



CITY OF ATLANTA

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ETHICS OFFICE

Ginny Looney, Ethics Officer
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Ethics
FROM: Ginny Looney
RE: 2011 Financial Disclosure Report
DATE: March 17, 2011

Filing Records

This year has been an excellent filing year and sets the standard for future years.

Despite a slow beginning, this year's filing record is consistent with 2008, the best filing year since the Board of Ethics assumed responsibility for financial disclosure. Of the 1507 required filers, 91 percent filed by the deadline, 7 percent filed late, and 2 percent had reasonable cause for filing late. There are 16 individuals who have not filed, compared to 64 at this point last year, and 14 of this year's nonfilers are former employees or board members. A record 10 departments made the Honor Roll for their 100 percent compliance with the filing laws, with 4 first-time members, and an eleventh large department received the Honorable Mention Award for the first time.

Comparison of Filing Rates, 2008 – 2011

Category	2011 Numbers	2011 Percentage	2010 Numbers	2010 Percentage	2009 Numbers	2009 Percentage	2008 Numbers	2008 Percentage
Timely filers	1367	90.7	1315	86.8	1,464	87.1	1,514	92
Late filers	99	6.6	102	6.7	165	9.8	104	6.3
Non-filers	16	1.1	64	4.2	31	1.8	10	0.6
Reasonable cause	25	1.7	34	2.2	20	1.2	18	1.1
Incomplete	0	0	0	0	2	0.1	0	0
TOTAL	1507		1515		1,680		1,646	

The number of delinquent filers has dropped significantly.

Fortunately, the number of delinquent filers has dropped this year to 16 from a high of 50 in 2010. There are two active employees who still have not filed and one who filed a day late; the remaining delinquent filers are two former board members and 11 former city employees. Some of these individuals may be removed from the roll if they file and show reasonable cause for filing late due to lack of notice about the filing requirement.

The Electronic Disclosure System worked more consistently this year.

This better filing record can be attributed in large part to a better e-filing system. For the first time in three years, the login process for the Electronic Disclosure System worked as it was designed to do, and filers were generally able to login on their first try and complete their filing. We sent login information (User IDs and passwords) in two letters and two emails, which seemed to help. Because there were fewer calls for assistance, our staff was able to focus more effort on notifying and encouraging nonfilers to meet the filing or grace period deadlines. In addition, we called nonfilers twice before the end of the grace period and were able to locate several persons who had not previously received notice.

Every department worked diligently to get their employees to file.

We sent a nonfilers report to each department and each board before the filing deadline and again before the end of the grace period. Every department worked diligently this year to ensure that every active employee filed by the filing deadline or by the end of the grace period. The combined efforts of the departments and our staff to notify persons about the deadlines helped increase the filing rates.

Other forms are now available and being filed online.

Notice was also sent to the City Council and department heads about the gift reports and conflict of interest reports. To date, 16 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Reports, 10 Travel Disclosure Reports, and 17 Gift to the City Reports have been filed, in comparison to 2 conflict reports, 13 travel reports, and 13 gifts reports by this time last year.