

# FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FOR ANC COMMISSIONERS



Presented by:  
Darrin P. Sobin  
Director of Government Ethics  
202-481-3411  
darrin.sobin@dc.gov

# Goal of this Course:

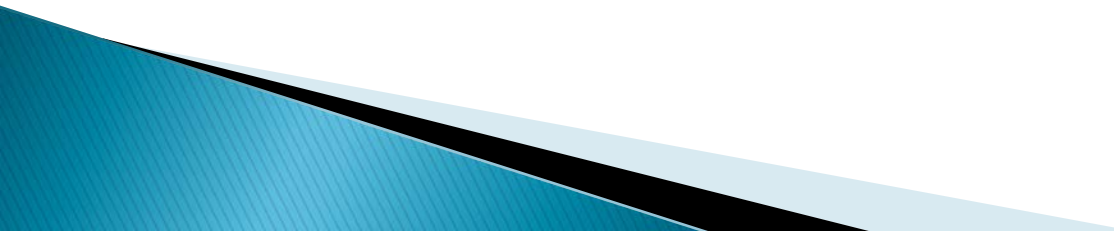
Discuss financial disclosure filing obligations for Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners

# Financial Disclosure

Who does it apply to?

What needs to be disclosed?

What are the important deadlines to remember?



# Public Financial Disclosure Certification

## ▶ Statutory Authority:

- ▶ D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.25(a-1)(2) “Effective January 1, 2014, an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner in office for at least 30 days shall be required to file a certification required by section 224(a)(1)(G) for the preceding year.”
- ▶ The Financial Disclosure Certification is submitted to the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (“BEGA”).
  - ▶ The Financial Disclosure Certification is filed *publicly*.
- ▶ ANC Commissioners are required to file the certification, whether electronically or on paper, by May 15th of each year

# What Must be Reported

- ▶ Each ANC Commissioner, must certify that he/she has:
  - Filed and paid his/her income and property taxes.
  - Diligently safeguarded the assets of the taxpayers and the District.
  - Reported known illegal activity, including attempted bribes, to the appropriate authorities.
  - Not been offered or accepted any bribes.
  - Not directly or indirectly received government funds through illegal or improper means.
  - Not raised or received funds in violation of federal or District law.
  - Not received or been given anything of value based on any understanding that the public official's official actions/judgment/vote would be influenced. (if applicable)
- ▶ There also will be a text box at the end of the certification form for you to provide explanation if necessary

# CERTIFICATION

By signing this affidavit before a witness, I hereby swear (or affirm) that to the best of my knowledge and belief, I have not caused title to property to be placed in another person or entity for the purposes of avoiding disclosure;

I further swear (or affirm) that I have:

- Filed and paid my income and property taxes;
- Diligently safeguarded the assets of the taxpayers and the District;
- Reported known illegal activity, including attempted bribes, to the appropriate authorities;
- Not been offered or accepted any bribes;
- Not directly or indirectly received government funds through illegal or improper means;
- Not raised or received funds in violation of federal or District law; and
- Not received or been given anything of value, including a gift, favor, service, loan gratuity, discount, hospitality, political contribution, or promise of future employment, based on any understanding that my official actions or judgment or vote would be influenced.

YOU MUST SIGN THIS FORM. Read the following carefully before you sign. I understand that the making of a false statement on this form or materials submitted with this form is punishable by criminal penalties pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 22-2405 et seq. (2001). I understand that any information I give may be investigated as allowed by law or Mayoral order. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all of my statements are true, correct, and complete.

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Signature

Printed Name

Date



# DEADLINE

## ▶ May 15

Public Financial Disclosure  
Certifications for ANC  
Commissioners must be filed with  
BEGA.

- BEGA will take enforcement action against any filer who fails to file or fails to file timely.

# How to File

- ▶ **Electronically at [www.bega-dc.gov](http://www.bega-dc.gov)**
  - Click on the “File a Financial Disclosure Statement” button
  - Click on “E-File”
  - Click on “Online Filing System”
  - Enter User Name (Login ID) and Password
- ▶ **In late April, every ANC Commissioner will receive a letter from BEGA. The letter will:**
  - *Explain the process for filing*
  - *Include the necessary login information for those who wish to file electronically*
- ▶ **In person or via mail**
  - **The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability**  
441 4th Street NW  
Suite 830 South  
Washington, D.C. 20001



# Apply Your Knowledge

- ▶ Question: What is the deadline for filing my Public Financial Disclosure Certification?
- ▶ Answer: Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 pm (if submitting a hard copy) or Midnight (If submitting an electronic copy)

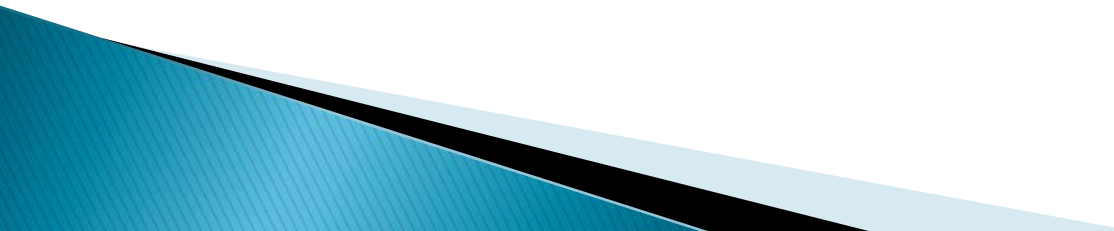
# Apply Your Knowledge

- ▶ Question: I am an ANC Commissioner and a Designated Employee (Confidential Filer) in a District Agency. Which form do I file?
- ▶ You must complete and submit **BOTH** a Confidential Financial Disclosure Statement, and a Public Financial Disclosure Certification for ANCs. The Certification is filed publicly and submitted to BEGA. The Confidential Financial Disclosure Statement is confidential and submitted only to your agency head.

# Apply Your Knowledge

- ▶ Question: If I was a candidate for ANC Commissioner in 2013, but did not take office until January 2014, do I need to complete and submit a Public Financial Disclosure Certification?
- ▶ Answer: Yes.
  - All “public officials” must file a Public Financial Disclosure Statement (D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.24(a)(1)).
  - The Ethics Act defines “public official,” in part, as “a candidate for nomination for election, or election, to public office.” (D.C. Official Code § 1-1161.01(47)(A)).
  - Because the elected office for which you were a candidate in 2013 was ANC Commissioner, you are required to file a Public Financial Disclosure Certification only, not a full Public Financial Disclosure Statement.

# Apply Your Knowledge

- ▶ Question: I did not receive a letter from BEGA with my login information for electronic filing, so I did not file a public financial disclosure certification, even though I believe I am required to file one. No enforcement action can be taken against me because I was not notified.
  - ▶ Answer: False
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# Questions about Financial Disclosure?

- Contact:
  - Cristina Patzelt
  - Attorney Advisor, BEGA
  - (202) 741-2130
  - Email – – [Cristina.Patzelt@dc.gov](mailto:Cristina.Patzelt@dc.gov)