



**Form CPF M18F: Report of Electioneering Communication Expenditure
Municipal Form
Office of Campaign and Political Finance**

Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

File with Local Election Official

1. Name of Individual, Group or Association making the Expenditure: _____

2. Address _____
Street Address City/Town State Zip

3. Candidate(s) Identified in Communication _____
Candidate Name(s)

4. Expenditure(s) (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Date Paid	To Whom Paid	Address	Purpose	Amount
			TOTAL:	

5. Receipt(s) in excess of \$250 for the purpose of making electioneering communications (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Date Received	Name	Address	Purpose	Amount
			TOTAL:	

Signature Date

Print name of individual signer and title (if signing on behalf of a group)

Who Should File This Form?

Any individual, group or association not defined as a political committee, who makes an electioneering communication expenditure, in an aggregate amount exceeding \$250 during a calendar year.

Any person, group or association that makes or contracts to make electioneering communications aggregating \$1,000 or more within 7 days before the date of an election shall file a report containing the information required by this section within 48 hours after making such expenditure.

What is An Electioneering Communication Expenditure?

M.G.L. Chapter 55, section 1 states in part:

"Electioneering communication", any broadcast, cable, mail, satellite or print communication that: (1) refers to a clearly identified candidate; and (2) is publicly distributed within 90 days before an election in which the candidate is seeking election or reelection; provided, however, that "electioneering communication" shall not include the following communications: (1) a communication that is disseminated through a means other than a broadcast station, radio station, cable television system or satellite system, newspaper, magazine, periodical, billboard advertisement, or mail; (2) a communication to less than 100 recipients; (3) a news story, commentary, letter to the editor, news release, column, op-ed or editorial broadcast by a television station, radio station, cable television system or satellite system, or printed in a newspaper, magazine, or other periodical in general circulation; (4) expenditures or independent expenditures or contributions that must otherwise be reported under this chapter; (5) a communication from a membership organization exclusively to its members and their families, otherwise known as a membership communication; (6) bonafide candidate debates or forums and advertising or promotion of the same; and (7) internet or email communications.

M.G.L. Chapter 55, section 18F states:

Every individual, group or association not defined as a political committee who makes an electioneering communication expenditure, in an aggregate amount exceeding \$250 during a calendar year, shall electronically file with the director, within 7 days after making such an expenditure, a report stating the name and address of the individual, group or association making the electioneering communication, the name of any candidate clearly identified in the communication, the total amount or value of the communication, the name and address of the vendor to whom the payments were made and the purpose and date of any such expenditure. In addition, any individual, group or association not defined as a political committee who makes an electioneering communication expenditure, in an aggregate amount exceeding \$250 during a calendar year, who receives funds for the purpose of making such electioneering communications shall include in the electronic filing the date the funds were received and the name and address of the provider of any such funds in excess of \$250, if any. Reports required by this section shall be filed with the director as provided in section 18C if communications were made to promote the election or defeat of any candidate who files with the director. Reports required by this section shall be filed with the city or town clerk if the communications were made to promote the election or defeat of any candidate seeking public office at a city or town election who does not otherwise file with the director.

Any person, group or association that makes or contracts to make electioneering communications aggregating \$1,000 or more within 7 days before the date of an election shall file a report containing the information required by this section within 48 hours after making such expenditure.

A violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment in the house of correction for not more than 1 year.

When Should This Form Be Filed?

It must be filed within 7 days of making the expenditure(s) or incurring the liabilities in excess of \$250 in aggregate; and within 48 hours of making expenditure(s) or incurring liabilities in excess of \$1,000 in aggregate when such expenditure is made or liability is incurred within 7 days before the date of a general or special election, or a primary or preliminary.

Where Should This Form Be Filed?

Reports required by section 18F of c. 55 shall be filed with the city or town clerk if the communications were made to promote the election or defeat of any candidate seeking public office at a city or town election who does not otherwise file with the director.

For further information:

Please contact the Office of Campaign and Political Finance at (617)979-8300 or (800)462-OCPF or visit the office's website at www.mass.gov/ocpf.