



CITY OF HOUSTON

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Mayor

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To: All Candidates

Subject: Campaign Contributions

The period for solicitation and acceptance of campaign contributions by persons who are candidates for City elective office in the November General Election commenced on February 1, 2013. CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES §18-35.

Attached is a copy of Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances. A summary of some key provisions follows:

- Candidates will be required to file a comprehensive personal financial statement on or before September 16, 2013. See §145.004(c), Texas Local Government Code. The statement will cover the period from January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012. See Article III of Chapter 18, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.
- Political contributions may not be delivered in the City Hall or Margaret Westerman City Hall Annex or any building used by the planning commission. See §18-32, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.
- Political contributions may not be solicited on behalf of any candidate by any member of the following boards or commissions who is appointed to the board or commission by the City of Houston, nor may candidates accept political contributions that were solicited by such persons (see §18-33(a), (b), CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES):
 - Houston Ethics Commission
 - Houston Planning Commission
 - Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO)
 - Port of Houston Authority of Harris County
 - Harris County-Houston Sports Authority Board
- Subject to change as terms expire and members resign from time to time, the following are appointees of the City as of July 27, 2013:

Houston Ethics Commission	
Amy Dunn Taylor	Position 1
Christine Diaz	Position 2
Eugene Boisaubin	Position 3
Franklin Jones	Position 4
Rick Cagney	Position 5

Nomaan Husain	Position 6, Chair
John Jay Douglass	Position 7
Houston Planning Commission	
Martha "Marty" Stein	Position 1
Truman Edminster, III	Position 2
James Jard	Position 3
Susan Alleman	Position 4
Mark Kilkenny	Position 5
Fernando Brave	Position 6
Blake Tartt III	Position 7
Keiji Asakura	Position 8
Lisa Clark	Position 9
Kenneth J. Bohan	Position 10
Shaukat Zakaria	Position 11
Algenita Scott Davis	Position 12
Eileen Subinsky	Position 13
Brandon Dudley	Position 14
Edward Emmett	Position 15
Edward Chance	Position 16
James Prestage	Position 17
Paul Nelson	Position 18
Linda Porrás-Pirtle	Position 19
Antoine Bryant	Position 20
Medardo "Sonny" Garza	Position 21
Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (City's appointees)	
Gilbert Andrew Garcia	Position 1, Chair
Allen Watson	Position 2
Dwight Jefferson	Position 3
Carrin Patman	Position 4
Christof Spieler	Position 5
Port of Houston Authority of Harris County (City's appointees)	
Janiece M. Longoria	Position 1, Chair
Kase L. Lawal	Position 3
Dean Corgy	Position 7
Harris County-Houston Sports Authority Board (City's appointees)	
Philamena Baird	Position 1
Chau Nguyen Todd	Position 2
Matthew Rogers, Jr.	Position 4
Gregory D. Compean	Position 5
Stephen M. Fraga	Position 11

- Solicitation of political contributions by City employees during their work hours is restricted. See §18-33(c), CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

- The acceptance of political contributions from persons who have litigation pending against the City is restricted. See §18-34, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.
- Candidates for the November 5, 2013, City General Election may neither solicit nor receive political contributions except during the period from February 1, 2013, through March 4, 2014. If there is a runoff election, those persons who are candidates in the runoff election may continue to solicit political contributions through April 4, 2014. See §18-35, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.
- The acceptance of political contributions from City contractors is restricted. See §18-36, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES and the definitions of “contract,” “contract award period” and “contractor” in §18-2, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES. It is necessary to check the weekly City Council agendas in order to determine which persons may not make political contributions at any given time. Additionally, the City Secretary maintains and posts a contractor list to assist candidates with compliance.
- The use of campaign funds to reimburse or repay personal loans is restricted, and the amount allowed depends upon the office that is sought. See §18-37, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.
- There is an aggregate contribution limit of \$5,000 per election for contributors other than political action committees; and a \$10,000 per election aggregate contribution limit for political action committees, including “coordinated campaign expenditures.” Additional restrictions apply to transferred campaign and office holder funds. See §18-38, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The foregoing is intended only as a summary. It is the responsibility of each candidate to comply with local and state election laws. Each violation is punishable by a penal fine of up to \$500 and continuing violations are a separate offense for each day. See §§18-41, 1-6, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES. A copy of this memorandum is being provided to each current City elected office holder. You are requested to provide a copy to each person who files a campaign treasurer designation with intent to run in the November General Election.

Attachment (Chapter 18, CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES)