

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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TEXAS CAMPAIGN FAILS TO FILE PRE-PRIMARY REPORT

WASHINGTON — Texas will hold primary elections on March 13, 1990, to select candidates for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

Provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act require that committees supporting candidates involved in the primary must file reports of their financial activity 12 days before the election.

As of 5 p.m., March 8, a report from the following committee had not been filed:

TX/15...KIKI DE LA GARZA FOR CONGRESS, MRS. SIGLINDE FRANZ, TREAS....E. (KIKI) DE LA GARZA (D)

The report was to include financial activity occurring from January 1 through February 21. If sent certified or registered mail, the report should have been postmarked by February 26. Otherwise, the due date was close-of-business March 1.

Some individuals and their committees have no obligation to file reports under federal election law, even though their names may appear on state ballots. If any individual and his or her campaign committee raise or spend less than \$5,000, the individual is not considered a "candidate" and neither the individual nor the committee has to register.

The Commission notified the committees of candidates involved in the primary of their potential filing requirements on February 5, 1990. Those committees which did not file on the due date were notified on March 2, that their reports had not been received and that their names would be published for failure to file if they did not respond within 4 business days.

The Commission publishes only the names of those committees which have been designated by candidates as their principal campaign committees. Under Amendments to the Federal Election Campaign Act, effective January 8, 1980, candidates no longer are required to file personal reports of receipts and expenditures. All such information is reported by authorized committees of the candidates.

Other political committees supporting Senate and House candidates in elections (those which are not authorized units of a candidate's campaign) also are required to file pre-primary reports unless they report monthly. Those committee names are not published by the FEC.

Further Commission action against non-filers and late filers will be decided on a case-by-case basis. The Federal Election Campaign Act gives the Commission broad authority to initiate enforcement actions, including civil court enforcement and the imposition of civil penalties (\$5,000 for "any violation" and \$10,000 for any "knowing and willful" violation) for infractions of the law, including failure to file required disclosure reports.

The next report due for Texas candidates is the April Quarterly report, due April 15, covering activity between February 22 and March 31. If a runoff election is required, the campaigns involved will be required to file an intervening report on March 29, covering activity from February 22 through March 21.

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