Thornton's Candidate Committee Regulations At-a-Glance

References: Colorado Constitution Article XXVIII, Colorado Revised Statutes Title 1, Article 45 (Fair Campaign Practices Act), Secretary of State's Rule 8 CCR 1505-6, Thornton City Code Article VI (approved by Ordinance 3676)

- Candidate Affidavit:
  - Must be filed within 10 days of publicly announcing an intention to run for office and subsequently receiving a contribution or making an expenditure in support of the candidacy
- Committee Registration:
  - Must be filed prior to accepting contributions or making an expenditure
- Bank Accounts:
  - All contributions received must be deposited and maintained in a separate account which must include the name of the committee
- Filing Deadlines:
  - 120 Days Prior to the Election *– New, per Ordinance 3676*
  - 90 Days Prior to the Election *– New, per Ordinance 3676*
  - 60 Days Prior to the Election *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*
  - 30 Days Prior to the Election *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*
  - 15 Days Prior to the Election *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*
  - 30 Days After the Election *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*
  - Annually in off-election years until the committee is terminated
- Contribution Limits:
  - Limit of $400, per election, of aggregate contributions from any one person, including a political party and excluding a small donor committee *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*
  - Limit of $4,000, per election, in aggregate contributions from any one small donor committee *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*
- Prohibited Contributions:
  - Contributions from a person who is not a citizen of the U.S.
  - A foreign government
  - Any foreign corporation that does not have the authority to transact business in Colorado
  - Another candidate committee
  - Issue committees
  - Anonymous donations of $20 or more
- Expenditures for Advertising:
  - Cannot pay radio or television station, newspaper, periodical, or other supplier of materials or services a higher charge than normally required for local commercial customers for comparable use of space
  - Rates shall not be rebated, directly or indirectly
  - If any radio or television station, newspaper, periodical, or other supplier of materials a lower rate, the difference must be reported a s a contribution to the candidate committee
- Disclosure Requirements:
  - All contributions must be reported
  - Contributions of $20 or more must be itemized

  - One-time contributions from an individual of $100 or more must include employer and occupation of donor
  - Contributions and expenditures exceeding $100 must be made by check, money order, or traceable funds
- Terminating a candidate committee:
  - For a candidate not elected, the committee must be terminated within one year following the election, unless there is a campaign finance compliant against the committee
  - For a candidate elected, the committee must be terminated within one year following the date the candidate leaves office, unless there is a campaign finance complaint against the committee
- Publication and Retention of reports (City Clerk responsibility):
  - Reports must be made available on the City's website
  - For a candidate not elected, reports must be kept for 10 years from the date of filing – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
  - For a candidate elected, reports must be kept for six years after the candidate leaves office *– New, per House Bill 23-1245*