

requested. When a request for special mailing or delivery services is received the Commission will package the records requested. The requestor will make all arrangements for pick-up and delivery of the requested materials. The requestor shall pay all costs associated with special mailing or delivery services directly to the courier or mail service.

(5) Upon receipt of any request for the production of computer tape or microfilm, the Commission will advise the requestor of the identity of the private contractor who will perform the duplication services. If fees are charged for the production of computer tape or microfilm, they shall be made payable to that private contractor and shall be forwarded to the Commission.

(d) *Interest charges.* FOIA requestors should pay fees within 30 days following the day on which the invoice for that request was sent to the requestor. If the invoice is unpaid on the 31st day following the day on which the invoice was sent, the Commission will begin assessing interest charges, which will accrue from the date the invoice was mailed. Interest will be charged at a rate that is equal to the average investment rate for the Treasury tax and loan accounts for the 12-month period ending on September 30 of each year, rounded to the nearest whole percentage point, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3717. The accrual of interest will be stayed by the Commission's receipt of the fee, even if the fee has not yet been processed.

(e) *Aggregating requests.* A requestor may not file multiple requests, each seeking portions of a document or documents, in order to avoid payment of fees. When the Commission reasonably believes that a FOIA requestor or group of requestors acting in concert is attempting to break a request down into a series of requests for the purpose of evading the assessment of fees, the Commission will aggregate any such requests and charge the appropriate fees. In making this determination, the Commission will consider the time period in which the requests have occurred, the relationship of the requestors, and the subject matter of the requests.

(f) *Advance payments.* The Commission will require a requestor to make an advance payment, *i.e.*, a payment

before work is commenced or continued on a request, when:

(1) The Commission estimates or determines that allowable charges that a requestor may be required to pay are likely to exceed \$250. In such a case, the Commission will notify the requestor of the likely cost and, where the requestor has a history of prompt payment of FOIA fees, obtain satisfactory assurance of full payment, or in the case of a requestor with no FOIA fee payment history, the Commission will require an advance payment of an amount up to the full estimated charges; or

(2) A requestor has previously failed to pay a fee in a timely fashion (*i.e.*, within 30 days of the date of the billing). In such a case, the Commission may require that the requestor pay the full amount owed plus any applicable interest or demonstrate that the fee has been paid and make an advance payment of the full amount of the estimated fee before the Commission begins to process a new request or a pending request from that requestor.

(3) If the provisions of paragraph (f) (1) or (2) of this section apply, the administrative time limits prescribed in 11 CFR 4.7(c) will begin only after the Commission has received the payments or the requestor has made acceptable arrangements to make the payments required by paragraph (f) (1) or (2) of this section.

[52 FR 39213, Oct. 21, 1987, as amended at 75 FR 31, Jan. 4, 2010]

## PART 5—ACCESS TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE DIVISION DOCUMENTS

Sec.

- 5.1 Definitions.
- 5.2 Policy on disclosure of records.
- 5.3 Scope.
- 5.4 Availability of records.
- 5.5 Request for records.
- 5.6 Fees.

AUTHORITY: 2 U.S.C. 437f(d), 437g(a)(4)(B)(ii), 438(a), and 31 U.S.C. 9701.

SOURCE: 45 FR 31293, May 13, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

### §5.1 Definitions.

(a) *Commission* means the Federal Election Commission established by

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the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

(b) *Commissioner* means an individual appointed to the Federal Election Commission pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437c(a).

(c) *Request* means to seek access to Commission materials subject to the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

(d) *Requestor* is any person who submits a request to the Commission.

(e) *Act* means the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended by the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, 1976, and 1979, and unless specifically excluded, includes chapters 95 and 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 relating to public financing of Federal elections.

(f) *Public Disclosure Division* of the Commission is that division which is responsible for, among other things, the processing of requests for public access to records which are submitted to the Commission pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(B)(ii), and 438(a).

[45 FR 31293, May 13, 1980, as amended at 65 FR 9207, Feb. 24, 2000]

### § 5.2 Policy on disclosure of records.

(a) The Commission will make the fullest possible disclosure of records to the public, consistent with the rights of individuals to privacy, the rights of persons contracting with the Commission with respect to trade secrets and commercial or financial information entitled to confidential treatment, and the need for the Commission to promote free internal policy deliberations and to pursue its official activities without undue disruption.

