

## What is Not a Contribution

This list describes things that are not reportable as a contribution and do not count against a contributor's limit:

- A contribution that is returned to the contributor within five business days of receipt.
- Ordinary home hospitality, including coffee hours, cocktail parties, wine and cheese parties and similar gatherings where the purpose is to meet the candidate or organize a campaign and where no admission fee is charged or contributions expected from those attending.
- Personal services of the kind commonly performed by volunteers so long as no volunteer is being compensated by anyone in connection with his or her volunteer activity described below.
- Incidental expenditures by volunteers of \$50 or less in the aggregate for the duration of the campaign. If this limit is exceeded, the entire amount is reported as an in-kind contribution and subsequent expenditures by the volunteer would be disclosed on future reports as additional contributions.
- A news item, feature, commentary or editorial in a regularly scheduled news medium that is 1) of primary interest to the general public, 2) controlled by a person whose business is that news medium, and 3) not controlled by a candidate or a political committee.
- Internal political communications from 1) a political party organization or PAC primarily to its contributors or members; 2) a corporation or similar enterprise primarily to its officers, management staff and stockholders; or 3) a union, association or other membership organization primarily to its members.
- Messages in the form of reader boards, banners, yard or window signs displayed on an individual's or entity's own property or property occupied by the individual or entity. However, if the individual or entity normally charges a fee to display a message, an in-kind contribution would occur if no fee or a reduced fee is charged for display of a political ad.
- Providing legal or accounting services if 1) the person or entity paying for the services is the regular employer of the person rendering the service, the attorney or accountant is self-employed or doing the work on his or her own time, and 2) the services are solely for the purpose of complying with state election or public disclosure laws.
- Standard interest earned on money deposited into the campaign account.

Everything else of value received by the candidate or the candidate's committee for use in the election campaign -- including discounts on items purchased or services rendered -- and any other type of expenditure by a person done in such a way that it constitutes a contribution to the candidate is subject to limit and must be recorded in the campaign records and included on the appropriate disclosure report.