

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Campaign and Political Finance

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Statewide candidate reports now available on the Web

Campaign finance reports filed by candidates for statewide office are now available for public inspection on the Internet, the Office of Campaign and Political Finance announced today.

Images of reports filed on behalf of incumbents and announced candidates for all six constitutional offices -- governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, treasurer, secretary, and auditor -- have been posted on OCPF Online, the office's web site.

OCPF's web site may be accessed at www.state.ma.us/ocpf. The direct link to the statewide images main page is www.state.ma.us/ocpf/images/swimages.htm.

The posted reports begin with the January 2001 filings and now run through March. Summary cover sheets for the 2000 reports are also online. Reports covering any other periods are available in hard copy at OCPF.

Statewide candidates are in the depository system, under which reports of receipts and expenditures are filed monthly by the candidates' banks on the fifth of each month, and, in the second half of an election year, twice a month. Reports will be posted within a few days of receipt from the bank. The posted data do not include any subsequent amendments or additions.

OCPF Online already has images of reports filed by all candidates for the Legislature in 2000, as well as reports from state ballot question committees for the 2000 election.

OCPF Director Michael Sullivan called the posting of statewide reports a significant step toward greater disclosure of activity. "The response to the posting of legislative and ballot question reports last year was very positive, and there is obviously interest in statewide reports," Sullivan said.

The posting of images of the reports in ".pdf" format is not the final step in web disclosure. Starting next year, candidate reports will be filed electronically as well as on paper, with information filed to be made available on the Web that same day.

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