Ethics Commission San Francisco Political Advertising Disclaimers



San Francisco Ethics Commission

25 Van Ness, Suite 220 | San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: (415) 252-3100 | **Fax:** (415) 252-3112

 $\textbf{Email:} \underline{ethics.commission@sfgov.org}$

Web: www.sfethics.org

II. Independent Expenditure Ads Referring to City Candidates

COMMUNICATION	DISCLAIMER AND MANNER OF DISPLAY
Print ads designed to be individually distributed including mailings, door hangers, flyers, faxes, posters, newspaper and magazine ads and oversized campaign buttons and bumper stickers (buttons ten (10) inches in diameter or larger and stickers sixty (60) square inches or larger)	 "Ad paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 410 or 461) "Committee major funding from [names of top three donors of \$10,000 or more]" each listed on a separate horizontal line, centered horizontally, in descending order, beginning with the largest contributor (not applicable to non-recipient committees) Newspaper, magazine or other print advertisements that are twenty (20) square inches or less must only disclose the single top contributor of \$50,000 or more "Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org." "This advertisement was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate" Disclaimer Format: Text must be in Arial equivalent font, in at least 12-point size, in a contrasting color, and located in a printed or drawn box with a solid white background at the bottom of at least one page and set apart from other printed matter "Committee major funding from" and "Not authorized by" disclaimers may not appear in all capital letters

ore]" arated b <i>le to nor</i>
rolled b
five nat is
t
i ore]" in recipient
rolled by
end
ors of

Television and video ads (including

those disseminated over the Internet)

- "Ad paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 410 or 461)
- "Committee major funding from [names of top three donors of \$10,000 or more]" in descending order, beginning with the largest contributor (not applicable to non-recipient committees)
- "Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org."
- "This advertisement was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate"
- **Disclaimer Format:** Text must be in a contrasting color and in Arial equivalent type and must be underlined. The size for the smallest letters in the disclaimer must be four percent (4%) of the height of the display screen unless this causes the name of any top contributors to exceed the width of the screen or causes the disclaimers to exceed one-third (1/3) of the display screen, the type size of the name of the top contributor shall be reduced until the name fits on the width of the screen or the entire disclaimer fits within one-third (1/3) of the display screen, but in no case shall the type size be smaller than 2.5 percent (2.5%) of the height of the screen. Disclaimer must appear on a solid black background on the entire bottom third (1/3) of the display screen, or bottom one-fourth (1/4) of the screen if the committee has no top contributors

Disclaimer must be displayed at the end of the ad for at least five (5) seconds of a broadcast of thirty (30) seconds or less or for at least ten (10) seconds of a broadcast longer than thirty (30) seconds. The disclaimer must be spoken at the end of the advertisement.

Top contributors must be disclosed on a separate horizontal line and centered horizontally and is not required to be underlined

The "**Not authorized by**" disclaimer must appear below all other text in the solid black background in a contrasting color, in Arial equivalent type, and in no less than 2.5 percent (2.5%) of the height of the display screen and is not required to be underlined

The "Committee major funding from" and "Not authorized by" disclaimers may not appear in all capital letters

Electronic media ads not covered below (except video ads, see above), and email	 "Who funded this ad" text as a hyperlink in a contrasting color and font size that is easily readable by the average viewer*
	 Must hyperlink to a website containing the "Ad paid for by," "Committee major funding from," "Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org," and "Not authorized by" disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font
	 "Committee major funding from" and "Not authorized by" disclaimers may not appear in all capital letters
	Must remain online until thirty (30) days after the date of election
	*This text is not required if including it is impracticable. In such circumstances the ad need only include a hyperlink to a website containing the website disclaimers.
Social media ads	"Ad paid for by," "Committee major funding from," "Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org," and "Not authorized by" disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font on the committee's profile, landing page, or similar location and is not required to include disclaimers on each individual post or comment
	"Committee major funding from" and "Not authorized by" disclaimers may notappear in all capital letters
	Not required when the only expense or cost of the communication is compensated staff time unless the account was created only for the purpose of ads under the Act
Website	"Paid for by," "Committee major funding from," "Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org," and "Not authorized by" disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font
	"Committee major funding from" and "Not authorized by" disclaimers may not appear in all capital letters
Electronic media ads that are audio only	See disclaimer requirements for radio ads above

The guidance above incorporates requirements imposed pursuant to state <u>and</u> San Francisco law. The information on this chart does not carry the force of law. If there are any discrepancies between the chart and state or local law or their corresponding regulations and opinions, the law, regulations and opinions will control.

Revised: March 2019