

San Francisco Ethics Commission
Filing Schedule for
Major Donor and Independent Expenditure Committees
Making Contributions or Independent Expenditures in Connection with the
November 3, 2020 Election



Deadline	Period	Form	Notes
Within 10 Days <i>Independent Expenditure Verification</i>	Ongoing	462	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committees making independent expenditures must file this statement with the FPPC. Email only. No paper copy is required. Committees file only one Form 462 per election for each candidate or measure supported or opposed by an independent expenditure.
July 31, 2020 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	* – 6/30/20	461	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file this statement.
Within 24 Hours <i>Contribution/Independent Expenditure Reports</i>	8/5/20 – 11/3/20	496 ¹ 497	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 496: 496: File if an independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is made in connection with a candidate or measure being voted upon November 3, 2020. 497: File if a contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is made to or in connection with a candidate or measure being voted upon November 3, 2020.
Sept 24, 2020 <i>1st Pre-Election</i>	7/1/20 – 9/19/20	461	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if the committee makes contributions or expenditures² totaling \$500 or more during the period covered by the pre-election statement.
Oct 22, 2020 <i>2nd Pre-Election</i>	9/20/20 – 10/17/20	461	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if the committee makes contributions or expenditures² totaling \$500 or more during the period covered by the pre-election statement.
Oct 30, 2020 <i>3rd Pre-Election</i>	10/18/20 – 10/28/20	461	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if the committee makes contributions or expenditures² totaling \$500 or more during the period covered by the pre-election statement.
Feb 1, 2021 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	* – 12/31/20	461	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File only if contributions or independent expenditures were made in 2020 and not disclosed on an earlier statement.

Additional Notes:

- * **Period Covered:** The period covered by any statement begins on the day after the closing date of the last statement filed, or January 1, if no previous statement has been filed.

¹ A copy of any advertisement associated with a Form 496 filing must be filed with the Ethics Commission at the time the e-filing is required ([specification notes](#)).

² Fees for the establishment or administration of the committee do not count towards the \$500 threshold requiring the pre-election statement.

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Additional Notes Cont.:

- **Deadline Extensions:** Deadlines are extended when they fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. This extension does not apply to the deadline for a Form 497 due the weekend before the election, or to any Form 496. Form 496 reports must be filed within 24 hours regardless of the day of the week.
- **Method of Delivery:** All reports must be filed [e-filed](#).
- **Form SFEC 114.5:** Each committee which receives contributions that in aggregate total \$5,000 or more in a single calendar year, which were made at the behest of a City elective officer, must file this form no later than the deadline to file its semi-annual or pre-election statement.
- **Form SFEC 124:** Each committee which receives contributions that in aggregate total \$10,000 or more during an election cycle, from a single business entity, must file this form no later than the deadline to file its semi-annual or pre-election statement.
- **Form 511 – Paid Spokesperson Report:** File within 10 days of making either of the following expenditures related to an advertisement to support or oppose a ballot measure: 1) A payment totaling \$5,000 or more to an individual to appear in an advertisement, or 2) A payment of any amount to an individual portraying a member of a licensed occupation (e.g., nurse, doctor, firefighter).
- **Multipurpose Organizations (including non-profits):** A multipurpose organization that uses its general dues account to make contributions or expenditures may qualify as a major donor or independent expenditure committee and may be required to report payments on Campaign Form 461. Such an organization will qualify as a recipient committee if expenditures exceed \$50,000 in a 12-month period or \$100,000 in four consecutive calendar years. An organization that qualifies as a recipient committee may need to file reports disclosing contributors. For more information, see the FPPC's fact sheet, Campaign Reporting Rules for Multipurpose Organizations.
- **Late Filing Fines:** Late filed statements required to be e-filed will be assessed a \$25 per day late fine, until the statement is e-filed. Late filed statements required to be filed on paper will be assessed a \$10 per day late fine, until the statement is filed.
- **Public Documents:** All forms are public documents. Instructional information is available at www.sfethics.org. Click on Compliance, then Contributors & Third Parties.
- **Advertisement Disclaimers:** Many advertisements require disclaimers, please review [disclaimer charts](#) for specific disclaimer requirements.
- **Committee Status:** A city committee may make contributions or independent expenditures in connection with other elections. Generally, a city committee is one that spends more than 70% of its funds in connection with elections in one city. See [FPPC Regulation 18227.5](#) to determine whether your committee is a city, county or state committee.
- **Complete Committee Treasurer Training – File Form 107:** [Training for Committee Treasurers](#)