

Issue: Council Bill 2022-082. An Ordinance of the Council Readopting Section 2-4 of the Nixa City Code.

Date: August 5, 2022

Submitted: Nick Woodman, City Attorney

Background

Chapter 105 RSMo. contains provisions which require certain elected officials, candidates for certain elected offices, and certain administrative officials to file financial interest statements with their respective City Clerks and the Missouri Ethics Commission.

Section 105.485 RSMo. contains authorization for cities to adopt an ordinance, biennially, to provide for different requirements then what is required under State statute.

The City of Nixa has routinely adopted such an ordinance, most recently in 2020 by the adoption of Ordinance No. 2137. The provisions of Ordinance 2137 were codified at Section 2-4 of the Nixa City Code.

Section 105.485 RSMo. requires those cities which have elected to adopt their own financial disclosure ordinance to readopt said ordinance biennially. Ordinance 2137 was adopted and approved by the Mayor on 8/24/20.

<u>Analysis</u>

The Council Bill presented for consideration is substantially similar to the bill approved in 2020. There is one change of note.

This year, the bill contains a penalty clause. A penalty clause proscribes the consequences to those who do not comply with the provisions of Section 2-4 of the Nixa City Code. The proposed penalty clause for Section 2-4 is a reference to Section 1-9 which is the general penalty clause for violations of the City Code, meaning violations of Section 2-4 will be treated like any other violation of the City Code. This was already the case under the previous version of Section 2-4 because of the general applicability of Section 1-9. Providing the reference to Section 1-9 merely clarifies the intent of Council.

However, this approach leads to the need for further discussion and direction by the Council.

Because the City will be adopting an ordinance to govern financial disclosures, the method of enforcement will be the same as other ordinance violations. This means that



violations of this section will be prosecuted through the municipal court process. This leads to some considerations that the Council should be aware of.

First, violations of this section will likely need to be prosecuted by a special prosecutor. There are conflict of interest issues for the City Attorney to prosecute violations of these sections (ex: Prosecuting a sitting member of Council for violations). The process of appointing a special prosecutor could be contentious as well. The Council will need to appoint a special prosecutor, if the alleged violation is against a sitting member of Council or the Mayor, the meeting for approval of the appointment of a special prosecutor could be very contentious.

Additionally, municipal ordinance violations usually only result in monetary fines.

If the Council were to choose to not adopt this bill, the City would default to the state statute requirements for financial disclosure. These provisions are enforced by the Missouri Ethics Commission, not the City.

This would remove the concerning enforcement questions and lodge the enforcement of members' compliance with financial disclosure requirements with an independent state agency.

The penalties for violating the requirements as provided under state statute are much more stringent and can include the potential for removal from office for failing to provide the statements after 30 days' notice from the Ethics Commission (Penalty statute is found at Section 105.492 RSMo).

However, should the Council decide to operate under the State law requirements regarding financial disclosure, those required to file financial disclosure statements will be required to file the long form instead of the short form. Both forms are included as attachments to this memorandum (Short Form – Attachment 1; Long Form – Attachment 2).

