

Federal Election Commission

§ 201.5

(c)(1) A Commissioner or member of a Commissioner's staff who receives an oral ex parte communication concerning any matters addressed in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section shall attempt to prevent the communication. If unsuccessful in preventing the communication, the Commissioner or staff member shall advise the person making the communication that he or she will not consider the communication and shall, as soon after the communication as is reasonably possible but no later than three business days after the communication, unless special circumstances make this impracticable; or prior to the next Commission discussion of the matter, whichever is earlier, prepare a statement setting forth the substance and circumstances of the communication, and deliver the statement to the Designated Agency Ethics Official for placement in the file of the matching fund request, audit or litigation case.

(2) A Commissioner or member of a Commissioner's staff who receives a written ex parte communication concerning any Commission action or potential action concerning any candidate or committee's eligibility for or entitlement to public funding, or any audit, or any prospective Commission decision or action concerning any pending litigation case, during the period described in paragraph (b) of this section shall, as soon after the communication as is reasonably possible but no later than three business days after the communication, unless special circumstances make this impracticable; or prior to the next Commission discussion of the matter, whichever is earlier, deliver a copy of the communication to the Designated Agency Ethics Official for placement in the file of the audit or litigation case.

§ 201.4 Rulemaking proceedings and advisory opinions: Ex parte contacts reported.

(a) A Commissioner or member of a Commissioner's staff who receives an

ex parte communication concerning any rulemaking or advisory opinion during the period described in paragraph (b) of this section shall, as soon after the communication as is reasonably possible but no later than three business days after the communication unless special circumstances make this impracticable, or prior to the next Commission discussion of the matter, whichever is earlier, provide a copy of a written communication or a written summary of an oral communication to the Commission Secretary for placement in the public file of the rulemaking or advisory opinion. The Commissioner or staff member shall advise any person making an oral communication that a written summary of the conversation will be made part of the public record.

(b) The requirements of paragraph (a) of this section apply:

(1) In the case of a rulemaking proceeding, from the date a petition for rulemaking is circulated to Commissioners' offices, or the date on which a proposed rulemaking document is first circulated to the Commission or placed on an agenda of a Commission public meeting, through final Commission action on that rulemaking.

(2) In the case of an advisory opinion, from the date a request for an advisory opinion is circulated to Commissioner's offices through the date on which the advisory opinion is issued, and during any period of reconsideration pursuant to 11 CFR 112.6.

§ 201.5 Sanctions.

Any person who becomes aware of a possible violation of this part shall notify the Designated Agency Ethics Official in writing of the facts and circumstances of the alleged violation. The Designated Agency Ethics Official shall recommend to the Commission the appropriate action to be taken. The Commission shall determine the appropriate action by at least four votes.