



EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014
EVERY ELECTED COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL
AND ELECTED LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER
MUST FILE THEIR
DISCLOSURE REPORTS WITH THEIR LOCAL

ELECTION SUPERINTENDENT
for COUNTY POSITIONS

OR

MUNICIPAL CLERK
for CITY POSITIONS

House Bill 143 (HB 143) passed during the 2013-2014 Regular Session and effective January 1, 2014, mandates that every elected county and municipal official and every elected member of a local board of education are to file their disclosure reports with the applicable Election Superintendent or Municipal Clerk in the county or city of election and **no longer** with the office of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission (Commission).

Disclosure reports include the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report, Personal Finance Disclosure Report, Two-Day Business Report, Final Report & Termination Statement, and Affidavit of an Incumbent not Seeking Reelection.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Where do I file my December 31, 2013 Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report?	
COUNTY POSITIONS	CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS
<p>You will file your December 31, 2013 Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report with the office of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. Those that are required to file this report have until January 8, 2013 to file the report <i>with the Commission.</i></p>	

2. Who do I file my disclosure reports with starting in 2014?	
COUNTY POSITIONS	CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS
	<p>Municipal Clerk in the municipality of election or, if there is no clerk, with the chief executive officer of the municipality;</p>

<p>Election Superintendent</p> <p>If you are unsure who to file your disclosure reports with contact the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) http://www.accg.org/ or 404-522-5022 for assistance.</p>	<p>provided, however, that a municipality and a county may enter into an agreement whereby such candidates, chairpersons, or treasurers shall file the required disclosure reports with the county election superintendent instead.</p> <p>If you are unsure who your Election Superintendent is contact the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) http://www.gmanet.com/ or 404-688-0472 for assistance.</p>
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<p>3. Do I continue to file my Declaration of Intent form to run for office with the Commission.</p>	
<p>COUNTY POSITIONS</p>	<p>CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS</p>
<p>Yes. If you choose to run for an elected position in 2014 and forward you are still required to register a Declaration of Intent as mandated by the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act Effective January 1, 2014. This form may be filed with your local entity who will need to e-fax your completed Declaration of Intent form to the Commission.</p>	

<p>4. County and Municipal Election offices fall under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State.</p>	
<p>COUNTY POSITIONS</p>	<p>CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS</p>
<p>Should you have any issues with your applicable county or municipal filing office contact the Secretary of State for assistance for they have jurisdiction over those positions. http://www.sos.georgia.gov/ or 404-656-2871.</p>	

<p>5. Do I still use the report forms from the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission website www.ethics.ga.gov?</p>	
<p>COUNTY POSITIONS</p>	<p>CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS</p>
<p>Yes. All applicable forms will be available on the Commission's website www.ethics.ga.gov.</p>	

<p>6. Will I be able to electronically file my statutorily required disclosure reports with my applicable county or municipal filing office?</p>	
<p>COUNTY POSITIONS</p>	<p>CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS</p>
<p>You will need to check with your applicable county or municipal filing office to determine if they have electronic filing capabilities.</p>	

<p>7. Late Filing Fees</p>	

COUNTY POSITIONS**CITY/MUNICIPAL POSITIONS**

Your local Election Superintendent or Municipal Clerk is responsible for the issuance and collection of late fees for disclosure reports not filed on time to them from January 1, 2014 forward.

Late fees incurred for reports not filed on time with the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission will be invoiced and collected by the Commission.

Suggestions from the Commission:

- Read House Bill 143 which is available on <http://www.legis.ga.gov/> titled 'Campaign contributions, disclosure reports; change certain provisions'.

The Bill was sponsored by:

House	Senate
Speaker David Ralston, 7 th Rep. Larry O'Neal, 146 th Rep. Calvin Smyre, 135 th Rep. Jan Jones, 47 th Rep. Edward Lindsey, 54 th Rep. Richard Smith, 134 th	Sen. Jeff Mullis, 53rd

- Read the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act effective January 1, 2014, and the Rules of the Commission which are available on our website. From www.ethics.ga.gov select LAWS/RULES from the black toolbar. These are the laws and rules elected and appointed officials are required to follow.
- Contact your Election Superintendent or Municipal Clerk and your local associations, GMA or ACCG, for guidance.
- If you are unsure who your Election Superintendent or Municipal Clerk is contact:
 - Association County Commissioners of Georgia(ACCG) <http://www.accg.org/> or 404-522-5022 for assistance.
 - Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) <http://www.gmanet.com/> or 404-688-0472 for assistance.

Please note that the Commission has no authority over how county and municipalities implement HB143.

It is the responsibility of each county and municipality to review and implement the laws that apply to them.

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