CLIENT NEWS BRIEF

Important Update: The deadline to file the Annual Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) has been extended from April 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) has announced it is allowing a 60-day extension for those required to file a 2019 Annual Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700). As a result of this extension, Form 700's normally due no later than April 1, 2020 will be accepted by the FPPC as timely filed if submitted by June 1, 2020. This extension applies to all officials required to file in April pursuant to Commission Regulations 18723 and 18730. This extension will likely be welcomed relief for many public officials in California required to file Form 700's, and is in contrast to the FPPC guidance issued on March 17, 2020 indicating that the April 1 deadline could not be extended by state or local filing officers.

The FPPC still encourages annual filers to file as soon as they are able, in advance of the June 1, 2020 extended deadline. Those who have access to an electronic Form 700 filing system are encouraged to use it. If electronic filing is not available, filers can submit Form 700's by mail. Statements postmarked on or before June 1, 2020 will be considered filed on time. The Commission intends to formally ratify this extension at its April 2 special meeting.

For more information on issues arising from COVID-19, please contact one of our <u>eight offices</u> located statewide. You can also subscribe to our <u>podcast</u>, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn or download our <u>mobile app</u>.

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