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American League of Lobbyists The LD-203 Report

May 11, 2009



LD-203 Semiannual Report

Agenda for LD-203 Discussion

- Overview of Report
- Information Reported
- Filing the Report
- Suggestions

Overview of LD-203

- Semiannual disclosure of certain "political" contributions
 - FECA
 - Honoring
 - Meetings
 - Presidential libraries and inaugural committees
- Each organization with in-house lobbyist must complete form
- Each individual listed as a lobbyist must complete the form
- Includes certification of Gift Rule compliance
- Due July 30 and January 30



Report Contents

FECA Contributions

- Contributions to federal candidates, leadership PACs, and parties
 - Aggregate to recipient of \$200 or more
 - Aggregate during reporting period
 - Leadership PAC: political committee that is directly or indirectly established, financed, maintained or controlled by the candidate or the individual but which is not an authorized committee of the candidate or individual and which is not affiliated with an authorized committee of the candidates or individual



Report Contents

FECA Contributions

- Must report the date and amount of each contribution
- Aggregation is during semiannual period and does not carry over
 - E.g., \$199 in May is not aggregated with \$199 in August
- All of this information is already disclosed through the FEC
 - Must still be disclosed on LD-203
- Does not include state contributions or contributions to PACs (other than leadership PACs)



Report Contents

Honoring & Recognizing

- Payments for an event to honor or recognize a covered legislative or covered executive branch official
- Payments to an entity that is named for a covered legislative branch official or an entity in recognition of such official
- Payments to an entity established, financed, maintained or controlled by a covered legislative or covered executive branch official or to entity designated by such official



Report Contents

Honoring & Recognizing

- What is reported?
 - Payee
 - Date
 - Amount
 - Honoree
- Contributions disclosed under the FECA
 - E.g., payment for a fundraising event
- If reimbursed by a registrant, then registrant reports, not lobbyist



Report Contents

Honoring & Recognizing: Not Reported

- Speaking Events: Payments for events where covered officials are speakers do not have to be reported unless the speaker receives an award or other special recognition.
- Appearing on Program: Listing a covered official as an attendee of an event does not have to be reported unless the speaker receives an award or other special recognition.
- Co-Hosts: An event that lists a covered official as an "Honorary Co-Host" is not one honoring or recognizing such officials, or one named for the covered official, unless they are given an award or other special recognition at the event.
- **Titles:** Using the recognized honorific "The Honorable" before a person's name does not make the event one honoring or recognizing the official.
- **Tickets:** Purchasing a ticket, or even a table, to an event where a covered official will be honored or recognized does not have to be reported, even if the host organization would report its costs for the event.
- Solicitation: A solicitation by a covered official for a charitable contribution is not one "designated" by that official unless the official has some other role, such as being on the board of the entity to receive the contribution
- Honorarium: Contributions to charity made in lieu of a payment for speaking must be reported



Report Contents

Honoring & Recognizing: Reported

- Plaques, Awards, Etc.: If a covered official will be given a "special award, honor, or recognition by the organization" at an event, then it is one honoring or recognizing the official. While not entirely clear from the *Guidance*, this appears to mean more than a simple "thank you for being here today and speaking to us" and more akin to giving that person a specific award or plaque.
- Payments: If an individual or organization makes a specific donation to fund an event honoring or recognizing an official, and the donor is aware that the event will be a reportable event at the time of the contribution, then it must be disclosed. This is different than a payment to purchase a ticket or a table at the event.
- Block Purchases: If an entity purchases enough tables or tickets to an event that "it would appear that they are paying the costs of the event and/or would not appear to be just ticket or table buyers," then the payment would have to be disclosed.



