§ 104.4 Independent expenditures by political committees (2 U.S.C. 434(b), (d), and (g)).

(a) Regularly scheduled reporting. Every political committee that makes independent expenditures must report all such independent expenditures on Schedule E in accordance with 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(vii). Every person that is not a political committee must report independent expenditures in accordance with paragraphs (e) and (f) of this section and 11 CFR 109.10.

(b) Reports of independent expenditures made at any time up to and including the 20th day before an election. Independent expenditures aggregating less than $10,000 in a calendar year. Political committees must report on Schedule E of FEC Form 3X at the time of their regular reports in accordance with 11 CFR 104.3, 104.5 and 104.9, all independent expenditures aggregating less than $10,000 with respect to a given election any time during the calendar year up to and including the 20th day before an election.

(1) Independent expenditures aggregating $10,000 or more in a calendar year. Political committees must report on Schedule E of FEC Form 3X all independent expenditures aggregating $10,000 or more with respect to a given election any time during the calendar year up to and including the 20th day before an election. Political committees must ensure that the Commission receives these reports by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the second day following the date on which a communication that constitutes an independent expenditure is publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated. Each time subsequent independent expenditures relating to the same election aggregate an additional $10,000 or more, the political committee must ensure that the Commission receives a new 48-hour report of the subsequent independent expenditures by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the second day following the date on which the communication is publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated. (See paragraph (f) of this section for aggregation.) Each 48-hour report must contain the information required by 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(vii) indicating whether the independent expenditure is made in support of, or in opposition to, the candidate involved. In addition to other permissible means of filing, a political committee may file the 48-hour reports under this section by any of the means permissible under 11 CFR 100.19(d)(3).

(2) Cumulative reports. The reports required to be filed under §104.5 shall be cumulative for the calendar year (or for the election cycle, in the case of an authorized committee) to which they relate, but if there has been no change in a category reported in a previous report during that year (or during that election cycle, in the case of an authorized committee), only the amount thereof need be carried forward.

(3) Earmarked contributions. Earmarked contributions shall be reported in accordance with 11 CFR 102.8(c).

(4) Reporting Election Cycle Activity Occurring Prior to January 1, 2001. The aggregate of each category of receipt listed in paragraph (a)(3) of this section, except those in paragraphs (a)(3)(i)(A) and (B) of this section, and for each category of disbursement listed in paragraph (b)(2) of this section shall include amounts received or disbursed on or after the day after the last general election for the seat or office for which the candidate is running through December 31, 2000.

hours before the day of an election. Political committees must ensure that the Commission receives reports of independent expenditures aggregating $1,000 or more with respect to a given election, after the 20th day, but more than 24 hours before 12:01 a.m. of the day of the election, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the day following the date on which a communication is publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated. Each time subsequent independent expenditures relating to the same election aggregate an additional $1,000 or more, the political committee must ensure that the Commission receives a new 24-hour report of the subsequent independent expenditures by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time on the day following the date on which a communication that constitutes an independent expenditure is publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated. (See paragraph (f) of this section for aggregation.) Each 24-hour report shall contain the information required by 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(vii) indicating whether the independent expenditure is made in support of, or in opposition to, the candidate involved. Political committees may file reports under this section by any of the means permissible under 11 CFR 100.19(d)(3).

(d) Verification. Political committees must verify reports of independent expenditures filed under paragraph (b) or (c) of this section by one of the methods stated in paragraph (d)(1) or (2) of this section. Any report verified under either of these methods shall be treated for all purposes (including penalties for perjury) in the same manner as a document verified by signature.

(1) For reports filed on paper (e.g., by hand-delivery, U.S. Mail or facsimile machine), the treasurer of the political committee that made the independent expenditure must certify, under penalty of perjury, the independence of the expenditure by typing the treasurer's name immediately following the certification required by 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(vii).

(e) Where to file. Reports of independent expenditures under this section and 11 CFR 109.10(b) shall be filed as follows:

(1) For independent expenditures in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for President or Vice President: with the Commission and the Secretary of State for the State in which the expenditure is made.

