

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

INTRODUCTION/WHO MUST FILE

Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-701(a) requires that the following persons file a written Statement of Financial Interest on an annual basis:

- A public official, as defined by Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-402(17);
- A candidate for elective office;
- A district judge; or city attorney, whether elected or appointed;
- Any agency head, department director, or division director of state government;
- Any chief of staff or chief deputy of a constitutional officer, the Senate, or the House of Representatives;
- Any public appointee to any state board or commission (who possesses regulatory authority or is authorized to receive or disburse state or federal funds);¹
- All persons who are elected members of a school board or who are candidates for a position on a school board;
- All public and charter school superintendents;
- All executive directors of education service cooperatives;
- Any person appointed to a municipal, county or regional (i) planning board or commission, (ii) airport board or commission, (iii) water or sewer board or commission, (iv) utility board or commission, or (v) civil service commission;
- Any member of an advertising and promotion commission; and
- Any member of a research park authority board under Ark. Code Ann. § 14-144-201 et seq.

The Arkansas Ethics Commission, which enforces this statute, has prepared these instructions, along with the office of the Secretary of State, whose office maintains the records, to assist persons required to file these statements. If you have any questions concerning the reporting requirements or how to fill out your Statement of Financial Interest, call or write either the **Arkansas Ethics Commission**, Post Office Box 1917, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1917, tel. (501) 324-9600 or the **Secretary of State, Elections Division**, State Capitol, Room 026, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, tel. (501) 682-5070.

When preparing the Statement of Financial Interest, please **print or type the information**. You must also sign the Statement in Section 13 and your signature must be attested to before a Notary Public.

¹ Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-701(a)(5)(B), a public appointee to a state board or commission which is not charged by law with the exercise of regulatory authority and which receives or disburses state or federal funds only in the form of mileage reimbursement for members attending meetings of the board or commission is not required file a written Statement of Financial Interest.

SPECIFIC REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS

SECTION 1 (Name and Address)

Answer each of these questions or indicate "Not Applicable". List all names under which you and/or your spouse do business.

SECTION 2 (Reason for Filing)

Check the box applicable to you and provide the office/position held or name of the board, commission or school district in the appropriate space.

SECTION 3 (Sources of Income)

The term "gross income" is intended to be comprehensive. It refers to all income from whatever source derived, including but not limited to compensation for services, fees, commissions, and income derived from business interests. Report each employer and/or each other source of income from which you, your spouse, or any other person for the use or benefit of you or your spouse receives gross income exceeding \$1,000 on an annual basis. Include your governmental income from the office or position which requires your filing of this form. You are required to use the gross amount received as income. Thus, you must compute your total income from any particular source without first deducting expenses.

You are not required to list the individual items of gross income that constitute a portion of the income of the business or profession from which you or your spouse derives income. (For example: Accountants, attorneys, farmers, contractors, etc. do not have to list their individual clients.) If more than one source/employer/entity compensated you during the past year, you are required to list each source of income greater than \$1,000. If you or your spouse received speaking honoraria, you must report, under the request for "source", the sponsor of each event for which a payment was made for your speech or appearance, as well as the date and dollar category ("more than \$1,000.00" or "more than \$12,500.00"). The term "honoraria", as used herein, means a payment of money or any thing of value for an appearance, speech, or article. NOTE: Food, lodging, and travel provided to a public servant in connection with an appearance would not constitute honoraria if the public servant is appearing in his or her official capacity and the appearance bears a relationship to the public servant's office or position. Section 10 of the Statement of Financial Interest addresses the reporting of payment for such food, lodging, and travel.

TIME FOR FILING/PERIOD COVERED

Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-701(c)(1)(A), a Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year "shall be filed by January 31, of each year, except that a candidate for elective office shall file the Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year on the first Monday following the close of the period to file as a candidate for elective office." Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-705, if the party filing period under Ark. Code Ann. § 7-7-203 ends before January 1 of the year of the general election, a candidate for elective office shall file a Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year no later than January 31 of the year of the general election in addition to the Statement of Financial Interest required under Ark. Code Ann. § 12-8-701.

Moreover, an agency head, department director, or division director of state government and any public appointee to a state board or commission authorized or charged by law with the exercise of regulatory authority or authorized to receive or disburse state or federal funds shall file a Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year within thirty (30) days after appointment or employment. Incumbent officeholders who filed a Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year by January 31 of the year in which an election is held are not required to file an additional Statement of Financial Interest upon becoming a candidate for reelection or election to another office during the year. Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-701(c)(2). If a person required to file a Statement of Financial Interest leaves his or her office or position during a particular calendar year, he or she shall still be required to file a Statement of Financial Interest covering that part of the year which he or she held the office or position. Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-701(c)(1)(B).

WHERE TO FILE

Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-703, the Statement of Financial Interest shall be filed as follows:

- (1) State or district public servants (including appointees to state boards/commissions) and candidates for state or district public office are required to file the statement with the Secretary of State;
- (2) County, township, or school district public servants and candidates for county, township, or school district public office are required to file the statement with the county clerks;
- (3) Municipal public servants and candidates for municipal office are required to file the statement with the city clerk or recorder;
- (4) City attorneys, whether elected or appointed, are required to file the statement with the city clerk of the municipality within which they serve;
- (5) Members of regional boards or commissions are required to file the statement with the county clerk of the county in which they reside; and
- (6) District judges are required to file the statement with the Secretary of State.

You must also provide a brief description of the nature of the services for which the income was received, as well as the name under which the income was received. For example:

Source	Description	Amount
State of Arkansas (address) John Doe	Executive Dir.	More than \$12,500.00
University of Arkansas (address) John M. Doe	Teaching	More than \$12,500.00
450 Main Street, Little Rock, Arkansas John M. Doe	Rent Income	More than \$12,500.00
Ark. Med. Society Annual Meeting (address) John Doe	Speaking fee Oct. 2, Little Rock	More than \$1,000.00
Star National Bank Star, Arkansas John or Jane Doe	Interest Income	More than \$1,000.00
City of Mayberry (address) Jane Doe	Spouse income	More than \$12,500.00
Ark. Bar Association Annual Meeting (address) Jane Doe	Speaking Fee Spouse, June 12 Hot Springs	More than \$1,000.00

Section 4 (Business or Holdings)

In this section, list the name of every business in which you, your spouse or any other person for the use or benefit of you or your spouse have an investment or holding. Stocks, bonds, stock options and other securities held by you or your spouse must be reported. Figures for these items, as well as all other holdings or accounts, should be based on fair market value at the end of the reporting period.