



Illinois Ethics Matters

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor

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Recent News

The OEIG is pleased to announce that **Madeline Lewis** and **Emily Paymer** began as Investigative Assistants in the Chicago office, and that **Rachel Miller** began as an Assistant Inspector General in the Springfield office.

Economic Interest Reporting on the Horizon



In the coming weeks, many state employees and officials will be required to report on their economic interests. There are two reports required for certain employees of agencies of the Illinois Governor.

First, the Governmental Ethics Act requires certain state and RTB employees to file a **Statement of Economic Interests (SEI)**. The SEI asks eight questions about sources of income and other financial matters for the previous calendar year. State employees who are required to file will receive a paper copy of the SEI from the Secretary of State, or can download a blank SEI from the Secretary of State's [website](#). RTB employees and appointees file with the County Clerk.

Your ethics officer may be required to review your SEI. The Secretary of State must receive an original SEI, including an original signature, postmarked by May 1. (Employees hired during the month of April who are required to file have until the end of May to do so.) Fines for late filings begin at \$15 and escalate to \$100 per day; refusal to file can result in forfeiture of your position.

Second, Executive Order 15-09 requires employees and appointees at agencies of the Illinois Governor who file the SEI to also file a **Supplemental Statement of Economic Interest (SSEI)**. This form is administered through the Executive Ethics Commission, and is filed online; you will be notified via email how to file.

If you have questions about the SEI or the SSEI, please bring them to your ethics officer.

Upcoming Primary Election

State employees and appointees are reminded that the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act and other statutes prohibit political activity during most state compensated time, on state property, and in other circumstances.

For example, in recent years, the EEC has levied fines against employees who used state email accounts for political purposes.

While most state employees are free to volunteer their own time and resources to political organizations, restrictions may apply when on state property or on compensated time. Even if using your own mobile phone, for instance, it is inappropriate to solicit political contributions while at a state facility, unless the facility has been leased from the state.

The OEIG has issued a [guide](#) which discusses some of the political provisions in state law. When in doubt, ask your ethics officer.