

California Fair Political Practices Commission
Update of Rules Regarding the Filing of Expanded Statements of Economic Interests by Public Officials with Multiple Positions

In November 2020, the Commission updated its regulations governing the filing of an Expanded Statement of Economic Interests (an “Expanded Statement”) by a public official who holds multiple positions. The goal of this fact sheet is to help filing officers, filing officials, and officials with multiple positions to understand the updated rules governing the filing of an Expanded Statement.¹

Background

In order to reduce redundant filing obligations, which did not provide additional disclosure, and to improve Commission and agency staff efficiency, the Commission has updated the rules governing filing of Expanded Statements.

The Political Reform Act² governs the filing of Statements of Economic Interests (“SEIs”) by public officials, including officials specified in Section 87200 (Sections 87202 – 87204), designated employees (Section 87302), candidates for any elective office designated in a conflict of interest code (Section 87302.3), and members of boards or commissions of newly created agencies (Section 87302.6).

Prior to the update, certain officials with multiple positions were authorized to file an Expanded Statement covering all reportable interests, but minor modification and additional guidance on filing rules and processes for Expanded Statements was necessary.

New Regulation 18723.1

New Regulation 18723.1(a) defines “Expanded Statement of Economic Interests,” “primary position,” and “additional position” for purposes of the regulation. Subdivision (c) authorizes, but does not require, an official with multiple positions subject to filing obligations to file an Expanded Statement for each position, rather than a separate and distinct SEI for each position. That provision also specifies processes for filing such a statement: the original Expanded Statement is filed for the official’s primary position and a copy of that Expanded Statement is filed for each additional position. **An Expanded Statement may not be filed for filing obligations covering different filing periods.**

¹ This fact sheet is informational only and contains only highlights of selected provisions of the law. It does not carry the weight of the law. For further information, consult the Political Reform Act and its corresponding regulations, advice letters, and opinions.

² The Act is contained in Government Code Sections 81000 through 91014. All statutory references are to the Government Code, unless otherwise indicated. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. All regulatory references are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations, unless otherwise indicated.

Subdivision (a) provides criteria for determining which position is the official's primary position.

Subdivision (a) also requires an official who files an Expanded Statement to list all positions for which the Expanded Statement is submitted. Subdivision (b), however, provides that a statewide elected officer is not required to list additional positions and is not required to file a copy of the Expanded Statement for additional positions as they already provide full disclosure throughout the State.

In regard to assuming office or leaving office Expanded Statements, subdivision (c)(4) only authorizes an official with multiple positions to file such an Expanded Statement if the official assumes or leaves each position on the same day.

Subdivision (e) requires the Expanded Statement to be submitted in paper format if the Commission's electronic filing system or the agency's approved electronic filing system is incapable of processing the Expanded Statement.

In order to improve filing official and Commission staff efficiency, subdivision (f) expressly provides that if an official files a copy of an Expanded Statement for an additional position, that copy is not required to be forwarded to the Commission.