(2) For independent expenditures in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for the Senate:

(i) For regularly scheduled reports, with the Secretary of the Senate and the Secretary of State for the State in which the candidate is seeking election; or

(ii) For 24-hour and 48-hour reports, with the Commission and the Secretary of State for the State in which the candidate is seeking election.

(3) For independent expenditures in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for the House of Representatives: with the Commission and the Secretary of State for the State in which the candidate is seeking election.

(4) Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraphs (e)(1), (2), and (3) of this section, political committees and other persons shall not be required to file reports of independent expenditures with the Secretary of State if that State has obtained a waiver under 11 CFR 108.1(b).

(f) Aggregating independent expenditures for reporting purposes. For purposes of determining whether 24-hour and 48-hour reports must be filed in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section and 11 CFR 109.10(c) and (d), aggregations of independent expenditures must be calculated as of the first date on which a communication that constitutes an independent expenditure is publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated, and as of the date that any such communication with respect to the same election is subsequently publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated. Every person must include in the aggregate total all disbursements
during the calendar year for independent expenditures, and all enforceable contracts, either oral or written, obligating funds for disbursements during the calendar year for independent expenditures, where those independent expenditures are made with respect to the same election for Federal office.

[88 FR 417, Jan. 3, 2003]

§ 104.5 Filing dates (2 U.S.C. 434(a)(2)).

(a) Principal campaign committee of House of Representatives or Senate candidate. Each treasurer of a principal campaign committee of a candidate for the House of Representatives or for the Senate must file quarterly reports on the dates specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section in both election years and non-election years, and must file additional reports on the dates specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section in election years.

(1) Quarterly reports. (i) Quarterly reports must be filed no later than the 15th day following the close of the immediately preceding calendar quarter (on April 15, July 15, and October 15), except that the report for the final calendar quarter of the year must be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar year.

(ii) The report must be complete as of the last day of each calendar quarter.

(iii) The requirement for a quarterly report shall be waived if, under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, a pre-election report is required to be filed during the period beginning on the 5th day after the close of the calendar quarter and ending on the 15th day after the close of the calendar quarter.

(2) Additional reports in the election year. (i) Pre-election reports. (A) Pre-election reports for the primary and general election must be filed no later than 12 days before any primary or general election in which the candidate seeks election. If sent by registered or certified mail, Priority Mail or Express Mail with a delivery confirmation, or with an overnight delivery service and scheduled to be delivered the next business day after the date of deposit and recorded in the overnight delivery service’s on-line tracking system, the postmark on the report must be dated no later than the 15th day before any election.

(B) The pre-election report must disclose all receipts and disbursements as of the 20th day before a primary or general election.

(ii) Post-general election report. (A) The post-general election report must be filed no later than 30 days after any general election in which the candidate seeks election.

(B) The post-general election report must be complete as of the 20th day after the general election.

(b) Principal campaign committee of Presidential candidate. Each treasurer of a principal campaign committee of a candidate for President shall file reports on the dates specified at 11 CFR 104.5(b) (1) and (2).

(1) Election year reports. (i) If on January 1 of the election year, the committee has received or anticipates receiving contributions aggregating $100,000 or more, or has made or anticipates making expenditures aggregating $100,000 or more, it shall file monthly reports.

(A) Each report shall be filed no later than the 20th day after the last day of each month.

(B) The report shall be complete as of the last day of each month.

(C) In lieu of the monthly reports due in November and December, a pre-election report shall be filed as prescribed at paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section, a post-general election report shall be filed as prescribed at paragraph (a)(2)(ii) of this section, and a year-end report shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar year.

(ii) If on January 1 of the election year, the committee does not anticipate receiving and has not received contributions aggregating $100,000 and does not anticipate making and has not made expenditures aggregating $100,000, the committee shall file a pre-election report or reports, a post general election report, and quarterly reports, as prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section.

(iii) If during the election year, a committee filing under 11 CFR 104.5(b)(1)(ii) receives contributions aggregating $100,000 or makes expenditures aggregating $100,000, the treasurer shall begin filing monthly reports at the next reporting period.