



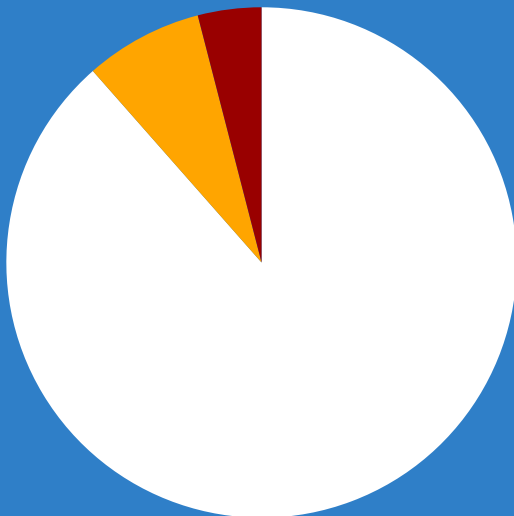
Statements of Financial Information - City of Austin

PREVENTING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

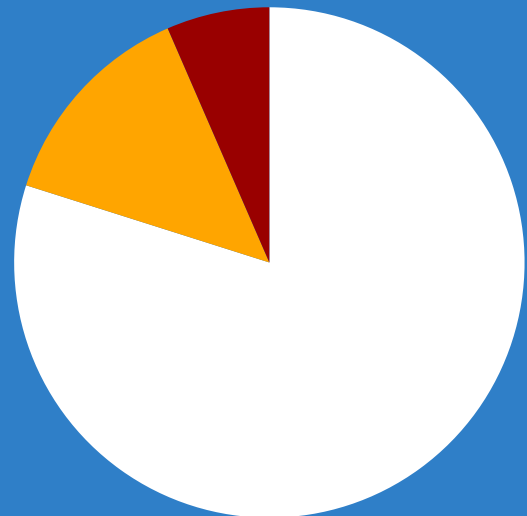
Every year, in keeping with the city's ethics policy, designated non-elected city officials must file a Statement of Financial Information to disclose their income and assets. The goal is for the public to have confidence in the integrity of its government, yet these disclosures are not posted on the city's website. Through a series of public information requests, The Austin Bulldog obtained the 2013 filings and uncovered numerous problems.



FILING YEAR 2012



FILING YEAR 2013



On-Time Filings
Late Filings
Missed Filings

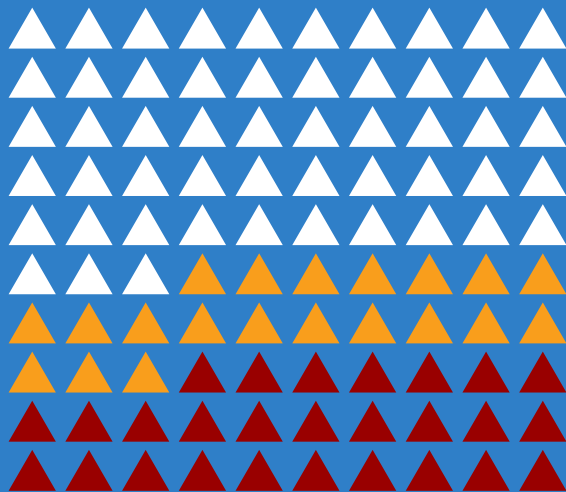
LACK OF OVERSIGHT

Statements are due by the last Friday in April covering the employee's income and assets for the preceding calendar year, per City Code Section 2-7-76.

Late filing and failing to file "shall be punished by a fine in an amount not exceeding \$500," per City Code Section 2-7-99.

The City of Austin's Ethics Review Commission is empowered to investigate violations upon receipt of a complaint alleging a violation filed with the City Clerk's office or on the Commission's own initiative.

To this day, the Commission has not received a complaint, investigated possible violations on its own initiative, or referred a case to the city attorney for prosecution.



SOURCES OF INCOME

Many officials did not list any source of income. The income of spouses or domestic partners was concealed either by not providing the information or redaction for privacy reasons.

Did not list any sources of income

Redacted partner's information

Did not provide partner's employer(s)

AMBIGUOUS ANSWERS

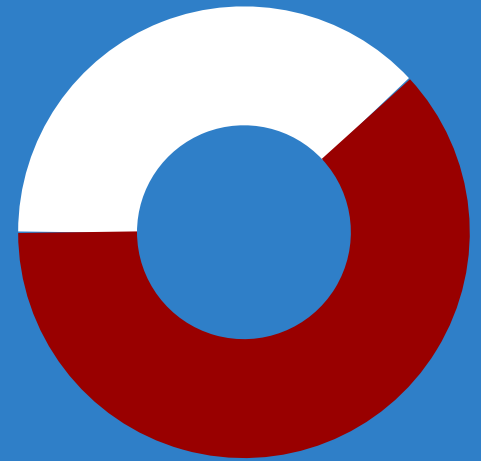
When making entries related to investments and loans, some officials answered only in vague generalities, rather than providing an itemized list, as required.

"Various Mutual Funds"
"Various Credit Cards"
"Various Bonds"

CONCLUSIONS

Out of 147 filings, only 56 officials filled out the forms correctly.

The City of Austin is inconsistent in identifying the non-elected officials who are required to file Statements of Financial Information and negligent in enforcing their proper completion. As a result of The Austin Bulldog's investigation, the city's appointed Ethics Review Commission has voted to institute reforms.



Correct **Incorrect**

Visit www.theaustinbulldog.org for more on this story.

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