(b) Nothing herein shall be deemed to restrict the public availability of Commission records falling outside provisions of the Act, or to restrict such public access to Commission records as is available pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and the rules set forth as part 4 of this chapter.

### § 5.3 Scope.

(a) The regulations in this part implement the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 437f(d), 437g(a)(4)(B)(ii), and 438(a).

(b) Public access to such Commission records as are subject to the collateral provisions of the Freedom of Information Act and are not included in the

material subject to disclosure under this part (described in 11 CFR 5.4(a)) shall be governed by the rules set forth as part 4 of this chapter.

### § 5.4 Availability of records.

(a) In accordance with 2 U.S.C. 438(a), the Commission shall make the following material available for public inspection and copying through the Commission's Public Disclosure Division:

(1) Reports of receipts and expenditures, designations of campaign depositories, statements of organization, candidate designations of campaign committees and the indices compiled from the filings therein.

(2) Requests for advisory opinions, written comments submitted in connection therewith, and responses issued by the Commission.

(3) With respect to enforcement matters, any conciliation agreement entered into between the Commission and any respondent.

(4) Opinions of Commissioners rendered in enforcement cases and General Counsel's Reports and non-exempt 2 U.S.C. 437g investigatory materials shall be placed on the public record of the Agency no later than 30 days from the date on which all respondents are notified that the Commission has voted to close such an enforcement file.

(5) Letter requests for guidance and responses thereto.

(6) The minutes of Commission meetings.

(7) Material routinely prepared for public distribution, e.g. campaign guidelines, FEC Record, press releases, speeches, notices to candidates and committees.

(8) Audit reports (if discussed in open session).

(9) Agendas for Commission meetings.

(b) The provisions of this part apply only to existing records; nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the creation of new records.

(c) In order to ensure the integrity of the Commission records subject to the Act and the maximum availability of such records to the public, nothing herein shall be construed as permitting the physical removal of any Commission records from the public facilities maintained by the Public Disclosure

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Division other than copies of such records obtained in accordance with the provisions of this part.

(d) Release of records under this section is subject to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a.

[45 FR 31293, May 13, 1980, as amended at 65 FR 9207, Feb. 24, 2000]

### § 5.5 Request for records.

(a) A request to inspect or copy those public records described in 11 CFR 5.4(a) may be made in person or by mail. The Public Disclosure Division is open Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and is located on the first floor, 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20463.

(b) Each request shall describe the records sought with sufficient specificity with respect to names, dates and subject matter to permit the records to be located with a reasonable amount of effort. A requester will be promptly advised if the requested records cannot be located on the basis of the description given and that further identifying information must be provided before the request can be satisfied.

(c) Requests for copies of records not available through the Public Disclosure Division shall be addressed to the Chief FOIA Officer, Federal Election Commission, 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20463. Requests for Commission records not described in 11 CFR 5.4(a) shall be treated as requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and shall be governed by 11 CFR part 4. In the event that the Public Disclosure Division receives a written request for access to materials not described in 11 CFR 5.4(a), it shall promptly forward such request to the Commission FOIA Officer for processing in accordance with the provisions of part 4 of this chapter.

[45 FR 31293, May 13, 1980, as amended at 50 FR 50778, Dec. 12, 1985; 75 FR 31, Jan. 4, 2010]

### § 5.6 Fees.

(a)(1) Fees will be charged for copies of records which are furnished to a requester under this part and for the staff time spent in locating and reproducing such records. The fees to be levied for services rendered under this part shall not exceed the Commission's

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direct cost of processing requests for those records computed on the basis of the actual number of copies produced and the staff time expended in fulfilling the particular request, in accordance with the following schedule of standard fees:

Photocopying from microfilm reader-printer—\$.15 per page

Photocopying from photocopying machines—\$.05 per page

Paper copies from microfilm—Paper Print Machine—\$.05 per frame/page

#### REELS OF MICROFILM

Daily film (partial or complete roll)—\$2.85 per roll

Other film (partial or complete roll)—\$5.00 per roll

#### PUBLICATIONS: (NEW OR NOT FROM STOCKS AVAILABLE)

Cost of photocopying (reproducing) document—\$.05 per page

Cost of binding document—\$.30 per inch

Plus cost of staff research time after first ½ hour (see Research Time)

#### PUBLICATIONS: (AVAILABLE STOCK)

If available from stock on hand, cost is based on previously calculated cost as stated in the publication (based on actual cost per copy, including reproduction and binding).

