

*Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Office of Campaign and Political Finance*

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CONTACT: Denis Kennedy  
Director of Public Information  
(617) 727-8352 / (800) 462-6273

## **Electronic filing, campaign finance database now provide greater disclosure**

A total of 23 contributions from Petersham residents have gone to Massachusetts candidates. In Quincy, 450 contributions of more than \$200 have been given. And 62 contributions statewide have come from plumbers.

Those are just some of the facts gleaned from the Office of Campaign and Political Finance's Electronic Filing System (EFS), which now tracks hundreds of candidates for state office and is accessed through OCPF's web site, [www.mass.gov/ocpf](http://www.mass.gov/ocpf).

OCPF announced today that the EFS has passed a significant milestone in its development, with the recent addition of more than 300 legislative candidates. The system is ready for the next filing of legislative reports this Monday, Oct. 28. Reports will be available for electronic retrieval immediately upon their filing.

The EFS contains information for electronic reports filed by 374 candidates for the six statewide offices, Governor's Council, the House and the Senate who were required to e-file this year, as well as seven state ballot question committees. (Candidates and committees are required to e-file if their receipts or expenditures exceeds a statutory threshold, which varies according to the office sought.)

Legislative candidates filed their pre-primary reports online in September, joining the statewide and Governor's Council candidates who had been filing since January. Ballot question committees also e-filed their first reports of the year in September and will file twice a month through the election.

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“In addition to changing the method of reporting by candidates, the EFS has dramatically broadened the scope of disclosure,” said OCPF Director Michael J. Sullivan. “It is no longer necessary to come to our office to view information. From their own desktops, members of the public can conduct searches to track contributions and expenditures by community, name, occupation or employer.”

Viewers have the option of inspecting individual reports filed by candidates and committee or searching the entire database of contributors and expenditures. By clicking on the “Search Contributions” or “Search Expenditures” link on the EFS start page, a user can seek out entries using a wide array of criteria. For example, inputting the name of a city or town turns up a list of all itemized contributors from that community. Searches can be performed using other criteria, such as date, amount, and occupation or employer of contributor.

The EFS may be accessed through OCPF’s web site at [www.mass.gov/ocpf](http://www.mass.gov/ocpf). Click on Campaign Finance Reports and Data.” For help searching the database, contact OCPF at (617) 727-8352 or (800) 462-OCPF.

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