501. Purpose and scope

The article prescribes the procedure for the submission, consideration and disposition of rulemaking petitions filed with the Commission, establishes the conditions under which the Commission may identify and respond to petitions for rule making, and informs the public of the procedures the agency follows in response to such petitions.

R2-20-502. Procedural requirements

- A.** Any interested person may file with the Commission a written petition for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of an administrative rule implementing any of the Citizens Clean Elections Act.
- B.** The petition shall:
 - 1. Include the name and address of the petitioner or agent. An authorized agent of the petitioner may submit the petition, but the agent shall disclose the identity of his or her principal;
 - 2. Identify itself as a petition for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule;
 - 3. Identify the specific section of the regulations to be affected;
 - 4. Set forth the factual and legal grounds on which the petitioner relies, in support of the proposed action; and
 - 5. Be addressed and submitted to the Commission.
- C.** The petition may include draft regulatory language that would effectuate the petitioner's proposal.
- D.** The Commission may, in its discretion, treat a document that fails to conform to the format requirements of subsection B of this rule as a basis for rule making addressing issues raised in a petition.

R2-20-503. Processing of petitions

- A.** Within 10 days of receiving a petition, the Executive Director shall send a letter to the petitioner acknowledging the receipt of the petition and informing the petitioner that the Commission will review and decide whether to deny or accept the petition. To assist in determining whether a rule making proceeding should be initiated, the Commission may publish a Notice of Availability on the Commission web site or otherwise post notice, stating that the petition is available for public inspection in the Commission's Office and that statements in support of or in opposition to the petition may be filed within a stated period after publication of the Notice of Availability.
- B.** If the Commission decides a public hearing on the petition would help determine whether to commence a rule making proceeding, it will publish an appropriate notice of the hearing on the Commission web site or otherwise post notice, to notify interested persons and to invite their participation in the hearing.
- C.** The Commission will consider all comments regarding whether or not rule making proceedings should be initiated.

R2-20-504. Disposition of petitions

- A.** After considering the comments and any other information relevant to the subject matter of the petition, the Commission will decide whether to initiate a rule making based on the filed petition.
- B.** If the Commission decides to initiate rule making proceedings, it shall file a Notice of Proposed Rule Making Docket Opening and the proposed rule, in the format prescribed in A.R.S. § 41-1022, with the Secretary of State's office for publication in

the Arizona Register. After the Commission approves the proposed rule, the Commission will accept public comments on the proposed rule for 60 days. After consideration of the comments received in the 60-day comment period, the Commission may adopt the rule in open meeting.

- C. If the Commission decides not to initiate rule making, it will give notice of this action by publishing a Notice of Disposition on the Commission web site, or otherwise post notice, and by sending a letter to the petitioner. The Notice of Disposition will include a brief statement of the grounds for the Commission's decision.

R2-20-505. Commission considerations

The Commission's decision on the petition for rule making may include, but will not be limited to, the following considerations:

- A. The Commission's statutory authority;
- B. Policy considerations;
- C. The desirability of proceeding on a case-by-case-basis;
- D. The necessity or desirability of statutory revision;
- E. Available agency resources; and
- F. Substantive policy statements.

R2-20-506. Administrative record

- A. The Commission record for the petition process consists of the following:
 - 1. The petition, including all attachments on which it relies, filed by the petitioner;
 - 2. Written comments on the petition that have been circulated to and considered by the Commission, including attachments submitted as a part of the comments;
 - 3. Agenda documents, in the form they are circulated to and considered by the Commission in the course of the petition process;
 - 4. All notices published on the Commission web site and in the Arizona Register, including the Notice of Availability and Notice of Disposition;
 - 5. The transcripts or audiotapes of any public hearing on the petition;
 - 6. All correspondence between the Commission and the petitioner, other commentators and state agencies pertaining to Commission consideration of the petition; and
 - 7. The Commission's decision on the petition, including all documents identified or filed by the Commission as part of the record relied on in reaching its final decision.
- B. The administrative record specified in subsection A of this rule is the exclusive record for the Commission's decision.

