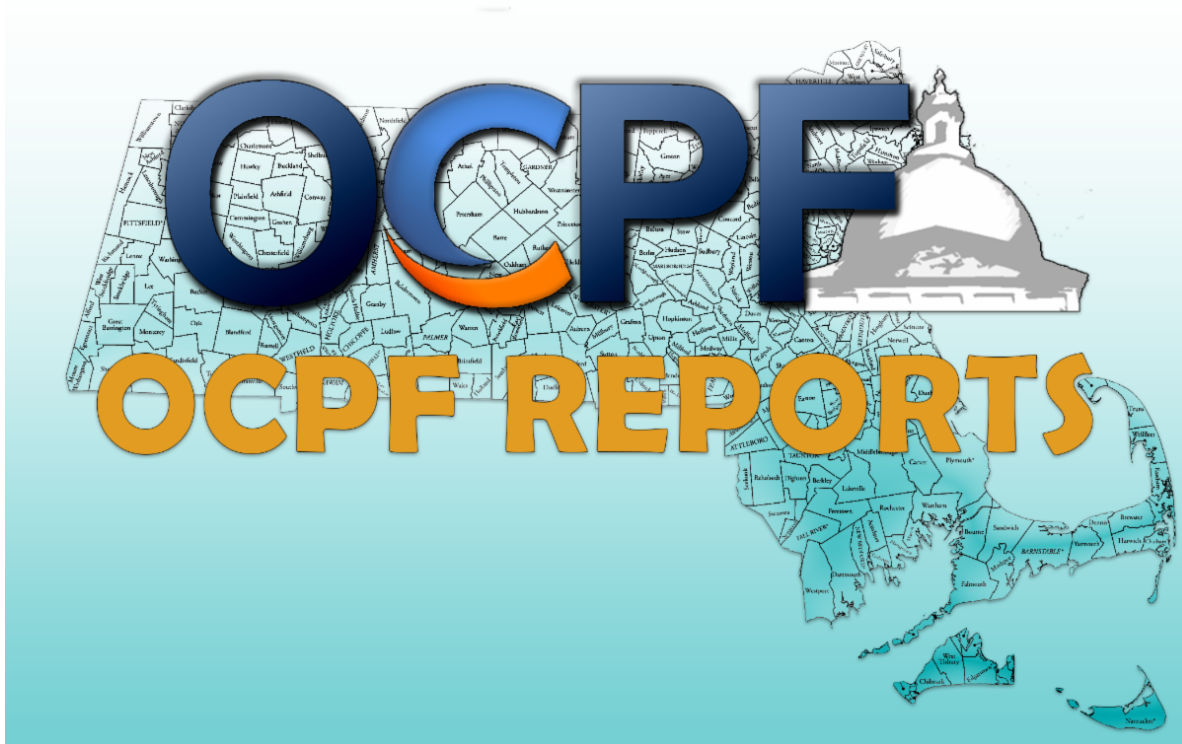


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AUGUST 2022



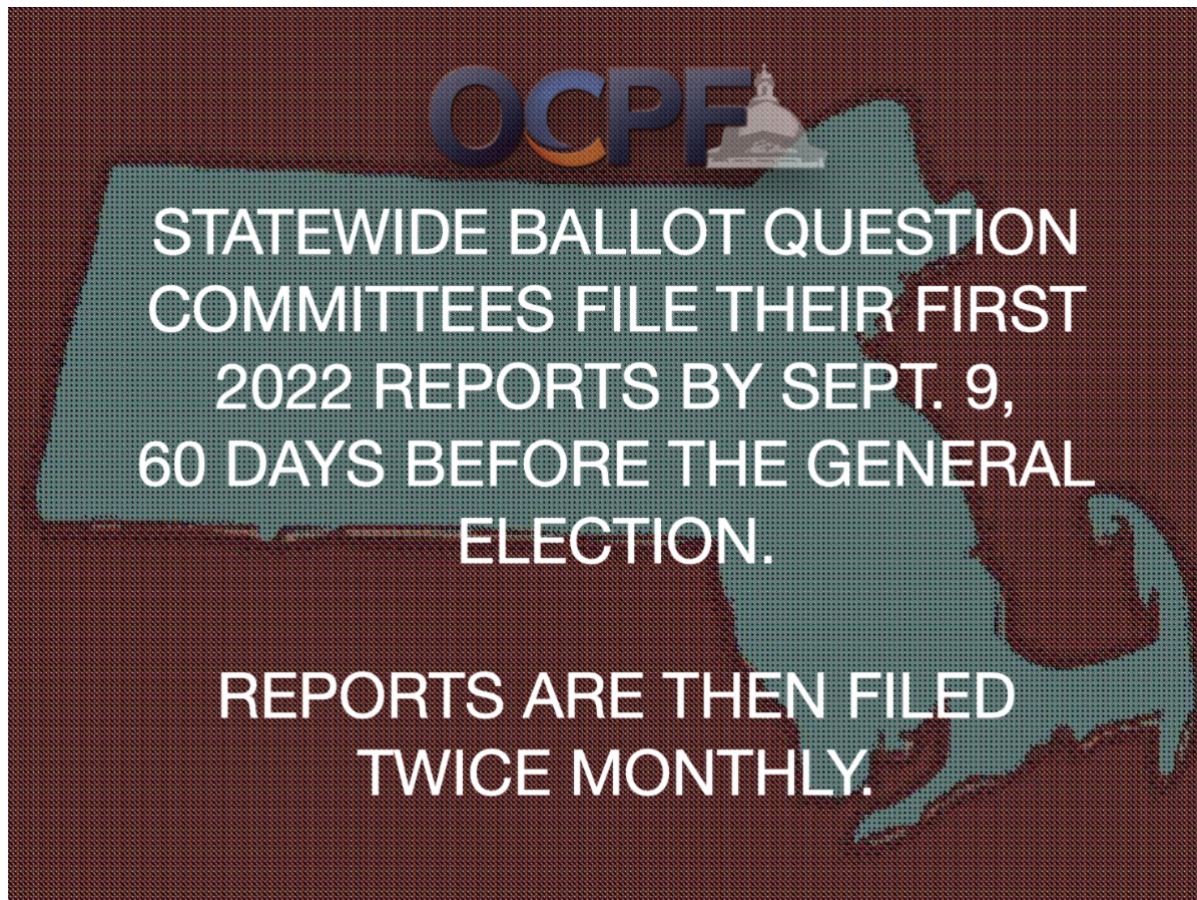
Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance Newsletter

In this edition:

- **2022 statewide ballot question committees will begin filing Sept. 9.**
- **If you're on the ballot this fall, you may need to disclose "late contributions."**
- **New mileage rate set for the use of personal vehicles for political purposes.**
- **The electioneering communications reporting period begins soon.**

- Can candidates appear on local cable access TV?
- Why am I being audited by OCPF?

FAQ: "WHEN WILL WE SEE STATEWIDE BALLOT QUESTION REPORTS?"



[Click here](#) for the filing schedule page and choose "ballot question reporting."



Did You Know? In-kind contributions may also need to be disclosed as late contributions. [Click here](#) for more information.

If you're on the ballot this fall, you may need to disclose "late contributions."

The statute requires reports to be filed within three days for contributions of \$500 or more that are received and deposited after the 18th day, but more than 72 hours before, an election.

That sound confusing? If you file deposit reports within three days of deposit, you'll be alright.

2022 Primary Election Late Contribution Reporting period is Aug. 20 through Sept. 2.

New IRS Mileage Payment Rate

Are you using your personal vehicle to campaign this election season?

The IRS revised the mileage rate to 62.5 cents per mile, from July 1 through the end of December, up from 58.5 cents per mile the first half of the year.