Recommendation

This bill is presented to allow Council to make an informed decision on how to proceed with this issue. Council must pass this Ordinance before September 1 for Section 2-4 of the Code to be effective for another 2 years. Should Council elect to operate under the provisions of Chapter 105 (which would require providing the information requested in the Long Form) Council can choose not to adopt this bill or repeal these code sections at a later date.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NIXA AMENDING CHAPTER 2. 1 ARTICLE I, OF THE NIXA CITY CODE BY READOPTING SECTION 2-4 AS 2 AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 105.485 RSMO. FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING 3 PROVISIONS RELATED TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FINANCIAL 4 DISCLOSURE. 5 6 7 WHEREAS the proper operation of government requires that the public have 8 9 confidence in the integrity of public officials; and 10 11 WHEREAS state law sets out certain financial disclosure requirements for public officials in Chapter 105 RSMo.; and 12 13 WHEREAS section 105.485 RSMo. allows cities to adopt a financial disclosure 14 ordinance subject to certain conditions; and 15 16 17 WHEREAS section 105.485 RSMo., requires cities that have adopted their own ordinance regarding financial disclosures to readopt said ordinance biennially; and 18 19 20 **WHEREAS** the City Council is committed to a policy of openness and transparency 21 in government; and 22 **WHEREAS** the adoption of this Ordinance furthers the Council's commitment to 23 24 openness and transparency in government. 25 NOW. THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF 26 27 NIXA, AS FOLLOWS, THAT: 28 **SECTION 1:** Chapter 2, Article I, Section 2-4 of the Nixa City Code is hereby 29 amended by repealing said section in its entirety and adopting in lieu thereof a new 30 Section 2-4, which said section shall read as follows: 31 32 33 (Note: Language to be added is indicated by being underlined. Language to be removed is indicated by being stricken.) 34 35 Sec. 2-4. Conflict of Interests and Financial Disclosure. 36 37 (a) Declaration of Policy. The proper operation of government requires that public officials 38 39 and employees be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people; that government decisions and policy be made in the proper channels of the governmental 40 structure; that public office not be used for personal gain; and that the public have 41 42 confidence in the integrity of its government. In recognition of these goals, this section is hereby established to provide for a procedure for the disclosure by certain officials 43 and employees of private financial or other interests in matters affecting the City. 44 45 (b) Conflict of Interest Provisions. 46

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 48 (1) All elected and appointed officials and employees of the City of Nixa shall comply
 49 with the conflict of interest provisions contained in Chapter 105 of the Missouri
 50 Revised Statutes as well as any other state law governing official conduct.
 - (2) The Mayor and any member of the City Council who has a "substantial personal or private interest" in any measure, bill, order, or ordinance proposed or pending before the City Council shall disclose that interest to the City Clerk and such disclosure shall be recorded in the journal of the City Council.
 - a. Substantial personal or private interest is defined in this section as, ownership by the individual, their spouse or dependent children whether singularly or collectively, directly or indirectly of: (1) 10% or more of any business entity; or (2) an interest having a value of \$10,000.00 or more; or (3) the receipt of a salary, gratuity, or other compensation or remuneration of \$5,000.00 or more, per year from any individual, partnership, organization, or association within any calendar year.
- (c) *Disclosure Reports.* The Mayor, members of City Council, candidates for Mayor,
 candidates for City Council, the City Administrator, the Purchasing Agent, and the City
 Attorney shall disclose the following information by May 1, or the appropriate deadline
 referenced in Section 105.487 RSMo., if any such transactions occurred during the
 previous calendar year:
 - (1) For such person, and all persons within the first degree of consanguinity or affinity of such person, the date and the identities of the parties to each transaction with a total value in excess of \$500.00, if any, that such person had with the City, other than compensation received as an employee or payment of any tax, fee or penalty due to the City, and other than transfers for no consideration to the City.
 - (2) The date and the identities of the parties to each transaction known to the person with a total value in excess of five hundred dollars if any, that any business entity in which such person had a substantial interest, had with the City or transactions involving payment for providing utility service to the City, and other than transfer for no consideration to the City.
 - (3) The City Administrator and the Purchasing Agent shall also disclose by May 1 for the previous calendar year the following information:
 - a. The name and address of each of the employers of the City Administrator or Purchasing Agent from whom income of one thousand dollars or more was received during the year covered by the statement.
- b. The name and address of each sole proprietorship that the City Administrator
 or Purchasing Agent owns; the name, address and the general nature of the
 business conducted by each general partnership and joint venture in which

the City Administrator or the Purchasing Agent was a partner or participant; 93 the name and address of each partner or co-participant for each partnership 94 or joint venture unless such names and addresses are filed by the partnership 95 or joint venture with the secretary of state; the name, address and general 96 nature of the business conducted by any closely held corporation or limited 97 partnership in which the City Administrator or Purchasing Agent owned ten 98 percent or more of any class of the outstanding stock or limited partnership 99 units; and the name of any publicly traded corporation or limited partnership 100 that is listed on a regulated stock exchange or automated guotation system in 101 which the City Administrator or Purchasing Agent owned two percent or more 102 of any class of outstanding stock, limited partnership units or other equity 103 interests. 104 105

- c. The name and address of such corporation for which the City Administrator or Purchasing Agent served in the capacity of a director, officer or receiver.
- 109 (d) Filing of Reports.

