

# Elections and Enforcement Authority

What follows is an effort by the Enforcement Authority, with the approval of the Norman City Council, to inform the citizens of Norman of its role in enforcing certain provisions of the Norman City Code that deal with the election of a mayor and members of the city council.

The Enforcement Authority enforces the rules with respect to disclosure of campaign contributors, contributions and expenditures. More specifically, the authority:

1. Reviews all disclosure reports from candidates and from Political Action Committees (PAC) for accuracy and for internal consistency. Political Action Committees as well as candidates must comply with the relevant sections of the city code (A PAC is defined as an organization concerned with the election or defeat of a particular candidate or with an issue in a given election).
2. Investigates all substantial discrepancies between contributions and expenditures, and
3. Makes a final report to the city council after each election.

The authority does all this in close cooperation with the city clerk, who provides the forms involved in reporting, along with written instructions to candidates or their representatives.

The provisions of the city code which the authority enforces function:

1. To curb the influence of money, for example, by limiting contributions to candidates in city council races to \$500 per person and to candidates for mayor to \$1,000 per person.
2. To make available to the press, political opponents and the general public, prior to an election, the names, addresses and occupations of all persons who contribute more than \$50 to a given candidate, and thereby
3. To provide the basis for making judgments regarding the interests of those who support or oppose a given candidate or issue.

NOTE: The provisions of the city code which the authority is duty-bound to enforce are found in Sections 7.5-21 through 7.5-24. The duties and procedures of the Enforcement Authority are listed in Sections 7.5-26 and 7.5-27. The duties of the city clerk in facilitating the process of enforcement are listed in Sec 7.5-25. All provisions of the city code can be found on the city's website, [www.CityofNorman.com](http://www.CityofNorman.com), and are available in the Office of the City Clerk, 201 W. Gray, 405-366-5406.

Editor's note: Members of the Norman Enforcement Authority are Mary Francis, chair; Dr. Richard Hilbert, Ty Hardeman, Nina Flannery and Dorinda Harvey.