Candidates and committees may now pay individuals for the use of their personal vehicles at the higher rate, for campaign and political travel. A travel log should be kept by any individual who is using a personal vehicle for campaign and political travel.



A committee debit card should not be used to make direct expenditures for fuel at a gas station.



Any broadcast, mail, satellite or print communication that identifies a candidate on the 2022 ballot and is distributed publicly starting Aug. 10, and does not expressly advocate for or against the election of a candidate, is an "electioneering communication."

Such communications, commonly referred to as "**issue ads**," must be disclosed with OCPF.

Example: A non-profit organization pays for a mailer, which says, "Candidate X has historically supported topic A. Please contact Candidate X and tell him to keep up the good work." The mailer did not ask residents to vote for the candidate. This would be an electioneering communication, if distributed Aug. 10 or later.

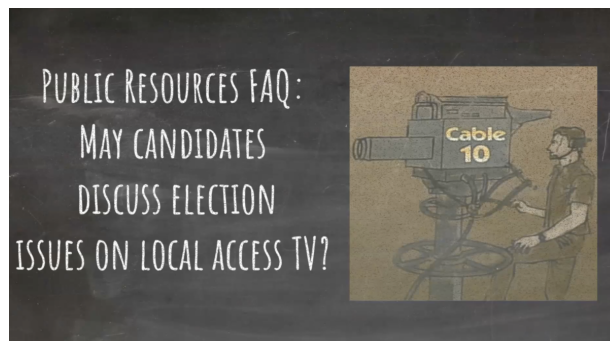
[Click here](#) for OCPF's guide on disclaimers that must appear on electioneering communications.

CANDIDATES ON LOCAL CABLE TV

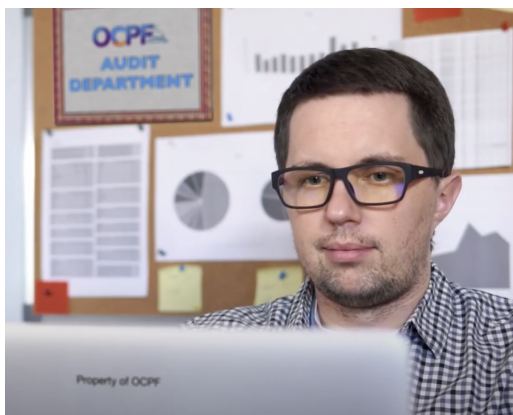
The campaign finance law does not regulate the extent to which candidates and committees may have access to cable television resources.

However, our office does advise, generally, that equal access be provided to all candidates under the same terms and conditions.

For example, if one candidate is permitted to take the necessary steps to film a campaign-related informational show, all candidates should be given the opportunity under the same terms and conditions.



Questions concerning the content of cable TV programming by municipalities should be directed to the state Department of Telecommunications and Cable at 617-305-3580. OCPF's memo on this topic is available [here](#).



[CLICK HERE for a short video](#) about the audit process.

Why am I being audited by OCPF?

The campaign finance law requires OCPF to review reports and to ensure they are legal and accurate. The audit process happens for everyone (all 2,500 committees that file with our office).

Our goal is to assist committees with campaign finance law compliance to get the best public disclosure possible.

We ask that committees respond promptly to OCPF's audit questions.



#ELECTION2022

Click the "ALL REPORTS BUTTON" for access to 2022 candidate and committee campaign finance reports, including:

House of Representatives
Senate
Statewide
County (Sheriff and District Attorney)
PACs
Independent Expenditure (Super) PACs

New data monthly.

OCPF focuses on an educational theme each month. For the month of August, it's "**I landed a government job.**"

We will discuss and highlight issues related to public employees and the campaign finance law. Type "government jobs" into OCPF's search engine for information about public employees.

Hint: Public employees can't fundraise, but they can support campaigns in other ways.

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