Article 6. Ex Parte Communications

R2-20-601. Purpose and scope

This Article prescribes procedures for handling ex parte communications made regarding Commission audits, investigations, and litigation. Rules governing such communications made in connection with Commission enforcement actions are found at A.A.C. R2-20-220.

R2-20-602. Definitions

- 1. **"Ex parte communication"** means any written or oral communication, by any person outside the agency to any Commissioner or any employee, which imparts information or argument regarding prospective Commission action or potential action

concerning:

- a. Any ongoing audit;
 - b. Any pending investigation; or
 - c. Any litigation matter.
2. **“Ex parte communication”** does not include the following communications:
- a. Public statements by any person in a public forum; or
 - b. Statements or inquiries by any person limited to the procedural status of an open proceeding involving a Commission audit, investigation, or litigation matter.

R2-20-603. Audits, investigations, and litigation

- A. In order to avoid the possibility of prejudice, real or apparent, in Commission decision making, no person outside the Commission shall make, or cause to be made, to any Commissioner or employee, any ex parte communication regarding any audit undertaken by the Commission or any pending or prospective Commission decision regarding any investigation or litigation, including whether to initiate, settle, appeal, or make any other decision concerning an investigation or litigation matter.
- B. A Commissioner or employee who receives an oral ex parte communication concerning any matters addressed in subsection A of this rule shall attempt to prevent the communication. If unsuccessful in preventing the communication, the Commissioner or employee shall advise the person making the communication that he or she will not consider the communication and shall, as soon after the communication as is reasonably possible, but no later than three business days after the communication, or prior to the next Commission discussion of the matter, whichever is earlier, prepare a statement setting forth the substance and circumstances of the communication, and deliver the statement to the Executive Director for placement in the applicable case file.
- C. A Commissioner or employee who receives a written ex parte communication concerning any matters addressed in subsection A of this rule shall, as soon after the communication as is reasonably possible but no later than three business days after the communication, or prior to the next Commission discussion of the matter, whichever is earlier, deliver a copy of the communication to the Executive Director for placement in the applicable case file.

R2-20-604. Sanctions

Any person who becomes aware of a possible violation of this Article shall notify the Executive Director in writing of the facts and circumstances of the alleged violation. The Executive Director shall recommend to the Commission the appropriate action to be taken. The Commission shall determine the appropriate action by at least three votes.

Article 7. Use of Funds and Repayment

R2-20-701. Purpose and scope

A participating candidate may spend clean elections monies only for reasonable and necessary expenses that are directly related to the campaign of that participating candidate.

R2-20-702. Use of Campaign Funds

- A.** A participating candidate shall use funds in the candidate's current campaign account to pay for goods and services for direct campaign purposes only. Funds shall be disbursed and reported in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-948(C).
- B.** A participating candidate shall not use funds in the candidate's campaign account for:
1. Costs of legal defense in any campaign law enforcement proceeding or for any affirmative claim or litigation in court or before the Commission regarding a campaign. This prohibition does not bar use of campaign funds for payments to attorneys or certified accountants for proactive compliance advice and assistance.
 2. Food and beverages for staff and volunteers exceeding \$11 for breakfast, \$16 for lunch, and \$27 for dinner, per person.
 3. Personal use, which includes, but is not limited to, any item listed below:
 - a. Household food items or supplies.
 - b. Clothing, other than items of de minimis value that are used in the campaign, such as campaign "t-shirts" or caps with campaign slogans.
 - c. Tuition payments, other than those associated with training campaign staff.
 - d. Mortgage, loan, rent, lease or utility payments:
 - i. For any part of any personal residence of the candidate or a member of the candidate's family; or
 - ii. For real or personal property that is owned or leased by the candidate or a member of the candidate's family and used for campaign purposes, to the extent the payments exceed the fair market value of the property usage.
 - e. Admission to a sporting event, concert, theater or other form of entertainment, unless part of a specific campaign activity.
 - f. Dues, fees or gratuities at a country club, health club, recreational facility or other nonpolitical organization, unless they are part of the costs of a specific fundraising event that takes place on the organization's premises.
 - g. Gifts or donations.
 - h. Extended warranties or other similar purchase options that extend beyond the campaign.
 4. Payment to a candidate or a candidate's family member, as defined in R2-20-101(13), or an enterprise owned in whole or part by a candidate or family member, for the provisions of goods or services to the extent the payments exceed the fair market value of the goods or services. All payments made to family members or to enterprises owned in whole or part by the candidate or a family member shall be clearly itemized and indicated as such in all campaign finance reports.
- C.** Participating candidates may purchase fixed assets with a value not to exceed \$800. Fixed assets, including accessories, purchased with campaign funds that can be used for non-campaign purposes with a value of \$200 or more shall be turned into the Commission no later than 14 days after the primary election or the general election if

the candidate was successful in the primary. For purposes of determining whether a fixed asset is valued at \$200 or more, the value shall include any accessories purchased for use with the fixed asset in question. A candidate may elect to keep an item by reimbursing the Commission for 80% of the original purchase price including the cost of accessories.

- D.** During the primary election period, a participating candidate shall not make any expenditure greater than the difference between
 - 1. the sum of early contributions received plus public funds disbursed through the primary election period; less
 - 2. all other expenditures made during and for the exploratory, qualifying and primary election periods.
- E.** During the general election period, a participating candidate shall not make any expenditure greater than the difference between
 - 1. the amount of public funds disbursed during and for the general election period; less
 - 2. all other expenditures made during and for the general election period.
- F.** Transportation expenses.
 - 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (D), the costs of transportation relating to the election of a participating statewide or legislative office candidate shall not be considered a direct campaign expense and shall not be reported by the candidate as expenditures or as in-kind contributions.
 - 2. If a participating candidate travels for campaign purposes in a privately owned automobile, the candidate may:
 - a. Use campaign funds to reimburse the owner of the automobile at a rate not to exceed the state mileage reimbursement rate in which event the reimbursement shall be considered a direct campaign expense and shall be reported as an expenditure and reported in the reporting period in which the expenditure was incurred. If a candidate chooses to use campaign funds to reimburse, the candidate shall keep an itinerary of the trip, including name and type of events(s) attended, miles traveled and the rate at which the reimbursement was made. This subsection applies to candidate owned automobiles in addition to any other automobile.
 - b. Use campaign funds to pay for direct fuel purchases for the candidate's automobile only and shall be reported. If a candidate chooses to use campaign funds for direct fuel purchases, the candidate shall keep an itinerary of the trip, including name and type of events(s) attended, miles traveled and the rate at which the reimbursement could have been made.
 - 3. Use of airplanes.
 - a. If a participating candidate travels for campaign purposes in a privately owned airplane, within 7 days from the date of travel, the candidate shall use campaign funds to reimburse the owner of the airplane at a rate of \$150 per hour of flying time, in which event the reimbursement shall be considered a direct campaign expense and shall be reported as an expenditure. If the owner of the airplane is unwilling or unable to accept reimbursement, the participating candidate shall remit to the Clean Elections Fund an amount equal to \$150 per hour of flying time.
 - b. If a participating candidate travels for campaign purposes in a state-owned airplane, within 7 days from the date of travel, the candidate shall use campaign funds to reimburse the state for the portion allocable to the campaign in

accordance with subsection 3a, above. The portion of the trip attributable to state business shall not be reimbursed. If payment to the State is not possible, the payment shall be remitted to the Clean Elections Fund.

4. If a participating candidate rents a vehicle or purchases a ticket or fare on a commercial carrier for campaign purposes, the actual costs of such rental (including fuel costs), ticket or fare shall be considered a direct campaign expense and shall be reported as an expenditure.

R2-20-702.01. Use of Assets

A participating candidate may use assets such as signs, pamphlets, and office equipment from a prior election cycle only after the candidate's current campaign pays for the assets in an amount equal to the fair market value of the assets, which amount shall in no event be less than one-fifth (1/5) the original purchase price of such assets. If the candidate was a participating candidate during the prior election cycle, the cash payment shall be made to the Fund. If the candidate was not a participating candidate during the prior election cycle, the cash payment shall be made to the prior campaign. If the prior campaign account of a nonparticipating candidate is closed, the payment shall be made to the candidate.

