



Newsletter

ELECtronic

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ISSUE

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AN ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION NEWSLETTER
"Furthering the Interest of an Informed Citizenry"

Comments from the Chairman

Eric H. Jaso

"Freedom is hammered out on the anvil of discussion, dissent and debate." --

Hubert H. Humphrey

For its next meeting on April 13, the Commission has scheduled a public hearing to select debate sponsors for the upcoming gubernatorial primary election.

We did this even though there are no sponsor applicants, and indeed little chance that any debates will be held.

As of now only two candidates, Democratic Governor Phil Murphy and Republican Jack Ciattarelli, have qualified for public funds.

Two candidates in each party are needed to qualify for public funds in order for primary debates to be held.

To qualify to receive public matching funds in the primary, a candidate must raise and spend \$490,000 by April 5, the last day for filing petitions to run in the gubernatorial primary. In addition, a

candidate must notify the Commission in writing of his or her intention to participate in the program. As a condition of participation in public funding, candidates must agree to participate in two interactive debates.

Within 30 days of the March 15 sponsor application deadline, ELEC must hold a public hearing where potential sponsors can present their proposals. The Commissioners discuss the applicants and then vote to select one or more sponsors.

Further, it is the Commission's statutory responsibility to determine the number of primary election debates for which each organization is responsible.

The Commission also determines the party affiliation of the candidates in each debate and provides each sponsor with a list of those candidates.

The law also requires that each sponsor submit a calendar to the Commission indicating the date, time, location, and plans for television and other media coverage.

Sponsors must also agree not to endorse any candidate for nomination in the pending primary election.

Despite the lack of competition in this year's gubernatorial primary, the Commission announced its public hearing on debate sponsorship for April 13, 2021, with the caveat that the public hearing will be cancelled if it is unnecessary.

Though it appears there will be neither an applicant for sponsorship nor two participating candidates in either party's primary, the Commission will announce plans for an expedited process for soliciting applications and selecting a sponsor in the unlikely event that one or more additional candidates qualifies for public funds.

If such candidates emerge, and the Commission is unable to obtain proposals and select a sponsor by April 13, the Commission may choose to hold a second public hearing.

For the general election, assuming both Murphy and Ciattarelli still qualify for public funds, the Commission will again go through the process of selecting a sponsor and establishing a time and date for the general election debates.

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Executive Director's Thoughts

Jeff Brindle

Heavy Reliance on Executive Orders Shows Need for Stronger Political Parties

Reprinted from insidernj.com

These are unsettling times. Social unrest, braced by an increasingly polarized politics, made worse by the pandemic, has brought about a heightened sense of division in society and dissatisfaction with government.

Given the circumstances, it may be time to take a serious look toward strengthening political parties as a means of restoring regular order to government and calmness to society.

Gladden Pappin, Assistant Professor of Politics at the University of Dallas, writing in *American Affairs*, pointed out that "satisfaction with American political institutions is decreasing."

In his February 2020 article Pappin continued, "It is evident that there is no institution within which the country's disparate interests can negotiate their differences with real consequences for political decision-making."

Political parties may be able to fill this void. As important historical institutions, they have been an integral part of American electoral and governmental processes. As such, they can help restore trust and efficacy to government and decision-making.

Americans right now feel alienated toward their own government.

No better example exists than the seeming blind eye they show toward the use of executive orders by recent presidents to effectuate policy.

If government was working effectively the Congress would address policy making through the legislative process rather than surrendering its responsibility to presidents who have turned to executive orders to bring about policies.

There has been little public outcry over the use of executive orders. This suggests the public wants government to get things done, regardless of whether the best constitutional process is followed.

Article I, Section 7 of the U.S. Constitution sets forth the process for passing legislation. Laws should be enacted by Congress subject to presidential veto and potential override.

Too often, however, presidents have relied on executive orders to bypass Congress in order to bring about policies that remain stalled due to congressional inaction.

An executive order is supposed to direct the bureaucracy as to how to implement legislation. However, presidents have come to rely on executive orders to cut through the quagmire that plagues Congress. In doing so, presidents look to Article II of the Constitution to justify their use of executive orders.

