

What am I getting myself into?

A Candidate's Guide to Mississippi's Ethics in Government Law

DISCLOSURE

- State law requires all candidates for elected office (except election commission and levee board) to file a Statement of Economic Interest with the Mississippi Ethics Commission within 15 days after the qualifying deadline.
- The form must be completed electronically at the Ethics Commission's web site, www.ethics.state.ms.us.

RESTRICTIONS

The Ethics in Government Law will not stop anyone from running for office. However, if you are elected to a municipal office, the following restrictions will apply to you during your entire term of office and may also apply for one year after you leave office:

- You cannot be employed by the municipality. You, your employer and your business cannot contract, subcontract, sell or buy with/to/from the municipality, directly or indirectly.
- Your wife or husband will not be able to work for the town or city. If your spouse is already employed by the municipality, he or she will have to quit his or her job.
- Your spouse's business or employer will probably be prohibited from doing business with the municipality.
- You may face some legal restrictions if other relatives work for the municipality or do business with the municipality, including your parents, your children, your brothers and sisters and some of your in-laws.
- The Ethics Law is separate from the Nepotism Law and other state laws. Exceptions to other laws do not apply to the Ethics Law.



Mississippi Ethics Commission

Promoting Integrity in State and Local Government

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