



The Secretary's Report

Secretary of State
Mike Coffman

Newsletter
October 2007

Campaign Finance Disclosure Task Force Update

Secretary Coffman's Campaign Finance Disclosure Task Force held their third meeting on Thursday, September 27. The Task Force took public testimony from citizens, advocacy groups, and members of the media on how to improve the State's campaign finance website and bring additional transparency and accountability to the money flowing into Colorado's political campaigns.

The Task Force heard testimony on what types of information, reports, and searches should be provided to the public from the Secretary of State's Campaign and Political Finance Disclosure website.

Secretary Coffman's goal is to provide accurate, timely, and detailed information to citizens while providing it in a user-friendly and efficient manner.

Secretary Coffman Announces Town Abandonment Hearings

Secretary Coffman will hold a hearing on October 23 to determine if ten towns in Douglas County should be abandoned.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 31-3-201, the county attorney of Douglas County has made an application to the Secretary of State for a determination that the following towns are abandoned:

- Acequia
- Deckers
- Douglas
- Frankstown
- Greenland
- Huntsville
- Lehigh
- Louviers
- Russelville
- West Creek (Westcreek)

The application alleges as its grounds that the towns failed, for a period of longer than five years immediately prior to the filing of the application, to hold any regular or special election, elect officers, or to maintain the functions of any town government.

The hearing will be held on October 23, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Hearing Room, Phillip S. Miller Building, 100 Third Street, Castle Rock. At the hearing the Secretary of State Mike Coffman will hear evidence and testimony relating to this matter. The public is invited to attend. After the hearing the Secretary Coffman will issue a written decision whether or not the towns are abandoned.

Copies of the abandonment notice and the Secretary's decision to include Frankstown are available [here](#).

For more information about the Campaign Finance Disclosure Task Force, please visit the [Secretary of State's website](#).

More News...

[Election Criteria Not a Measure of Success in Iraq by Mike Coffman](#)

[Rocky Mountain News Editorial: Proving who you are - Sensible voting ID laws now in Supreme Court's hands](#)

[Read more at the Secretary of State's website](#)

Coffman Launches Political Campaign Finance Trainings for Political Candidate and Issue Committees

Regional trainings offered for candidate and issue committees as the 2008 elections approach

Secretary of State Mike Coffman announced the launch of a regional training campaign to ensure political candidate committees and issue committees follow Colorado political campaign finance laws as the 2008 election cycle approaches.

"In order for the public to trust the political process there must be accountability, openness and transparency," Coffman said. "As the heated 2008 election year draws near, it is critical that the candidate and issue committees that will raise and spend millions of dollars in Colorado understand and follow our campaign finance laws. My office has created these training sessions to ensure that political committees have the information they need to follow the law."

Candidate and issue committees are required to file financial records with the Secretary of State's office throughout the election cycle, including itemizing the contributions they receive and the expenditures they make. Coffman's administration recently replaced the paper-filing provisions with an electronic filing requirement, so the public can gain immediate access to the finances of political committees online.

Over the next two months training sessions will be held in Alamosa, Colorado Springs, Glenwood Springs and the Denver Metro area. The Secretary of State staff will be presenting two classes in each location. One class focuses on the laws and rules surrounding campaign and political finance while the other class has been designed as a hands-on training with the online filing system. The online class is presented to assist filers with learning how to use the system, which is especially helpful for those state committees who will be required to file electronically after October 1. County candidates and committees are also welcomed and encouraged to attend the online class because they can voluntarily file electronically.

Full details are available at the Campaign Finance page of the [Secretary of State's website](#).
