



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

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AGENDA ITEM

For Meeting of: 1-16-03

SUBMITTED LATE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 16, 2003

TO: The Commission

FROM: Ellen L. Weintraub, Chair *EW*
Michael E. Toner, Commissioner *MT*

RE: Proposed Commission Rulemaking Calendar

We propose that the Commission adopt the rulemaking schedule below for the first six months of 2003.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act ("BCRA") by this summer. The proposed schedule seeks to ensure that the Commission completes rulemakings on several critical and timely campaign finance areas -- including the rules governing Presidential candidates and national nominating conventions -- before the Supreme Court rules on BCRA, at which time the Commission may be required to issue regulations implementing the Court's decision. The proposed schedule also seeks to take prompt final action on regulations revisions that the Commission has considered for some time, including those relating to the administrative fines program. We also propose during the first six months of this year to complete a rulemaking concerning the ethics rules that apply to the Commission and to hold an initial hearing concerning the Commission's enforcement policies and procedures.

We recognize that the proposed schedule is aggressive and would require the Commission to devote substantial resources to rulemaking projects during the first half of 2003. However, we also strongly believe that it is necessary for the Commission to take decisive action on these matters on an expedited basis to provide the regulated community and the public with the legal guidance they need to conduct their political activities.

RULEMAKING CALENDAR -- 2003

Leadership PACs

1/31	Deadline to Request to Testify
1/31	Public Comments Due
2/26	Hearing
3/19	Reg C Discussion
4/3	Final Rule Consideration

Title 26 and National Convention/Host Committees

2/12	Draft NPRM to Reg C
2/19	Reg C Discussion
3/14	Approve NPRM
3/14	Begin comments
4/18	Deadline to Request to Testify
4/18	Public Comments Due
5/7	Hearing
5/19	Reg C Discussion
6/19	Final Rule Consideration

Administrative Fines

1/31	Draft Final Rules to Reg C
2/5	Reg C Discussion
2/27	Final Rule Consideration

Ethics

3/19	Draft NPRM or Interim Final Rules to Reg C
3/26	Reg C Discussion
4/10	Approve NPRM or Interim Final Rules
4/10	Begin comments
5/16	Public Comments Due
6/11	Reg C Discussion
6/26	Final Rule Consideration

Enforcement Policies and Procedures

Hearing to be held by June 30, 2003