

Congress Releases LD-203 Contribution Reporting System

As you know, the enactment of the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 (“HLOGA”) has imposed additional lobbying disclosure and ethics obligations on lobbyists and companies that employ or retain lobbyists. On June 30, 2008, Congress released its new Lobbyist Disclosure Electronic Filing Contribution Reporting System for LD-203 organizational and individual lobbyist reporting.

Congress sent out emails to registrants with information regarding the new reporting system on June 30 as well. It is our understanding that training DVDs will be sent out to active registrants soon. In the meantime, Congress has released a training manual and online tutorials.

Who Must File?

Active registrants and individuals who have been listed as active lobbyists by their employer-registrant must file. If a lobbyist is “active” for any part of the semi-annual period, the lobbyist must file a contribution report (LD-203).

How Do You File?

Organizational registrants will use the same ID and password that are used to file LD-1 and LD-2 lobbying disclosure forms to sign into the system. Employed registered lobbyist names must be verified before an individual account can be created for each employee. Once a lobbyist name has been verified by the organizational employer, a lobbyist will be emailed by Congress with instructions to create a unique password before access to the system is permitted. The email will most likely come from “Contribution Accounts; LCAccounts@mail.house.gov.” Registrants and lobbyists will then use a web-based system to electronically file their contribution reports. To access the Contribution Reporting System, please visit: <https://ld.congress.gov:4433/LC/>

Features of the Filing System

The system can be used with both PC and Mac computers. The system will pull up forms with some pre-populated information and draft reports will be able to be saved on the system. Additionally, lobbyists will only have to file one report that will be sent to both the House and the Senate.

Filing Deadlines

- Mid Year Report: Due by July 30, 2008
- End of Year Report: Due by January 30, 2009

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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