R2-20-703. Documentation for direct campaign expenditures

- A. In addition to the general books and records requirements prescribed in A.A.C. R2-20-111, participating candidates shall comply with the following requirements:
 1. All participating candidates shall have the burden of proving that expenditures made by the candidate were for direct campaign purposes. The candidate shall obtain and furnish to the Commission on request any evidence regarding direct campaign expenses made by the candidate as provided in subsection 2 of this rule.
 2. All participating candidates shall retain records with respect to each expenditure and receipt, including bank records, vouchers, worksheets, receipts, bills and accounts, journals, ledgers, fundraising solicitation material, accounting systems documentation, and any related materials documenting campaign receipts and disbursements, for a period of three years, and shall present these records to the Commission on request.
 3. All participating candidates shall maintain a list of all fixed assets whose purchase price exceeded \$200 when acquired by the campaign. The list shall include a brief description of each fixed asset, the purchase price, the date it was acquired, the method of disposition and the amount received in disposition.
- B. Upon written request from a candidate, the Commission shall determine whether a planned campaign expenditure or fund-raising activity is permissible under the Act. To make a request, a candidate shall submit a written description of the planned expenditure or activity to the Commission. The Commission shall inform the candidate whether an enforcement action will be necessary if the candidate carries out the planned expenditure or activity. The Commission shall ensure that the candidate can rely on a "no action" letter. A "no action" letter applies only to the candidate who requested it.
- C. Any expenditure made by the candidate or the candidate's committee that cannot be documented as a direct expenditure shall promptly be repaid to the Fund with the candidate's personal monies.

R2-20-703.01. Campaign Consultants

- A.** For purposes of this rule “Campaign Consultant” means any person paid by a participating candidate’s campaign or who provides services that are ordinarily charged to a person, except services provided for in A.R.S. § 16-911(6)(b).
- B.** A participating candidate may engage campaign consultants.
- C.** A participating candidate may only advance a campaign consultant for services such as consulting, communications, field employees, canvassers, mailers, auto-dialers, telephone town halls, electronic communications and other advertising purchases and other campaign service if an itemized invoice identifying the value of the services is provided directly to that particular candidate at the time of the advance payment.
 - 1. Providing payment for such services as described in subsection (C) of this rule in the absence of an itemized invoice or advance payment for such services shall be deemed not to be a direct campaign expenditure.
 - 2. A participating candidate may advance payment for postage upon the receipt of a written estimate and so long as any balance is returned to the candidate if the advance exceeds the actual cost of postage.
 - 3. A participating candidate may advance payment for advertising that customarily requires pre-payment upon the receipt of a written estimate and so long as any balance is returned to the candidate if the advance exceeds the actual cost of the advertisement.
- D.** The Commission shall be included in the mail batch for all mailers and invitations. The Commission shall also be provided with documentation from the mail house, printer or other original source showing the number of mailers printed and the number of households to which a mailer was sent. Failure to provide this information within 7 days after the mailer has been mailed may be considered as evidence the mailer was not for direct campaign purposes.
- E.** Notwithstanding any other provision of the Rules to the contrary, a participating candidate shall not make any payment to a private organization that is exempt under section 501(a) of the internal revenue code and that is eligible to engage in activities to influence the outcome of a candidate election, nor make any payment directly or indirectly to a political party.

R2-20-704. Repayment

- A.** In general, the Commission may determine that a participating candidate who has received payments from the Fund must repay the Fund as determined by the Commission.
 - 1. A candidate who has received payments from the Fund shall pay the Fund any amounts that the Commission determines to be repayable. In making repayment determinations, the Commission may utilize information obtained from audits and examinations or otherwise obtained by the Commission in carrying out its responsibilities.
 - 2. The Commission will notify the candidate of any repayment determinations made under this section as soon as possible.
 - 3. Once the candidate receives notice of the Commission’s repayment determination, the candidate should give preference to the repayment over all other outstanding obligations of the candidate, except for any taxes owed by the candidate.