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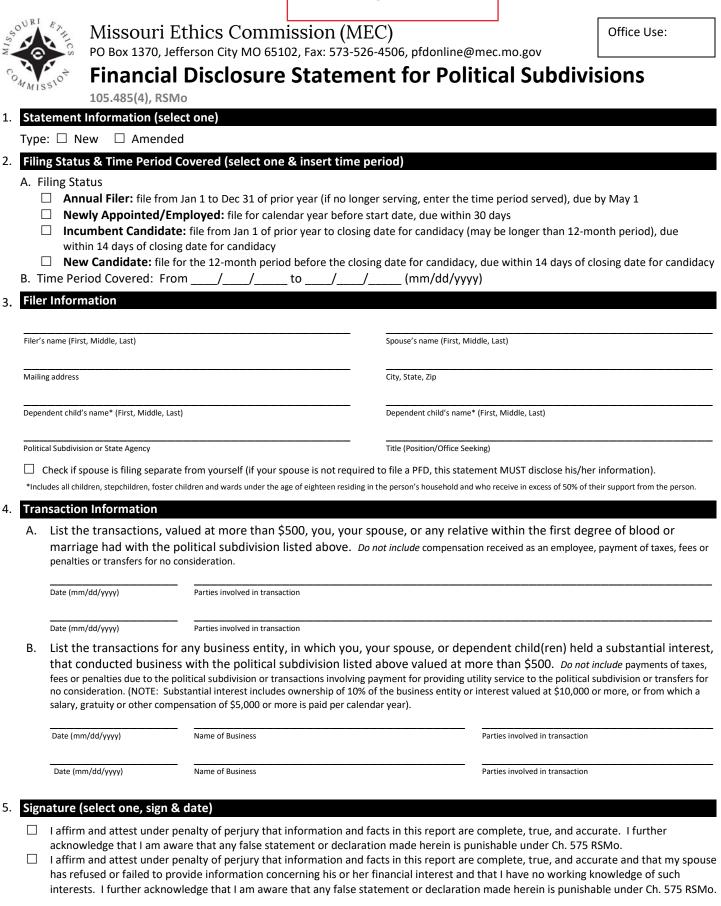
- (1) The financial interest statements shall be filed at the following times, but no person
 is required to file more than one financial statement in any calendar year:
- 114a. Every person required to file a financial interest statement shall file the115statement annually not later than May 1 and the statement shall cover the116calendar year ending the immediately preceding December 31; provided that117financial interest statements may be supplemented to report additional118interests acquired after December 31 of the covered year until the date of filing119of the financial interest statement.
- b. Each person appointed to an office which requires the filing of a financial interest statement shall file the statement within thirty days of such appointment or employment if any reportable transactions or activities occurred. Such statement shall cover the calendar year ending the previous December 31.
- c. Every candidate for Mayor or City Council shall file a financial interest
 statement no later than 14 days after the closing of filing at which the candidate
 seeks nomination or election. The time period of this statements shall cover
 the twelve months prior to the closing date of filing for candidacy.
- (2) Financial disclosure reports shall be filed with the City Clerk and the Missouri
 Ethics Commission. The reports shall be available for public inspection and
 copying during normal business hours.
- (e) *Penalties.* Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this Section shall be
 punished as set forth in Section 1-9 of the Nixa City Code.
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139 140 141 142	SECTION 2: The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this Ordinance with the Missouri Ethics Commission and to do all things necessary in connection therewith, within ten days of this Ordinance's effective date.
142 143 144 145 146 147	SECTION 3: The City Attorney, when codifying the provisions of this Ordinance, is authorized to provide for different section numbers, subsection numbers, and different internal citation references than those provided herein when such section numbers subsection numbers, or internal citation references are in error or are contrary to the internal of this Ordinance.
148 149 150 151 152 153	SECTION 4: Savings Clause. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding now pending in any court or any rights acquired, or liability incurred nor any cause or causes of action occurred or existing, under any act or ordinance repealed hereby.
154 155 156 157 158 159	SECTION 5: Severability Clause. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Council hereby declares that it would have adopted the Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, of phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.
160 161 162 163	SECTION 6: This Ordinance shall remain in effect for two years after its effective date, unless further extended by Ordinance.
163 164 165 166 167	SECTION 7: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its fina passage by the City Council and after its approval by the Mayor, subject to the provisions of section 3.11(g) of the City Charter.
168 169 170	ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL THIS DAY OF 2022.
171 172 173	ATTEST:
174 175	PRESIDING OFFICER CITY CLERK
176 177 178 179 180	APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS DAY OF 2022. ATTEST:
181 182 183 184	MAYOR CITY CLERK