Article II vests the executive power in the president and states that the president shall "take care that the laws be faithfully executed."

President George Washington was the first to issue an executive order. But he issued just eight during two terms. President Lincoln relied on an executive order to declare the Emancipation Proclamation. He issued a total of 48.

President Franklin Roosevelt set the record with 3,721 over four terms. But he was struggling to save the country from the Great Depression and World War II. A major- and legitimate- purpose for executive orders is to deal with emergencies.

It is not that executive orders constitute a new approach to using executive power. Used properly, they are an effective tool for managing the bureaucracy. Nor should it be assumed it is always an abuse of power. It is just that in recent years, the deluge of executive orders often has been viewed as an attempt to make law rather than to clarify it.

The last five presidents, which includes President Biden, have readily used executive orders. They have been employed as follows: Clinton 364; Bush 291; Obama 276; and Trump 220. In the first month of his administration President Biden has issued 32 executive orders, according to the federal register.

It has been noted by political scientists that a government divided, with high levels of dissatisfaction associated with it, is less able to accomplish goals. This being the case it is understandable that in present times presidents would be more inclined to use executive orders, and the public more inclined to accept them to move public policy forward.

This public attitude toward the government may be a harbinger of a changing political culture in America. The people are becoming more complacent in the face of a Congress that cannot seem to get its act together.

Compromise is hard to achieve when parties are ideologically opposed and weak. Adding to the gridlock are the disparate special interests that seek to influence those parties and the legislative process. It seems the public is becoming more accepting of strong action to bring about results—something Alexander Hamilton would have preferred.

This is where political parties may come in. As historical institutions that have been integral to the government and electoral processes, they can be instrumental in stemming the tide toward a rush to executive oriented government and polarized politics. Parties can help to foster a healthy balance between the legislative and executive sides of government.

Political parties organize government and through discipline can bring about compromise between opposing interests. Strong parties have always encouraged leaders on opposing sides to work together, thus encouraging majorities to form and policies to be enacted. Unlike independent groups,

which in recent years have grown in influence, contributing in turn to the segmentation of American politics, political parties can be useful in bringing disparate groups to the bargaining table to find solutions to what seem to be intractable problems.

There could be no better prescription for a now polarized and teetering nation.

In New Jersey, which is not facing the same problems as face those in Washington D.C., there nevertheless has been an issue with a weakened party system. Through columns like these, analytical press releases, and white papers, the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) has demonstrated that a weakened party system has taken a back seat to ever increasing activities by independent groups.

While it is up to Congress to act on the national level, ELEC has set forth numerous proposals that would strengthen political parties, offset the growing influence of independent groups, and forestall and avoid any severe polarization of the state's governmental processes.

The proposals include removing parties from pay-to-play; including PACs under pay-to-play; increasing contribution limits frozen since 2005; requiring independent groups engaged in election related activity to disclose contributions and expenditures; allowing parties to participate in gubernatorial elections; and requiring public contractors to disclose contributions to independent groups.

Strengthening parties would bring about more effective government and unity in the public square by bringing about compromise between competing interests. By taking up these measures the Legislature can accomplish the twin goals of an even more effective government and unity within the civil society.

Strengthening parties at the federal level would help to bring back constitutional balance between Congress and the executive branch.

Lobbying Industry Immune to Virus as Spending Spikes to New Highs

Lobbying expenditures hit a record \$105 million in 2020 as lawmakers enacted scores of bills to address the COVID-19 crisis, marijuana advocates pushed hard for legalization, and a major health insurer secured legislation letting it reorganize, according to annual lobbying reports filed with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

Overall spending jumped nearly 3.4 percent from \$101.6 million in 2019.