4. Repayments may be made only from the following sources: personal funds of the candidate, funds in the candidate's current election campaign account, and any additional funds raised subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Act.
 5. The Commission may withhold the portion of funds required to be repaid from future payments to a participating candidate if the Commission has made a repayment determination.
- B.** The Commission may determine that a participating candidate who has received payments from the Fund must repay the Fund under any of the following circumstances:
1. Payments in excess of candidate's entitlement. If the Commission determines that any portion of the payments made to the candidate was in excess of the aggregate payments to which such candidate was entitled, it will so notify the candidate, and such candidate shall pay to the Fund an amount equal to such portion.
 2. Use of funds not for direct campaign expenses. If the Commission determines that any amount of any payment to an eligible candidate from the Fund was used for purposes other than direct campaign purposes described in A.A.C. R2-20-702, it will notify the candidate of the amount so used, and such candidate shall pay to the Fund an amount equal to such amount.
 3. Expenditures that were not documented in accordance with campaign finance reporting requirements, expended in violation of State or Federal law, or used to defray expenses resulting from a violation of State or Federal law, such as the payment of fines or penalties.
 4. Surplus. If the Commission determines that a portion of payments from the Fund remains unspent after all direct campaign expenses have been paid, it shall so notify the candidate, and such candidate shall pay the Fund that portion of surplus funds.
 5. Income on investment or other use of payments from the Fund. If the Commission determines that a candidate received any income as a result of an investment or other use of payments from the Fund, it shall so notify the candidate, and such candidate shall pay to the Fund an amount equal to the amount determined to be income, less any Federal, State or local taxes on such income.
 6. Unlawful acceptance of contributions by an eligible candidate. If the Commission determines that a participating candidate accepted contributions, other than early contributions or qualifying contributions, it shall notify the candidate of the amount of contributions so accepted, and the candidate shall pay to the Fund an amount equal to such amount, plus any civil penalties assessed.
- C.** Repayment determination procedures. The Commission's repayment determination will be made in accordance with the following procedures:
1. Repayment determination. The Commission will send a repayment determination pursuant to Article 2, Compliance and Enforcement Procedures, and will set forth the legal and factual reasons for such determination, as well as the evidence upon which any such determination is based. The candidate shall repay, in accordance with subsection D of this rule, the amount that the Commission has determined to be repayable.
 2. Administrative review of repayment determination. If a candidate disputes the

Commission's repayment determination, he or she may request an administrative appeal of the determination in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-1092 et. seq.

D. Repayment period.

1. Within 30 days of service of the notice of the Commission's repayment determination, the candidate shall repay the amounts the Commission has determined must be repaid. Upon application by the candidate, the Commission may grant an extension of time in which to make repayment.
2. If the candidate requests an administrative appeal of the Commission's repayment determination of this section, the time for repayment will be suspended until the Commission has concluded its review of the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) decision. Within 30 days after service of the notice of the Commission's review of the ALJ's decision, the candidate shall repay the amounts that the Commission has determined to be repayable. Upon application by the candidate, the Commission may grant an extension of up to 30 days in which to make repayment.
3. Interest shall be assessed on all repayments made after the initial 30-day repayment period or the 30-day repayment period established by this section. The amount of interest due shall be the greater of:
 - a. An amount calculated in accordance with A.R.S. § 44-1201(A); or
 - b. The amount actually earned on the funds set aside or to be repaid under this rule.

R2-20-705. Additional audits or repayment determinations

- A. The Commission may conduct an additional audit or examination of any candidate in any case in which the Commission finds reason to believe that a violation of a statute or regulation over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred or is about to occur.
- B. The Commission may make additional repayment determinations after it has made an initial repayment determination pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-704. The Commission may make additional repayment determinations where there exist facts not used as the basis for any previous determination. Any such additional repayment determination will be made in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

R2-20-706. Rebuttable Presumption of Funds Used for Direct Campaign Expenses

Once a participating candidate receives clean elections funding, the Commission may make a rebuttable presumption that the participating candidate has not used funds for direct campaign expenses within five days after the participating candidate fails to file a timely campaign finance report.

