

# **CHECKING IN**

*OCPF's monthly newsletter for local election officials*

**NOVEMBER 2021**

OCPF

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## **M102-0 Survey**

### **We would appreciate your feedback**

OCPF is discussing, internally, whether to eliminate the M102-0 form. Instead, local candidates with no activity, no balances and no committee would file another type of form. We would appreciate your feedback on the options below:

1. Continue to use the [M102-0 form](#), which is signed by candidates who have no activity, no balance and no committee (filed prior to preliminary and general elections, 30 days after an election in towns, and at year-end).
2. Ask candidates to sign and file the first page of the standard [M102](#) campaign finance report during each reporting period, but with a “no activity” and “no balance” box checked.
3. Ask candidates with no activity, no balances (including liabilities), and no committee to sign a statement declaring they will not raise or spend money, even personal funds. This form will be filed once, or annually, covering future reporting periods. The statement would require that if at any time a candidate decides to raise or spend money, he or she would be required to file the standard M102 campaign finance form. (A similar [form](#) is available to OCPF filers).

**The law requires candidates to file reports, even if they don't have activity. We're asking these questions because we've heard from clerks, especially in towns, that it can be difficult to convince candidates with no activity to sign the M102-0 form.**

**Please reply before Dec. 1 with your feedback at [OCPF@cpf.state.ma.us](mailto:OCPF@cpf.state.ma.us)**

**18 FUNDRAISING TIPS EVERY CANDIDATE SHOULD KNOW**

## ***Post-election and year-end reports***

According to state regulations, candidates in any November town or city election will not file a post-election report. Instead, a year-end report is due. For example, if a town has its election Nov. 2, a post-election report is not due Dec. 2. Instead, a year-end report will be filed by Jan. 20, disclosing activity from Oct. 16 until Dec. 31.



Mistakes are sometimes discovered after candidates file campaign finance reports with your office. Please [watch this video](#) to learn how they can fix those errors.

## ***Non-filers: What to do?***

If a candidate or committee failed to file a campaign finance report with your office, you may send a 10-day notice by letter or e-mail. The notice informs non-filers that a report must be filed within 10 days, or they may be fined.

Please [click here](#) for OCPF's guide concerning non-filers on the local level.

Please contact OCPF with your questions about this process.

## ***Illustrated guides for local filers***

OCPF has created several illustrated guides for local filers, to demonstrate how reports are filed.

Please share these illustrated guides with your candidates.

[Instructions for completing the M102 campaign finance report.](#)

[How are out-of-pocket expenditures reported?](#)

[How to disclose credit/debit card contributions on the M102 campaign finance report.](#)