

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
LEGAL NOTICE**

**ORDINANCE NO. 4009
Adopted by the City Council on MARCH 17, 2014**

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH AMENDING CHAPTER 2.07 OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO CAMPAIGN REFORM”

SYNOPSIS:

In 2008 the City entered into a contract with NetFile to develop and maintain an Electronic Filing (E-File) system that permits the City of Huntington Beach and authorized users to file Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Campaign Disclosure forms electronically. The E-filing and administrative system for campaign disclosure was implemented and offered freely and voluntarily to all active candidates and campaign committees in 2008.

The E-filing and administrative system for filing the Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) – Form 700 was introduced and implemented in 2012 as a free, mandatory process for all individuals required by resolution to file annual conflict of interest statements. In September 2012, the California Secretary of State filed Assembly Bill No. 2062, Davis. Political Reform Act of 1974: statements of economic interests: electronic filing. In response to the passage of the bill, in 2013 the City sought and received certification by the FPPC to receive and accept E-filed SEI forms.

On July 13, 2012 the California Secretary of State filed Assembly Bill No. 2452, Ammiano. Political Reform Act of 1974. As codified, Section 84615 states, “A local government agency may require an elected officer, candidate, committee, or other person required to file statements, reports, or other documents required by Chapter 4...” and requires that, “The legislative body for the local governmental agency shall adopt an ordinance approving the use of online or electronic filing, which shall include a legislative finding that the online or electronic filing system will operate securely and effectively and would not unduly burden filers.”

Huntington Beach has an electronic filing system in compliance with the legislation above which:

- only accepts filings in standardized record format developed by and compatible with the Secretary of State and associated filing system;
- includes a procedure for filers to comply with the requirement that they sign statements and reports under penalty of perjury pursuant to GC §81004;
- ensures the integrity of the data transmitted and shall include safeguards against efforts to tamper with, manipulate, alter, or subvert the data;
- makes all data available on the Internet in an easily understood format that provides the greatest public access; and,
- enables filers to complete and submit filings free of charge.

As Local Filing Official, the City Clerk is responsible to receive, review, store and make accessible to the public campaign disclosure information. In tandem with Section 84615 of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Act) that allows local government agencies to require e-filing of campaign disclosure documents, this action support the City’s ongoing green efforts to reduce the paper and fuel waste necessary to print and deliver campaign documents to City Hall. It reduces staff time as the electronic filing system automates pre-deadline and late-filer notices and also incorporates an initial review process that alerts the filer of errors at the time he or she is entering their information, thereby minimizing the need for staff to request amendments. The system also automatically redacts without the need for staff to do so before posting. It increases transparency as documents will be available on the City’s Website immediately upon filing and while the data filed cannot be changed, it can be downloaded for sorting and comparing, versus static information received from a PDF of the non electronic form.

There are computers available in the public library, but also one will be made available in the City Clerk's office for any filer who needs to utilize it. Regular training is also offered to filers and treasurers.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting held March 17, 2014 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Katapodis, Hardy, Shaw, Harper, Boardman, Sullivan, Carchio

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

THE FULL TEXT OF THE ORDINANCE IS AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.

This ordinance is effective 30 days after adoption.

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
2000 MAIN STREET
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648
714-536-5227
JOAN L. FLYNN, CITY CLERK**