Historical Index

Citizens Clean Elections Act, A.R.S., Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 2

History Note: H.B. 2779 amended the following effective 8/2/2012

- 16-901.01 Limitations on certain unreported expenditures and contributions
- 16-941 Limits on spending and contributions for political campaigns
- 16-945 Limits on early contributions
- 16-946 Qualifying Contributions

- 16-947 Certification as a participating candidate
- 16-949 Controls on spending from citizens clean elections fund
- 16-950 Qualification for clean elections funding
- 16-951 Clean elections funding
- 16-952 One party dominant legislative district
- 16-954 Disposition of excess monies
- 16-956 Voter education and enforcement duties
- 16-958 Manner of filing reports
- 16-959 Inflationary and other adjustments of dollar values
- 16-961 Definitions

History Note: S.B. 1138 amended the following effective 5/7/2012

- 16-941 Limits on spending and contributions for political campaigns
- 16-945 Limits on early contributions
- 16-958 Manner of filing reports

History Note: H.B. 2690 amended the following effective 9/17/07

- 16-905 Contribution limitations: civil penalty: complaint
- 16-941 Limits on spending and contributions for political campaigns
- 16-950 Qualification for clean campaign funding
- 16-952 Equal funding of candidates
- 16-953 return of monies to the citizens clean election fund
- 16-955 Citizens clean election commission: structure
- 16-956 Voter education and enforcement duties
- 16-958 Manner of filing reports
- 16-959 Inflationary and other adjustments of dollar values
- 16-961 Definitions

H.B. 2690 Repealed the following effective 9/17/07

- 16-944 Fees imposed on lobbyists

Arizona Administration Code, Title 2, Chapter 20

History Note: Amendments to commission rules were adopted on the following dates.

Article 1. General Provisions

- R2-20-101 (2),(4),(9),(15) & (18). January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-101(2),(4),(13),(16) & (19). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-101 (11)-(22). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-101 (23). September 17, 2009.
- R-20-101(8). April 21, 2011.
- R2-20-101(4), (10), (23), (24), (25). September 27, 2013.
- R2-20-101. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-102. September 27, 2013.
- R2-20104(8). September 29, 2011
- R2-20105(8). September 29, 2011
- R2-20-212 to R2-20-103(F-G) and R2-20-103(A),(C),(D),(E),(F)&(G). January 28, 2004.

- R2-20-103(G). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-103 (B), (G) & (H). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-104(D), (I) & (J). August 21, 2001.
- R2-20-104 (C) & (G). April 2, 2002.
- R2-20-104. January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-104(B), (F) & (I). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-104 (A)(B)(C)(D)(F)(H) & (I). May 22, 2007
- R2-20-104 (H) & (I). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-104(F). September 17, 2009.
- R2-20-104(C)(8). October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-104(D)(5). May 23, 2013.
- R2-20-104. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-105(C) & (F). August 21, 2001.
- R2-20-105 (D-H). April 30, 2002.
- R2-20-105(I). March 25, 2003.
- R2-20-105 (B)(D)(E)(F)(G) & (I). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-105 (E) & (G). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-105(C). January 17, 2008.
- R2-20-105(B)(C). January 17, 2008.
- R2-20-105(C). October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-105(C)(D). February 9, 2012.
- R2-20-105. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-105(J). May 23, 2013.
- R2-20-106 (B)(D)(E) & (F). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-106 December 14, 2017.
- R2-20-230 moved to R2-20-107 January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-107(A)(B)(C)(E)(F)(G)(H) & (I). January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-107 (B)(G)(H)(I) & (J). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-107(D). September 17, 2009.
- R2-20-107(D)(E)(H)(1)(2). September 17, 2009.
- R2-20-107(E). October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-107(A),(D)&(K). November 21, 2013.
- R2-20-107(D). July 23, 2013.
- R2-20-107. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-108 (A)(B)(C) & (D). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-108 (A)(C). May 20, 2011.
- R2-20-108(C). June 24, 2011.
- R2-20-109(C)(D). August 21, 2001.
- R2-20-109. January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-109(B)(C). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-109(B)(1). November 3, 2005.
- R2-20-109 (A-G). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-109 (G). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-109 (G)(2). January 17, 2008.
- R2-20-109(A)(3)(4). September 17, 2009.
- R2-20-109. October 6, 2011.

- R2-20-109(A) & (C). August 29, 2013.
- R2-20-109(A-G). September 27, 2013.
- R2-20-109(G). May 22, 2014.
- R2-20-109(F). September 11, 2014.
- R2-20-109. August 25, 2016.
- R2-20-109. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-109. December 14, 2017.
- R2-20-110(B). October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-110. May 23, 2013.
- R2-20-110. July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-110. August 25, 2016.
- R2-20-110. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-111(H). August 21, 2001.
- R2-20-111. January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-111(B). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-111 (B) & (C). May 22, 2007
- R2-20-111(C). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-111(B)(1)(f). September 17, 2009.
- R2-20-111(B). July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-111. August 25, 2016.
- R2-20-111. December 15, 2016.
- R2-10-111. December 14, 2017.
- R2-20-112. August 21, 2001.
- R2-20-112. January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-112(D). August 23, 2007.
- R2-20-112(A-C). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-112. October 22, 2009.
- R2-20-112. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-113. January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-113 (A) & (B). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-113 (A-G). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-113 (B). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-113 (A)(1),(B)(b)(i). November 19, 2009
- R2-20-113 (F). November 19, 2009.
- R2-20-113. October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-113. July 23, 2015. (New Rule)
- R2-20-114. August 25, 2016. (New Rule)
- R2-20-115. August 25, 2016. (New Rule)

Article 2. Compliance and Enforcement Procedures

- R2-20-203(A)&(C) January 28, 2004
- R2-20-204. July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-205. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-205. July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-206. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-206. July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-208(A) & (B). January 28, 2004
- R2-20-212 (Rule moved to R2-20-103(F-G)). January 28, 2004

- R2-20-214(C). January 28, 2004
- R2-20-217(B). January 28, 2004
- R2-20-218. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-223. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-223(A). July 21, 2011
- R2-20-229 (Rule moved to R2-20-107) January 28, 2004
- R2-20-230 (Rule moved to R2-20-107). January 28, 2004
- R2-20-207(A) (B). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-211(A) (B.) September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-213(C). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-215(C). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-222(A) & (B). September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-222(A) & (B). May 23, 2013.
- R2-20-222(C) September 27, 2013.
- R2-20-222(B-D). May 22, 2014.

Article 3. Standard of Conduct for Commissioners and Employees

History Note:

- R2-20-303 September 13, 2007.
- R2-20-304 September 13, 2007.

Article 4. Audits

History Note:

- R2-20-401. October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-401.1 October 6, 2011.
- R2-20-402 –R2-20-406 renumbered R2-20-702 - R2-20-706. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-402. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-402.01. June 21, 2007.
- R2-20-402.01. July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-402.01. December 15, 2016
- R2-20-402.01. September 28, 2017
- R2-20-402.02. December 15, 2016
- R2-20-403(B). March 20, 2004
- R2-20-404(A). January 17, 2008.

Article 5. Rulemaking

No Historical Notes.

Article 6. Ex Parte Communications

No Historical Notes

Article 7. Use of Funds and Repayment

History Note:

- R2-20-702 - R2-20-706 renumbered R2-20-402 - R2-20-406. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-701. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-702. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-702. March 30, 2004
- R2-20-702(C)(1). September 29, 2011
- R2-20-702. September 29, 2011

- R2-20-702(C) March 30, 2004
- R2-20-702(B) (C). March 30, 2004
- R2-20-702(D) (E). May 22, 2007.
- R2-20-702(7). November 19, 2009.
- R2-20-702(C) (2) (3) (3) (h) (6). February 17, 2011.
- R2-20-702(C) & (D). October 6, 2013.
- R2-20-702(C)(6). May 23, 2013.
- R2-20-702.01. July 12, 2007.
- R2-20-702.01. September 17, 2009.
- R2-20-702(C). February 17, 2011
- R2-20-702. October 6, 2011
- R2-20-702. August 25, 2016.
- R2-20702. July 20, 2017
- R2-20-703(A) March 30, 2004
- R2-20-703 (from R2-20-107(C)(E)(F)). January 28, 2004
- R2-20-703(A)(3). July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-703. December 15, 2016.
- R2-20-703.01. July 20, 2017
- R2-20-704(D). March 30, 2004.
- R2-20-704(A)(4). July 23, 2015.
- R2-20-710(A-C). January 28, 2004.
- R2-20-707 moved to R2-20-704. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-708 moved to R2-20-705. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-709. January 28, 2004
- R2-20-710 to R2-20-703(A). January 28, 2004