Report Contents

Honoring & Recognizing: Examples

- Request for contribution to Iowa relief from Senate staff person
- Looking only at email, is this made at the designation of a covered official?
 - Not merely because of the request BUT because she is on the board of the organization

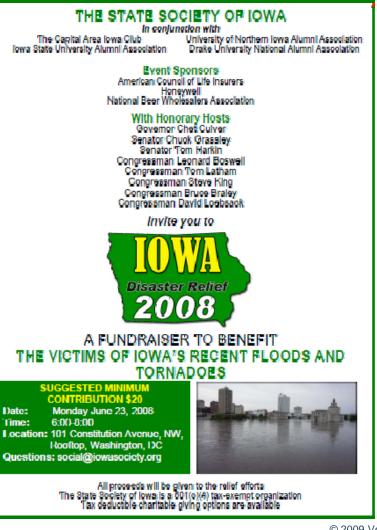
Subject: Iowa Disaster Relief EventMonday, June 23rd	
LI:	
Hi, everyone,	
I apologize for the mass email, and I know some of you are receiving this twice. I'm on the board of the Constitution . We have put togethe to benefit Iowa's disaster victims this Monday, June 23rd at 101 Constitution.	er an eve
I hope you'll all attend, or at least forward the invitation on to your DC contacts.	
Thanks,	
Divertor of Caleduliu a	
Director of Scheduling Senator	
Senator	



Report Contents

Honoring & Recognizing: Examples

 Guidance excludes this event because the Covered Officials are only "honorary hosts"



Report Contents

Presidential Entities

- Name of each Presidential Library Foundation to which contributions aggregating \$200 or more in the semiannual period are given, along with date and amount of contribution
- Name of each Presidential Inaugural Committee to which contributions aggregating \$200 or more in the semiannual period are given, along with the date and amount of the contributions
 - Would include tickets purchased from such committees

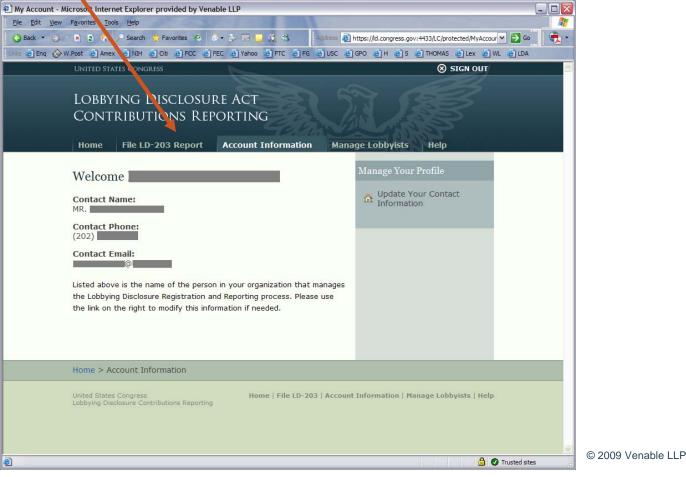


Filing the Report

Initial Steps

- Go to https://ld.congress.gov:4433/LC/
- Login using ID and password

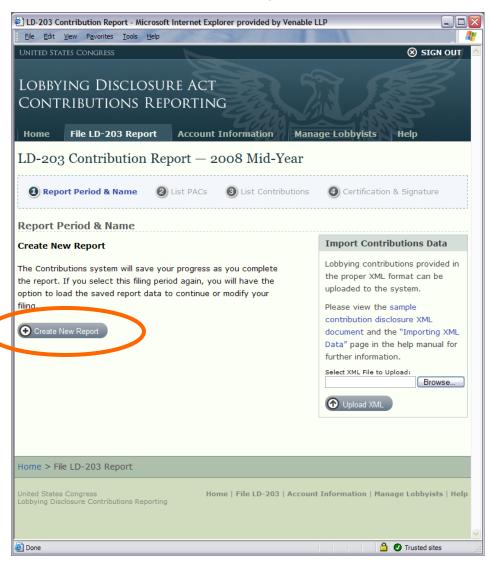
Click "File LD-203 Report"