Table 1
Top Ten Special Interest Lobbyists Total
Spending 2020 vs 2019 Plus Total Lobbying Expenditures

ENTITY	2020	2019	CHANGE-\$	CHANGE-%
New Jersey Education Association	\$ 6,255,530	\$ 6,240,028	\$ 15,502	0.2%
New Direction NJ Corporation	\$ 4,963,431	\$ 3,911,200	\$1,052,231	26.9%
Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield Of NJ	\$ 4,283,242	\$ 1,437,314	\$2,845,928	198.0%
Move Health Care Forward NJ Inc (Horizon)	\$ 3,155,075	\$ 849,866	\$2,305,209	271.2%
Engineers Labor Employer Cooperative	\$ 1,249,220	\$ 682,697	\$ 566,523	83.0%
Public Service Enterprise Group (PSE&G)	\$ 872,933	\$ 769,883	\$ 103,050	13.4%
Hackensack Meridian Health	\$ 577,986	\$ 724,056	\$ (146,071)	-20.2%
Prudential Financial Inc	\$ 564,568	\$ 588,735	\$ (24,167)	-4.1%
NJ State League Of Municipalities	\$ 558,137	\$ 600,439	\$ (42,302)	-7.0%
AARP NJ	\$ 504,219	\$ 739,153	\$ (234,934)	-31.8%
Total Expenditures- Top Ten	\$ 22,984,341	\$ 16,543,371	\$6,440,969	529.7%
Total Expenditures-All Lobbyists	\$105,056,351	\$101,642,742	\$3,413,609	3.4%

Jeff Brindle, ELEC's Executive Director, said state government's response in 2020 to the pandemic health threat was a top concern of lawmakers, executive branch officials and lobbyists.

"State efforts to confront the COVID-19 outbreak were a key factor that drove lobbying expenditures in 2020 to a new record," said Brindle.

So far, 76 (40 percent) of the 188 laws enacted during the current two-year legislative session were related to the pandemic. The Legislature's website lists 169 bills that mention COVID-19.

The public health crisis also has sparked an unusual flood of executive orders.

Of the 132 executive orders issued since January 1, 2020 by Governor Phil Murphy, 105 (80 percent) have dealt with the COVID-19 outbreak.

Lobbyists have had to focus not just on legislation but also the executive branch. For instance, lobbyists for New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) met with the Governor's office over the issue of school openings.

"Given the unprecedented nature of this crisis, it follows that there would be a major legislative and executive response as well as heavy engagement by the lobbying community," said Brindle.

States like Colorado also have reported new highs in lobbying spending due to the legislative reaction to the public health scare.

While the virus crisis was a major priority of state officials and lobbyists last year, Brindle said the push to legalize marijuana in New Jersey also led to heavy spending.

Preliminary figures indicate pro-marijuana advocates jointly spent at least \$1.5 million on lobbying in 2020. Several of the same advocates also contributed most of the \$2.3 million spent to secure passage of a legalization ballot question in November 2020. Marijuana backers also contributed \$65,000 to other committees and candidates last year.

“The combined \$3.9 million in political spending last year was the largest annual total since a bill legalizing medical marijuana in New Jersey took effect in 2010,” Brindle said. Virtually all reported spending during the past decade came from pro-marijuana groups, not opponents, he noted.

Table 2
Political Spending by Advocates of
NJ Legalized Marijuana Legislation

YEAR	LOBBYING	CONTRIBUTIONS*	TOTAL
2020**	\$1,501,502	\$2,379,314	\$ 3,880,816
2019	\$1,970,335	\$ 158,335	\$ 2,128,670
2018	\$1,548,076	\$ 312,400	\$ 1,860,476
2017	\$ 630,166	\$ 256,955	\$ 887,121
2016	\$ 170,000	\$ 108,920	\$ 278,920
2015	\$ 130,000	\$ 6,600	\$ 136,600
2014	\$ 192,000	\$ 106,450	\$ 298,450
2013	\$ 90,000	\$ 157,175	\$ 247,175
2012	\$ 120,287	\$ 200,520	\$ 320,807
2011	\$ 222,254	\$ 4,500	\$ 226,754
2010	\$ 85,255	\$ 21,600	\$ 106,855
Totals	\$6,659,876	\$3,712,769	\$10,372,645

*2020 contribution total includes \$2.3 million to ballot question committees and \$65,270 to other committees and candidates **2020 Lobbying total preliminary

“Supporters of legalized marijuana in New Jersey have invested about \$6.7 million on lobbying and \$3.7 million on contributions since 2010- a total of more than \$10 million.” said Brindle. “Obviously, their investment paid off since the state has enacted two medical marijuana laws, a decriminalization bill and a broader legalization bill along with other related legislation.”

The culmination of their efforts came February 22, 2021, when Governor Phil Murphy signed a bill legalizing cannabis for recreational use by adults, making New Jersey the 15th state to do so.¹ Less than a week later, Virginia’s legislature enacted a similar bill.

¹ South Dakota voters also legalized marijuana use last year but a judge has ruled the law unconstitutional. The case remains pending.

Table 3
Political Spending by Groups That
Support Pro-Marijuana Legislation in New Jersey

GROUP	LOBBYING	2020 BALLOT QUESTION*	OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS ²	TOTAL
Scotts Miracle-Gro/Scotts Company	\$ 396,968	\$ 800,000	\$ 850,400	\$2,047,368
Compassionate Care Centers of America Foundation/Garden State Dispensary	\$ 870,287			\$ 870,287
Acreage Holdings	\$ 549,086	\$ 20,000		\$ 569,086
American Civil Liberties Union Of NJ		\$ 556,762	\$ 575	\$ 557,337
Compassionate Care Research Institute Inc.	\$ 227,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 189,200	\$ 426,700
Curaleaf (Formerly Compassionate Sciences)	\$ 346,000			\$ 346,000
Weedmaps	\$ 151,000	\$ 164,000	\$ 2,600	\$ 317,600
Growing Economic Opportunities (NJ Laborers Union)		\$ 302,600		\$302,600
Drug Policy Alliance	\$ 255,666	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 281,666
Eaze Solutions Inc.	\$ 241,499		\$ 36,450	\$ 277,949
Totals	\$3,038,006	\$1,878,362	\$1,080,225	\$5,996,593

*Contributions to either NJ CAN 2020, Building Stronger Communities, or both pro-marijuana committees.

The biggest supporter of legalized marijuana in New Jersey has been Scotts Miracle-Gro, a lawn and garden company based in Marysville, Ohio. Scotts has become one the biggest mainstream investors in the industry since its CEO declared in a Wall Street Journal interview in 2011 announcing “I want to target the pot market.”³

“As the leading provider of nutrients, plant supplements, growing media, air filtration and lighting used for hydroponic and indoor growing, our company is unique in its ability to help people who choose to produce cannabis authorized under state-law.”⁴ The company noted that, even at this early stage, there are “roughly 15,000 licensed cannabis businesses in the United States, 200,000 people employed in the field, and more than 2 million medical cannabis patients served by the industry.”⁵

Other issues also drew heavy spending in 2020.

NJEA spent \$6.3 million shaping several bills critical to its members. The union represents 203,520 teachers and others, and historically has been the largest special interest group in terms of spending.

One of its top priorities was (S-2273/A-20), which overhauls health benefits for teachers at an estimated annual savings of \$1 billion. It was unanimously passed in the Legislature and enacted by Governor Murphy July 2, 2020.

Another bill (S-993/A-631) provided non-teaching employees of local, county, or regional school districts the right to dispute disciplinary action through arbitration. It was signed into law on August 13, 2020.

Another big spender last year was New Direction NJ Corp., a 501c4 social welfare non-profit group run by Governor Murphy’s 2017 campaign manager. It spent nearly \$5 million primarily on media campaigns promoting the governor’s policy agenda.

² Includes donations to both Democratic and Republican Governors Associations during past decade. Former Governor Christ Christie chaired the RGA and served as finance chairman during the period. Current Governor Phil Murphy chaired the DGA and still serves as finance chairman.

³ Dana Mattioli, “High Hopes at Miracle-Gro in Medical Marijuana Field,” Wall Street Journal, June 14,2011.

⁴ <https://scottsmiraclegro.com/who-we-are/where-we-stand/cannabis-legalization/> accessed March 3, 2021.

⁵ Id.

Just as some groups have been trying to make marijuana lawful in New Jersey for more than a decade, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ has been trying for many years to revamp its corporate structure.

The company's efforts finally succeeded when Governor Murphy on December 23, 2020 enacted reorganization legislation (A-5119/S-218).

Horizon boosted its lobbying expenditures 198 percent to \$4.3 million in 2020. It contributed \$2.8 million *of that expenditure* to Move Health Care Forward NJ Inc, a group that ran a major advertising blitz for the corporate overhaul.

Done mostly via cable TV and the internet, the media campaign successfully secured approval of legislation letting Horizon convert from a health services corporation to a non-profit holding company. The health insurer contends the restructuring will allow it to modernize and diversify its business operations.

The lobbying industry's growing use of internet and traditional communications to build support or opposition to state policies has been a steady trend.

A new peak was reached in 2020 when total communication expenditures topped \$18 million- a 32 percent increase over the 2019 total. The top ten spenders made up 93 percent.

Table 4
Top Ten Expenditures on Communications
and Total Communications Expenditures in 2020

GROUP	AMOUNT
NJ Education Association (NJEA)	\$ 5,887,160
New Direction NJ Corporation	\$ 4,963,431
Move Health Care Forward NJ Inc	\$ 3,155,075
Engineers Labor Employer Cooperative	\$ 1,066,720
Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield Of NJ	\$ 651,674
Public Service Enterprise Group (PSE&G)	\$ 345,008
FGH Holdings On Behalf Of Stop The Hit	\$ 338,735
AARP NJ	\$ 203,396
NJ Ratepayers United Inc. (Bravo Group)	\$ 137,808
Altria Client Services Inc & Its Affiliates	\$ 108,186
Total Communication Expenditures- Top Ten	\$16,857,193
Total Communications Expenditures- All Lobbyists	\$18,059,357

The amount spent on "benefit passing"- gifts like meals, trips or other things of value- dispensed by lobbyists fell in 2020 to \$2,783. That is the third smallest sum since the all-time high of \$163,375 in 1992.

Of the 862 represented entities who reported spending money on lobbying in 2020, the top 25 alone spent nearly \$28.6 million- nearly a third of all lobbying expenditures. Twenty-two groups remain on the list from 2019.

Perhaps because nursing homes were a major focus of several COVID-19 bills, NJ Association of Health Care Facilities, which represents the industry, jumped 13 spots to get on the list.

**Table 5
Top 25 Represented Entities by Spending in 2020**

GROUP	2020 SPENT	2020 RANK	2019 RANK
NJ Education Association (NJEA)	\$6,255,530	1	1
New Direction NJ Corporation	\$4,963,431	2	2
Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ	\$4,283,242	3	3
Move Health Care Forward NJ Inc	\$3,155,075	4	4
Engineers Labor Employer Cooperative	\$1,249,220	5	8
Public Service Enterprise Group (PSE&G)	\$ 872,933	6	5
Hackensack Meridian Health	\$ 577,986	7	7
Prudential Financial Inc	\$ 564,568	8	10
NJ State League of Municipalities	\$ 558,137	9	9
AARP NJ	\$ 504,219	10	6
NJ Business & Industry Association	\$ 485,957	11	12
RWJBarnabas Health	\$ 464,628	12	15
Chemistry Council of NJ (Includes State Street Associates)	\$ 445,198	13	24
Comcast Corporation	\$ 442,549	14	14
FirstEnergy/Jersey Central Power & Light	\$ 424,000	15	18
Verizon	\$ 396,000	16	22
NJ Realtors	\$ 383,761	17	20
Atlantic Health System	\$ 377,940	18	17
Williams Companies	\$ 377,927	19	16
American Property Casualty Insurance Association	\$ 366,635	20	25
NJ Society of CPAs	\$ 359,558	21	21
FGH Holdings on Behalf of Stop The Hit	\$ 338,735	22	NA
NJ Bankers Association	\$ 314,177	23	35
NJ Association of Health Care Facilities	\$ 299,206	24	37
AT&T	\$ 297,447	25	27

While total spending reached a new high in 2020, the number of lobbyists dipped three percent to 920 from 946 in 2019. The number peaked at 1,043 in 2008.

For the second straight year, lobbyists reported a record number of clients- 2,272- up 2 percent from 2019.

Of the nearly \$60 million in reported receipts by 78 governmental affairs agents (lobbyists), \$38.9 million - 65 percent- went to the top ten multi-client firms.

Table 6
Top Ten Multi-Client Lobbying
Firms Ranked by 2020 Receipts

FIRM	RECEIPTS
Princeton Public Affairs Group Inc	\$10,114,702
Public Strategies Impact LLC	\$ 7,122,570
CLB Partners Inc	\$ 3,888,950
MBI Gluckshaw	\$ 3,835,908
Kaufman Zita Group LLC	\$ 3,167,975
Gibbons PC	\$ 3,110,770
Optimus Partners LLC	\$ 2,329,711
Capital Impact Group	\$ 1,913,592
Komjathy & Kean LLLC	\$ 1,734,904
River Crossing Strategy Group	\$ 1,680,500
Total Top Ten	\$38,899,583
Total Governmental Affairs Agent Receipts	\$59,993,379
Percent Top Ten	65%

Huge increases in fees and communications offset reductions in other lobbying expenditure categories.

Table 7
Lobbying Expenses by Category

CATEGORY	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019-2020 % + or -
Salary ¹	\$52,479,413	\$51,886,231	\$54,931,497	\$ 56,148,622	\$ 54,328,587	-3%
Support Personnel	\$ 2,498,862	\$ 2,395,907	\$ 2,463,181	\$ 2,650,872	\$ 2,132,264	-20%
Fees ²	\$ 2,313,953	\$ 4,603,279	\$ 2,261,072	\$ 2,826,599	\$ 4,912,400	74%
Communication Costs ⁴	\$10,574,948	\$ 8,510,409	\$ 6,929,935	\$ 13,717,962	\$ 18,059,357	32%
Travel	\$ 439,326	\$ 449,989	\$ 541,575	\$ 486,061	\$ 157,252	-68%
Benefit Passing ³	\$ 3,501	\$ 6,042	\$ 2,331	\$ 5,180	\$ 2,783	-46%
Total	\$68,310,003	\$67,851,858	\$67,129,591	\$ 75,835,295	\$ 79,592,643	5%
Compensation to Governmental Affairs Agent Not Included on Annual Reports	\$22,052,126	\$23,866,952	\$24,590,538	\$ 25,807,447	\$ 25,463,708	-1%
Adjusted Total*	\$90,362,129	\$91,718,809	\$91,720,129	\$101,642,742	\$105,056,351	3%

1- Salary includes in-house salaries and payments to outside agents.

2- Fees include assessments, membership fees and dues.

3- Benefit passing includes meals, entertainment, gifts, travel and lodging.

4- Communication costs include: printed materials, postage, telephone calls, faxes, receptions, and, in 2006 and years following, also includes direct mail pieces, newspaper advertisements, and television and radio broadcasts

Lobbying summary data shown for 2020 should be considered preliminary.

The analysis reflects a review of reports received as of 5 pm March 5, 2021. In New Jersey, lobbyists who raise or spend more than \$2,500 were required to file a report on February 15th that reflects activity from the prior calendar year.

Summary information about lobbyist activities in 2020 can be obtained at the following website:

http://www.elec.state.nj.us/publicinformation/gaa_annual.htm. Copies of annual reports also are available on ELEC's website.

Training Seminars

CPC WEBINARS	
R-3 eFile ONLY Program Training	CPC/PPC Compliance Seminar AND eFile Training
April 21, 2021 10:00 AM	April 07, 2021 10:00 AM
CANDIDATE WEBINARS	
R-1 eFile ONLY Program Training	Campaign Compliance Seminar AND eFile Training
April 28, 2021 10:00 AM	April 14, 2021 10:00 AM
	May 05, 2021 10:00 AM

*All webinars will run for approximately 2 hours.

