

Federal Election Commission

§ 5.4

provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

(d) *Requestor* is any person who submits a request to the Commission.

(e) *Act* means the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended by the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, 1976, and 1979, and unless specifically excluded, includes chapters 95 and 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 relating to public financing of Federal elections.

(f) *Public Disclosure Division* of the Commission is that division which is responsible for, among other things, the processing of requests for public access to records which are submitted to the Commission pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(B)(ii), and 438(a).

[45 FR 31293, May 13, 1980, as amended at 65 FR 9207, Feb. 24, 2000]

§ 5.2 Policy on disclosure of records.

(a) The Commission will make the fullest possible disclosure of records to the public, consistent with the rights of individuals to privacy, the rights of persons contracting with the Commission with respect to trade secrets and commercial or financial information entitled to confidential treatment, and the need for the Commission to promote free internal policy deliberations and to pursue its official activities without undue disruption.

(b) Nothing herein shall be deemed to restrict the public availability of Commission records falling outside provisions of the Act, or to restrict such public access to Commission records as is available pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and the rules set forth as part 4 of this chapter.

§ 5.3 Scope.

(a) The regulations in this part implement the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 437f(d), 437g(a)(4)(B)(ii), and 438(a).

(b) Public access to such Commission records as are subject to the collateral provisions of the Freedom of Information Act and are not included in the material subject to disclosure under this part (described in 11 CFR 5.4(a)) shall be governed by the rules set forth as part 4 of this chapter.

§ 5.4 Availability of records.

(a) In accordance with 2 U.S.C. 438(a), the Commission shall make the following material available for public inspection and copying through the Commission's Public Disclosure Division:

(1) Reports of receipts and expenditures, designations of campaign depositories, statements of organization, candidate designations of campaign committees and the indices compiled from the filings therein.

(2) Requests for advisory opinions, written comments submitted in connection therewith, and responses issued by the Commission.

(3) With respect to enforcement matters, any conciliation agreement entered into between the Commission and any respondent.

(4) Opinions of Commissioners rendered in enforcement cases and General Counsel's Reports and non-exempt 2 U.S.C. 437g investigatory materials shall be placed on the public record of the Agency no later than 30 days from the date on which all respondents are notified that the Commission has voted to close such an enforcement file.

(5) Letter requests for guidance and responses thereto.

(6) The minutes of Commission meetings.

(7) Material routinely prepared for public distribution, e.g. campaign guidelines, FEC Record, press releases, speeches, notices to candidates and committees.

(8) Audit reports (if discussed in open session).

(9) Agendas for Commission meetings.

(b) The provisions of this part apply only to existing records; nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the creation of new records.

(c) In order to ensure the integrity of the Commission records subject to the Act and the maximum availability of such records to the public, nothing herein shall be construed as permitting the physical removal of any Commission records from the public facilities maintained by the Public Disclosure Division other than copies of such records obtained in accordance with the provisions of this part.