#### COMPUTER TAPES:

Cost (\$.0006 per Computer Resource Unit Utilized—CRU) to process the request plus the cost of the computer tape (\$25) and professional staff time (see Research Time). The cost varies based upon request.

#### COMPUTER INDEXES:

No charge for 20 or fewer requests for computer indexes, except for a name search as described below.

C Index—Committee Index of Disclosure Documents—No charge for requests of 20 or fewer committee ID numbers. Requests for more than 20 ID numbers will cost \$.05 for each ID number requested.

E Index (Parts 1-4)—Candidate Index of Supporting Documents—No charge for requests of 20 or fewer candidate ID numbers. Requests for more than 20 ID numbers will cost \$.10 for each ID number requested.

D Index—Committee Index or Candidates Supported/Opposed—No charge for requests of 20 or fewer committee ID numbers. Requests for more than 20 ID numbers will cost \$.30 for each committee ID number requested.

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E Index (Complete)—Candidate Index of Supporting Documents—No charge for requests of 20 or fewer committee ID numbers. Requests for more than 20 ID numbers will cost \$2.00 for each candidate ID number requested.

G Index—Selected List of Receipts and Expenditures—No charge for requests of 20 or fewer committee ID numbers. Requests for more than 20 ID numbers will cost \$2.00 for each ID number requested.

Other computer index requests for more than 20 ID numbers will cost \$.0006 per CRU (Computer Resource Unit) utilized.

Name Search—A computer search of an entire individual contributor file for contributions made by a particular individual or individuals will cost \$.0006 per CRU (Computer Resource Unit) utilized.

### RESEARCH TIME/PHOTOCOPYING TIME

Clerical: First ½ hour is free; remaining time costs \$4.50 per each half hour (agency average of staff below a GS-11) for each request.

Professional: First ½ hour is free; remaining time costs \$12.40 per each half hour (agency average of staff at GS-11 and above) for each request.

### OTHER CHARGES

Certification of a Document: \$7.35 per quarter hour.

Transcripts of Commission meetings not previously transcribed: \$7.50 per half hour (equivalent of a GS-11 executive secretary).

(2) Upon receipt of any request for the production of computer tape or microfilm, the Commission will advise the requester of the identity of the private contractor who will perform the duplication services. The fee for the production of computer tape or microfilm shall be made payable to that private contractor and shall be forwarded to the Commission.

(b) Commission publications for which fees will be charged under 11 CFR 5.6(a) include, but are not limited to, the following:

Advisory Opinion Index  
Report on Financial Activity  
Financial Control and Compliance Manual  
MUR Index  
Guideline for Presentation in Good Order  
Office Account Index

(c) In the event the anticipated fees for all pending requests from the same requester exceed \$25.00, records will not be searched, nor copies furnished, until the requester pays, or makes accept-

able arrangements to pay, the total amount due.

Similarly, if the records requested require the production of microfilm or of computer tapes, the Commission will not instruct its contractor to duplicate the records until the requester has submitted payment as directed or has made acceptable arrangements to pay the total amount due. If any fee is not precisely ascertainable, an estimate will be made by the Commission and the requester will be required to forward the fee so estimated. In the event any advance payment differs from the actual fee, an appropriate adjustment will be made at the time the copies are made available by the Commission.

(d) The Commission may reduce or waive payments of fees hereunder if it determines that such waiver or reduction is in the public interest because the furnishing of the requested information to the particular requester involved can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public as opposed to primarily benefiting the person or organization requesting the information.

[49 FR 30460, July 31, 1984, as amended at 52 FR 39214, Oct. 21, 1987]

## PART 6—ENFORCEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF HANDICAP IN PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sec.

- 6.101 Purpose.
- 6.102 Application.
- 6.103 Definitions.
- 6.104-6.109 [Reserved]
- 6.110 Evaluation.
- 6.111 Notice.
- 6.112-6.129 [Reserved]
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- 6.131-6.139 [Reserved]
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- 6.151 Program accessibility: New construction and alterations.
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