2021 Reporting Dates

	INCLUSION DATES	REPORT DUE DATE
FIRE COMMISSIONER – APRIL 20, 2021 – See Executive Order No. 211		
29–day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* – 3/19/2021	3/22/2021
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	3/20/2021 – 4/6/2021	4/9/2021
20–day Postelection Reporting Date	4/7/2021 – 5/7/2021	5/10/2021
48–Hour Notice Reports Start on 4/7/2021 through 4/20/2021		
SCHOOLBOARD – APRIL 20, 2021		
29–day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* – 3/19/2021	3/22/2021
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	3/20/2021 – 4/6/2021	4/9/2021
20–Day Postelection Reporting Date	4/7/2021 – 5/7/2021	5/10/2021
48–Hour Notice Reports State on 4/7/2021 through 4/20/2021		
MAY MUNICIPAL – MAY 11, 2021		
29–day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* – 4/9/2021	4/12/2021
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	4/10/2021 – 4/27/2021	4/30/2021
20–Day Postelection Reporting Date	4/28/2021 – 5/28/2021	6/1/2021
48–Hour Notice Reports State on 4/28/2021 through 5/11/2021		
RUNOFF (JUNE)** – JUNE 15, 2021		
29–day Preelection Reporting Date	No Report Required for this Period	
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	4/28/2021 – 6/1/2021	6/4/2021
20–Day Postelection Reporting Date	6/2/2021 – 7/2/2021	7/6/2021
48–Hour Notice Reports Start on 6/2/2021 through 6/15/2021		
PRIMARY (90 DAY START DATE – MARCH 10, 2021)*** – JUNE 8, 2021		
29–day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign – 5/7/2021	5/10/2021
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	5/8/2021 – 5/25/2021	5/28/2021
20–Day Postelection Reporting Date	5/26/2021 – 6/25/2021	6/28/2021
48–Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 5/26/2021 – 6/8/2021		

GENERAL (90 DAY START DATE – AUGUST 4, 2021) – NOVEMBER 2, 2021

29–day Preelection Reporting Date	6/26/2021 – 10/1/2021	10/4/2021
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	10/2/2021 – 10/19/2021	10/22/2021
20–day Postelection Reporting Date	10/20/2021 – 11/19/2021	11/22/2021
48–Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 10/20/2021 – 11/2/2021		

RUN–OFF (DECEMBER) – December 7, 2021**

29–day Preelection Reporting Date	No Report Required for this Period	
11–day Preelection Reporting Date	10/20/2021 – 11/23/2021	11/26/2021
20–day Postelection Reporting Date	11/24/2021 – 12/24/2021	12/27/2021
48 Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 11/24/2021 through 12/7/2021		

PACS, PCFRS & CAMPAIGN QUARTERLY FILERS

1 st Quarter	1/1/2021 – 3/31/2021	4/15/2021
2 nd Quarter	4/1/2021 – 6/30/2021	7/15/2021
3 rd Quarter	7/1/2021 – 9/30/2021	10/15/2021
4 th Quarter	10/1/2021 – 12/31/2021	1/18/2022

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AGENTS (Q–4)

1 st Quarter	1/1/2021 – 3/31/2021	4/12/2021
2 nd Quarter	4/1/2021 – 6/30/2021	7/12/2021
3 rd Quarter	7/1/2021 – 9/30/2021	10/12/2021
4 th Quarter	10/1/2021 – 12/31/2021	1/10/2022

*Inception Date of Campaign (first time filers) or January 1, 2021 (Quarterly filers).

**A candidate committee or joint candidates committee that is filing in a 2021 Runoff election is not required to file a 20–day postelection report for the corresponding prior election (May Municipal or General).

*** Form PFD–1 is due April 15, 2021 for the Primary Election Candidates and June 21, 2021 for the Independent General Election Candidates.

Note: A fourth quarter 2020 filing is needed for the Primary 2021 candidates if they started their campaign prior to December 10, 2020.

A second quarter is needed by Independent/ Non–partisan General election candidates if they started their campaign prior to May 4, 2021.

HOW TO CONTACT ELEC

www.elec.state.nj.us

In Person: 25 South Stockton Street, 5th Floor, Trenton, NJ
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