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- 185 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
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188 CITY ATTORNEY



Filer's Signature (Required)

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

NOTE: The following information is required from the **Chief Administrative Officer** and **Chief Purchasing Officer** <u>only</u>. Include information for filer, spouse and dependent child(ren).

6. Employment

List the name and address of each employer from whom you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) received income of \$1,000 or more during the time period covered by this statement.

	Employer Name	Employer Address/City	/State/Zip		Persor	's name whom received income
	Employer Name	Employer Address/City	/State/Zip		Persor	's name whom received income
7.	Sole Proprietorships					
	List each sole proprietorship owned by statement.	/ou, your spouse or depe	ndent chi	ld(ren) during the	time period cov	vered by this
	Sole Proprietorship Name		Sole Prop	rietorship Address/City/Sta	te/Zip	
	Sole Proprietorship Name		Sole Prop	rietorship Address/City/Sta	te/Zip	
8.	General Partnerships, Joint Ventures					
0.	List each general partnership and joint v	enture in which you you	rspouse	or dependent chil	d(ren) were a na	artner or participant
	and the names of partners or co-particip		•			
	time period covered by this statement.				,	
	General Partnership or Joint Venture Name Address/Cit	y/State/Zip Nature of	Business	Partner/Coparticipant's	Name & Address	Party Involved
	General Partnership or Joint Venture Name Address/Cit	y/State/Zip Nature of	Business	Partner/Coparticipant's	Name & Address	Party Involved
9.	Stocks, Bond & Other holdings					
	EXCEPTION: Interest in any qualified plan or annu	ity pursuant to the Employees F	Retirement I	Income Security Act (E	RISA) is not required	d to be listed.
	A. Limited Partnerships, Closely-held C you, your spouse, or dependent ch	-	-		-	
	during the time period covered by		10/07 01 1			
	Limited Partnership/Closely-held Corporation Name	Address/City/State/Zip		Nature of business	Party Involved	
	Limited Partnership/Closely-held Corporation Name	Address/City/State/Zip		Nature of business	Party Involved	

B. Publicly Traded Corporation or Limited Partnership: List the name of any publicly traded corporation or limited partnership which is listed on a regulated stock exchange or automated quotation system in which you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) own two percent (2%) or more of any class of outstanding stock, units or other equity interests during the time period covered by this statement.

Corporation/Limited Partnership Name Party Involved
Corporation/Limited Partnership Name Party Involved

10. Corporations

List the name and address of each corporation for which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) served in the capacity of a director, officer or receiver during the time period covered by this statement.

Corporation Address/City/State/Zip	Person's name who served in this capacity
Corporation Address/City/State/Zip	Person's name who served in this capacity

This form is required to be filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission **and** with the governing body of your political subdivision. All elected and appointed officials as well as employees of a political subdivision must comply with §105.454 RSMo., on conflicts of interest and their own local code of ethics.

