

IMPORTANT UPDATE INFORMATION

In the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature two very important Amendments were enacted which significantly impact the Ethics Law:

1. The monetary threshold for filing Statements of Economic Interests forms was increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000. (Act 2012-509, Effective August 1, 2012)
This is the first adjustment to this threshold since 1995.

The legislation also provided that the figure may be adjusted by the Commission to reflect changes in the U. S. Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index.

This monetary threshold is not the only criteria that should be reviewed in determining whether or not you should file a Statement of Economic Interests. There are more than 20 other categories of required filers regardless of how much the person makes. These can be found in Section 36-25-14(a)(1-25), Code of Alabama, 1975. Please note the addition of the newest category in subsection 25 which includes "every full-time public employee serving as a Supervisor."

2. In regard to the "gift exception" in the definition of "Thing of Value," the Legislature enacted a definition of the term "de minimis," which allows for gifts up to \$25 in value and an aggregate of \$50 in a calendar year from a single provider. (Act 2012-433, Effective August 1, 2012)

Please keep these new amendments in mind as you review the Ethics Law. If you have any questions, please visit our website or contact the Ethics Commission using the contact information set out below:

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