

DRAFT – MARK UP

Agency # 108.00

**RULES
FOR
NONPARTISAN OFFICE
FILING FEES**

(Effective February 17, 2002; Revised ~~December 29, 2015~~)



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Scope of Rules	3
§100 Definitions	3
§101 Filing as a Candidate	3
§102 Payment of Filing Fees	3
§103 Filing Fee Period	4 3
§104 Nonpartisan Filing Fee Fund	4
§105 Filing Fees	4

Scope of Rules

These rules and regulations will set forth the procedures for establishing filing fees for nonpartisan offices pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 7-10-103. These rules are in addition to and not a substitute for the laws of the State of Arkansas.

§ 100 Definitions

- (a) Annual Salary - for the purpose of these rules, the salary established by the General Assembly during Regular sessions or the Independent Citizens Commission for each office ~~for~~ that is in effect on the last day of the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the candidate files for office.
- (b) Nonpartisan office - the offices of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, district judge, or prosecuting attorney.¹
- (c) Filing Fee - for the purpose of these rules, the fee paid by a candidate for the offices of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, district judge, and prosecuting attorney to the Secretary of State at the time of filing his or her political practices pledge.

§ 101 Filing as a Candidate

A candidate for a nonpartisan office may access the ballot by:

- (a) Paying a filing fee;
- (b) Filing a petition; or
- (c) Filing as a write-in candidate in the manner provided under §7-10-103.

§ 102 Payment of Filing Fees

Candidates for the offices of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, district judge, and prosecuting attorney shall pay the filing fee to the Secretary of State at the same time the candidate files his or her political practices pledge².

These filing fees shall be nonrefundable.

¹ A.C.A. §§ 7-1-101(24)(A); 7-10-102(a)

² A.C.A. § 7-10-103(b)(2)(A)

§ 103 Filing Fee Period

The filing period shall begin at 3:00 p.m. on the first day of the party filing period and shall end at 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the party filing period.³

§ 104 Nonpartisan Filing Fee Fund

The filing fees collected for the offices of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, and district judge shall be remitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Nonpartisan Filing Fee Fund for covering the cost of election expenses of the State Board of Election Commissioners.⁴

The first one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) collected annually from filing fees for the office of prosecuting attorney shall be remitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Trial Court Administrative Assistant Fund.⁵ The remaining filing fees collected for the office of prosecuting attorney shall be remitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit in the Nonpartisan Judicial Filing Fee Fund.⁶

§ 105 Filing Fees

The filing fee for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be 6% of the annual salary.

The filing fee for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court shall be 6% of the annual salary.

The filing fee for Judge of the Court of Appeals shall be 5% of the annual salary.

The filing fee for circuit judge shall be 4% of the annual salary.

The filing fee for prosecuting attorney shall be 3% of the annual salary.

The filing fee for district judge shall be 3% of the annual salary.

All filing fees calculated under this section shall be rounded up to the next ten dollars. The filing fees for each office shall be converted into dollar amounts pursuant to this rule and published in the *Running for Public Office Handbook* by the State Board of Election Commissioners.

³ A.C.A. § 7-10-103(b)(2)(B)

⁴ A.C.A. § 7-10-103(b)(3)(A)

⁵ A.C.A. § 7-10-103(b)(3)(B)(ii)

⁶ A.C.A. § 7-10-103(b)(3)(B)(i)