

# ***What am I getting myself into?***

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

### **STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

- State law requires all candidates for elected office (with the exception of election commissions and levee boards) to file a Statement of Economic Interest with the Mississippi Ethics Commission within **15 days after the deadline for qualification** and every year thereafter.
- The form must be submitted **electronically** at the Ethics Commission's web site: [www.ethics.ms.gov](http://www.ethics.ms.gov).

### **GENERAL RESTRICTIONS**

The Ethics in Government Law will not stop anyone from running for public office. However, **if you are elected** to public office (municipal, county, or state 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 public body you represent. You, your employer and your business may not be able to contract, subcontract, sell or buy with/to/from the public body, directly or indirectly.
- Your wife or husband may not be able to work for the public body. If your spouse is already employed by the public body, he or she may have to quit his or her job.
- Your spouse's business or employer will probably be prohibited from doing business with the public body.
- You may face some legal restrictions if other relatives work for the public body or do business with the public body, 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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