ATTACHMENT 2



Missouri Ethics Commission (MEC) PO Box 1370, Jefferson City MO 65102, Fax: 573-526-4506, pfdonline@mec.mo.gov

Office Use:

"MISS'	ancial Disclosure Statemen	
Statement Information (select one		
Type: 🗌 New 🛛 Amended		
Filing Status & Time Period Covere	d (select one & insert time period)	
 Newly Appointed/Employe Incumbent Candidate: file f within 14 days of closing date 	to Dec 31 of prior year (if no longer serving, enter the t ed: file for calendar year before start date, due within from Jan 1 of prior year to closing date for candidacy (r for candidacy 12-month period before the closing date for candidacy	30 days nay be longer than 12-month period), due
B. Time Period Covered: From	_// to/ (mm/dd/yyyy)
Filer's Information		
Filer's name (First, Middle, Last)	Spouse's name (First, Midd	lle, Last)
Mailing address	City/State/Zip	
Dependent child(ren)'s name* (First, Middle, Last)	 Dependent child(ren)'s nar	ne* (First, Middle, Last)
Political Subdivision or State Agency	Title (Position/Office Seeki	ng)
Check if spouse is filing separate from v	ourself (if your spouse is not required to file a PFD, this staten	nent MUST disclose his/her information).
Employment		ho receive in excess of 50% of their support from the person.
Employment List the name and address of every or more during the time period cove	employer from whom you, your spouse or depen ered by this statement.	
List the name and address of every or more during the time period cove	ered by this statement.	dent child(ren) received income of \$1,000
List the name and address of every or more during the time period cove	ered by this statement.	dent child(ren) received income of \$1,000
List the name and address of every or more during the time period cov Employer Name	Employer Address/City/State/Zip	dent child(ren) received income of \$1,000 Person's name who received income
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List the name and address of every or more during the time period cover Employer Name Employer Name Employer Name Employer Name Sole Proprietorships List each sole proprietorship owned statement. Sole Proprietorship Name Sole Proprietorship Name General Partnerships, Joint Ventur List each general partnership and joint	ered by this statement. Employer Address/City/State/Zip Employer Address/City/State/Zip Employer Address/City/State/Zip Employer Address/City/State/Zip by you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) dur Sole Proprietorship Address es int venture in which you, your spouse or dependent his statement, and the names of partners or co-partners or co-p	dent child(ren) received income of \$1,000 Person's name who received income ing the time period covered by this ss/City/State/Zip ent child(ren) were a partner or participant

Nature of Business

Address/City/State/Zip

Partner/Coparticipant's Name & Address

Form must contain original signature.

7. Stocks, Bonds & Other holdings

EXCEPTIONS: » Interest in any qualified plan or annuity pursuant to the Employees Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) is not required to be listed. » Members of boards or commissions of the state or any political subdivision uncompensated except for actual expenses or a per diem allowance do not have to report interest in publicly traded corporations or limited partnerships listed on a regulated stock exchange or automated quotation system.

A. Limited Partnerships, Closely-held Corporations: List the name of any closely-held corporation/limited partnership in which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) own ten percent (10%) or more of any class of the outstanding stock or units during the time period covered by this statement.

Limited Partnership/Closely-held Corporation Name	Address/City/State/Zip	Nature of Business	Party Involved
Limited Partnership/Closely-held Corporation Name	Address/City/State/Zip	Nature of Business	Party Involved

B. Publicly Traded Corporation or Limited Partnership: List the name of any publicly traded corporation or limited partnership which is listed on a regulated stock exchange or automated quotation system in which you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) own two percent (2%) or more of any class of outstanding stock, units or other equity interests during the time period covered by this statement.

Corporation/Limited Partnership Name	Party Involved
Corporation/Limited Partnership Name	Party Involved

C. List the name and address of each entity in which you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) owned stock, bonds, or other equity interest with a value of more than \$10,000 during the time period covered by this statement. If the entity is a corporation listed on a regulated stock exchange, list the name only.

Entity Name	Entity Address/City/State/Zip
Entity Name	Entity Address/City/State/Zip

8. Miscellaneous Income

List the name and address of any source from which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) received \$1,000 or more during the time period covered by this statement. If income is from publicly traded corporations or limited partnerships listed on a regulated stock exchange or automated quotation system and not reported elsewhere on this form, list the name only.

