



ELEC



NEWS RELEASE

N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission

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Quarterly reports showing the contributions and expenditures of State, county and municipal party committees, and other ongoing organizations such as PAC's and political clubs are due on July 15, 1986 according to Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the Election Law Enforcement Commission.

"This report, Form R-3, is the second one due from continuing political committees in 1986," said Herrmann. "It represents the disclosure of their financial activity during the period April 1, 1986 through June 30, 1986."

A continuing political committee includes State, county and municipal party committees as well as other ongoing organizations spending more than \$2,500 in successive years. These committees mainly raise and spend money on a continuing basis to support or oppose candidates in the primary and general elections.

The Commission has approved an abbreviated reporting format for those committees with little or no financial activity. The "Continuing Political Committee - Sworn Statement" (Form A-3) may be filed by a continuing political committee in lieu of the Form R-3 when, during the course of a calendar year such a committee raises and expends \$1,000 or less. This form is filed on January 15, and July 15 of each calendar year.

Continuing political committees are distinct from candidate committees or other political committees which are formed to support particular candidates or public questions in one election cycle. These committees have separate reporting obligations.

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"Disclosure is an important part of the electoral process in New Jersey," said Herrmann. "The public has a right to know who is giving what to political parties and PAC's, and how this money is spent."

According to Herrmann, contributions are reported in the aggregate if the contribution is \$100 or less. For individual contributions of more than \$100, the contributor's name and address is listed and is public information.

"While there is no limit to the amount of money a contributor can give to party committees and PAC's," said Herrmann, "the Commission believes that the public has a right to know who the big contributors are."

Herrmann said that the second quarterly report will be available for public inspection after noon on Thursday, July 17, 1986.

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