Filing the Report

Initial Steps

Click create new report



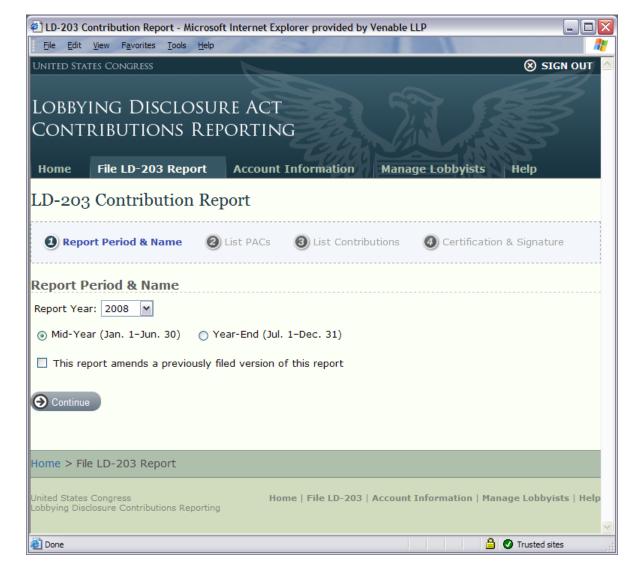


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Filing the Report

Initial Steps

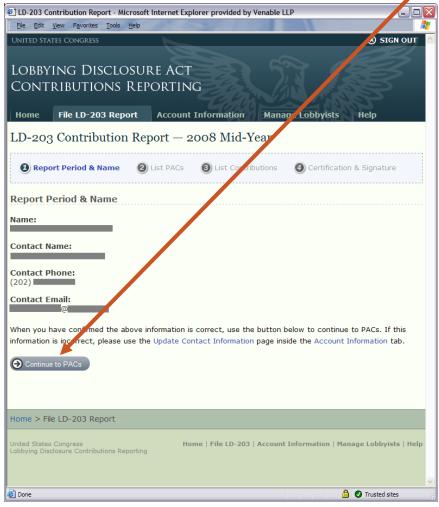
Select reporting period





Filing the Report Initial Steps

Review information & click "Continue to PACs"



Filing the Report

List PACs that the lobbyist or organization controls

- Connected PAC must be disclosed by lobbyist but not all contributions
- Board members "control" a PAC under Guidance
- Click Continue to Contributions





Filing the Report

Contributions

- Type one of four types (see next)
 page)
- Contributor Name will be self (unless control a PAC)
- Date is date
 payment made
- Honoree Name is the name of the covered official

LD-203 Contribution Report - Elle Edit View Favorites Tool		Explorer provided by Venable	
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Continue to Signature			
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Done			🔒 🕐 Trusted sites



Filing the Report

Contributions

Click Continue to Certification after all contributions are in

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Add Contribution				
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me > File LD-203 R	eport			



Filing the Report

Gift Rule Certification

- Click certification box
- Click Sign and Submit

ED-203 Contribution Report - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Venable LLP	. 🗆 🗙
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LD-203 Contribution Report — 2008 Mid-Year	;
Report Period & Name Iist PACs Iist Contributions Certification & Signature	
Certification & Signature	
Comments: (Optional)	(eport
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I certify that I have read and am familiar with the provisions of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the Rules the House of Representatives relating to the provision of gifts and travel. I have not provided, requested, or direct gift, including travel, to a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of either House of Congress with knowledg that receipt of the gift would violate rule XXXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate or rule XXV of the Rules of the H of Representatives during this filing period.	ed a ge
Sign and Submit	
Home > File LD-203 Report	
United States Congress Home File LD-203 Account Information Manage Lobbyists Lobbying Disclosure Contributions Reporting	Help
🗿 Done	



Filing the Report

Certification

- "Has read and is familiar with" the House and Senate Gift Rules
- "Has not provided, requested, or directed a gift, including travel, to a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of either House of Congress with knowledge that receipt of the gift would violate" the House or Senate Gift Rules



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Filing the Report

Certification

- Lobbyist will show as having signed his or her report
- Organization signature shows the contact name
 - LD-1 and LD-2 allow you to enter the name of the person signing
 - Change contact name in LD-203 to proper signor



Suggestions for LD-203

- Implement Gift Rule compliance program
 - Training
 - Internal controls
- Implement tracking of payments/undertake lookback if not already in place
 - Use accounting codes
 - Require government affairs to sign off on reportable payments
- Establish filing procedures to complete report and have appropriate individual review report



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