	Source of Income		Source Address	s/City/State/Zip		Person's name who received income
	Source of Income		Source Address	s/City/State/Zip		Person's name who received income
9. Real Property						
	List any real property owned by you, yo having a fair market value of \$10,000 o parties involved if property was transfe subclassifications: Subclass 1 – Resider		e of \$10,000 or more duri	ng the time period covered b	by this statem	ent. Include name and address of
	subclassificati	ions: Subcl				
	Subclassificati	ions: Subcl		ss 2 – Agricultural, Subclass 3		
			ass 1 – Residential, Subclas	SS 2 – Agricultural, Subclass 3 Major Improvements (Buildings, etc.)	3 – Commercia	al & any other real estate.

List the name and address of each corporation for which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) served in the capacity of a director, officer or receiver during the time period covered by this statement.

Corporation Name

Corporation Address/City/State/Zip

Person's name who served in this capacity

Corporation Name

Corporation Address/City/State/Zip

Person's name who served in this capacity

MO 300-0652 (02/2021)

If additional space is needed, attach separate sheet. Form must contain original signature.

11. Associations, Organizations, Unions & Not for Profit Corporations

List the name and address of each association, organization, and union, whether incorporated or not, and each not-for-profit corporation in which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) was an officer, director, employee or trustee at any time during the time period covered by this statement. **Do not include** church, fraternal or service organizations where no pay was received.

Name	Entity Address/City/State/Zip	General Purpose	Party Involved
Name	Entity Address/City/State/Zip	General Purpose	Party Involved

12. Gifts, Honoraria

List the name and address of any source of gifts or honoraria valued at \$200 or more received by you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) during the time period covered by this statement. Do not include a gift from your spouse, child(ren), parent, grandparent, grandchild(ren), great grandparent, great grandchild(ren), brother, sister, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.

Donor's Name	Donor's Address/City/State/Zip	Person's name who received gift/honoraria
Donor's Name	Donor's Address/City/State/Zip	Person's name who received gift/honoraria

13. Lodging and Travel

List lodging and travel expenses incurred by you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) paid by a third person for expenses incurred outside Missouri whether by gift or in relation to the duties of the office during the time period covered by this statement. Do not include expenses paid in the ordinary course of business described in items 4, 5, 6, 7, or 10; expenses reimbursed by law, expenses paid by persons related by third degree of consanguinity or affinity, expenses reported under Chapter 130 RSMo, or expenses for purely personal travel not related to official duties and not paid for by a lobbyist, lobbyist principal, or officer, director of any association or entity which employs a lobbyist.

Expenses paid by (name & address)	Party Involved	Date	Amount	Travel location	Travel Reason
Expenses paid by (name & address)	Party Involved	Date	Amount	Travel location	Travel Reason

14. Trust Assets

If you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren), is the settlor (creator) of a revocable trust, list any assets in the trust that would have been reported elsewhere on this form, during the time period covered by this statement, if they had not been in the trust.

Trust Assets	Party Involved	Party Involved Party Involved		
Trust Assets	Party Involved			
5. Relatives				
	and child(ren)'s spouse who were employed, durin al subdivision or special district, or who were lobby			
Relative's Name	Relationship to filer	Position/Title		
Relative's Name	Relationship to filer	Position/Title		
6. Committees List the name and address of eac	Relationship to filer h campaign committee, candidate committee, con on or corporation listed on this statement received	tinuing committee/PAC, or political party		
6. Committees List the name and address of eac committee from which any perso	h campaign committee, candidate committee, con	tinuing committee/PAC, or political party		

Form must contain original signature.

17. State Tax Credits

List any state tax credits claimed on the most recent state income tax return. (Only required to be listed by members of the general assembly or any state-wide elected public official, their spouse or dependent child(ren)).

State Tax Credit Claimed

Person who received credit

Person who received credit

State Tax Credit Claimed

18. Signature (select one, sign & date)

□ I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that information and facts in this report, are complete, true, and accurate. I further acknowledge that I am aware that any false statement or declaration made herein is punishable under Ch. 575 RSMo.

I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that information and facts in this report, are complete, true, and accurate and that my spouse has refused or failed to provide information concerning his or her financial interest and that I have no working knowledge of such interests. I further acknowledge that I am aware that any false statement or declaration made herein is punishable under Ch. 575 RSMo.

Filer's Signature (Required)

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)