



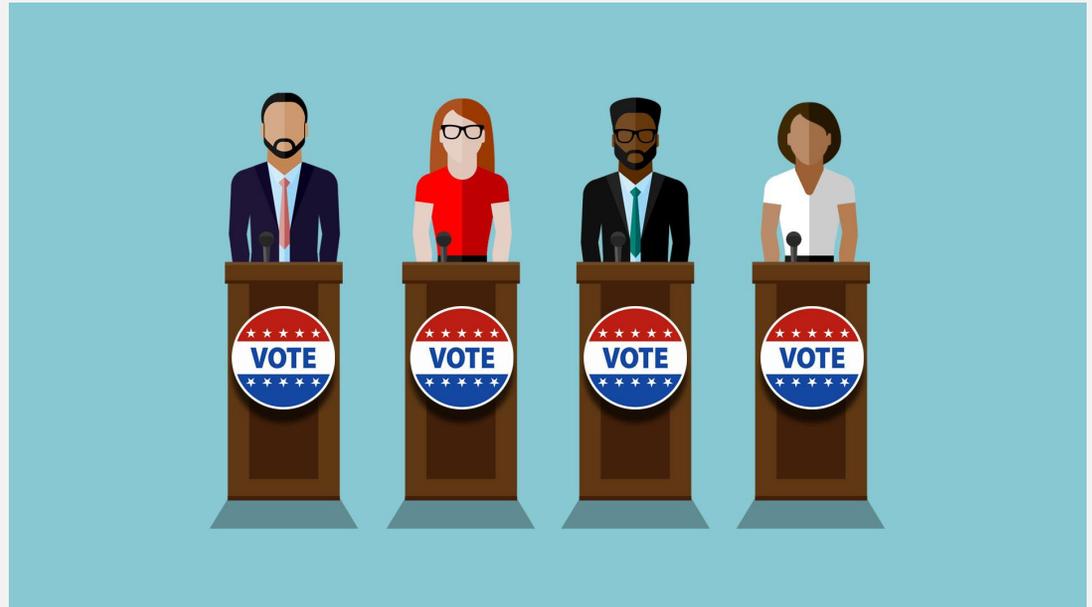
2026 RECALL
ELECTION
INFORMATIONAL
TRAINING

INTRODUCTIONS

- Miriam Luna Gonzalez, Town Clerk
- Missy Carranco, Deputy Clerk
- Pam Anderson, election training and support

TONIGHT WE WILL COVER:

- Important dates
- The role of elected officials
- Time commitments
- Election information
- Nomination petitions
- Fair Campaign Practices Act
- Next steps & best practices



WHAT TO
CONSIDER

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

SOME OF THE BASICS...

Board of Trustees

Six elected Trustees.

One elected Mayor.

Trustees serve four-year terms.

The Mayor serves a two- year term.

The Mayor is not entitled to vote except in case of a tie vote.

The Board of Trustees offices are **non-partisan**.

Governmental Structure

The Town of Firestone is a **statutory Town**.

Compiles with state statute and the Municipal Code.

Council – Manager style of governance.

Meetings

Regular meetings are on the **third** Wednesday of every month at **6:00 pm**, with a pre-meeting work session preceding at **5:30 pm**.

Work sessions are on the **second** Wednesday of every month at **6:00 pm**.

Additional or earlier meeting times are at times required for Firestone Urban Renewal Authority (FURA).

TIME COMMITMENTS

Committee participation

- The Mayor and Trustees are **appointed** to Town board and commissions in addition to special districts or other quasi-governmental authorities to act as **liaisons** for the Town.
- Time commitment will vary, and meetings could be day or evenings.

Training

- Newly elected officials are required to attend training session with Town staff and the Town Attorney.
- Trainings are also something on going as policies, procedures, and the Municipal Code evolve.

Roles

The Board of Trustees also serves as the:

- Firestone Urban Renewal Authority

Board of Trustees are often expected to also attend:

- Ribbon cuttings
- Local ceremonies
- Community events

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Potential Successor Candidates must meet the following criteria pursuant to C.R.S. 31-10-301:

- Must be a **registered voter** by the time of the candidate's nomination.
- Must be **at least 18 years of age** by the date of the election.
- Must be a **primary resident** of the Town of Firestone for a period of **at least 12 consecutive months** immediately preceding the election.
- Must **maintain residency** throughout the term in office.
- May not be a candidate for more than one office at the same election or hold two municipal offices.
- May not be an incumbent officer subject to the recall.

GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION

- The Town of Firestone Municipal Recall Election was called for **Tuesday, April 21, 2026.**
- For frequently asked questions about recall elections, go to the elections page
<https://www.firestoneco.gov/194/Election-Information>

BALLOT ACCESS

Nomination Petitions



NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Candidates for municipal offices shall be nominated **“at large”**, without regard to political party, affiliation, or geographic location.

Nomination petitions must be filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Each nomination petition shall be completed with the **name of the candidate as he/she wishes it to appear on the ballot**, the **candidate's place of residence**, and the **office being sought**.

Candidates may use a **nickname**, but may not use any title or degree designation with the business or profession of the candidate

Candidates may **withdraw** from the election by submitting a **written affidavit** to the Town Clerk's Office stating their withdrawal.

NOMINATION PETITION SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS



The nominating petition must contain **10 signatures** of **registered electors** residing **within the town limits** of the Town of Firestone.



An elector has the right to **sign only as many petitions as there are offices to fill**. Each registered elector signing the petition must also **print their name** and **physical address** as it appears on their voter registration.



It is advisable to **obtain more** than the required 10 signatures.

CIRCULATION OF NOMINATION PETITIONS

Candidates may **circulate their petition** or have **others circulate** a petition for them.

Each nomination petition may only be circulated by **one person**.

Nomination petitions **cannot** be left **unattended** by the circulator.

The **circulator must witness and certify by notarized affidavit** that each signature is the signature of the person whose name it purports to be.

OTHER RECALL ELEMENTS

- If the person subject to recall resigns at any time prior to the date of the elections, all recall proceedings are terminated. However, once the recall election has been called, it must move forward despite the resignation.
- If an incumbent is not recalled, the municipality **MAY** repay him/her for any moneys actually expended:
 - Challenging the sufficiency of the petition.
 - Presenting voters with his/her official position, including campaign literature.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER NOMINATION PETITIONS ARE FILED?

Nomination petition signature review

- ▶ The Town Clerk's Office will **verify signatures** on the nomination petitions.
- ▶ A letter of sufficiency or insufficiency will be sent to each candidate.

What if signatures are eliminated resulting in less than 10 signatures?

- ▶ The petition circulator has time in which to amend the petition.
- ▶ The last day to **amend** a nomination petition is **February 13, 2026**

IMPORTANT CANDIDATE PETITION DATES

- **April 21st** – Municipal Recall Mail Ballot Election.
- **January 22nd** – Nomination petitions can be circulated.
- **February 10th** – Nomination petitions due back to the Town Clerk's office.
- **February 13th** – If a petition is not sufficient, additional signatures can be collected and are due this day.
- **Date TBD** – Lot Drawing and Election Q&A

BASIC REVIEW
FOR COMMITTEES
& CANDIDATES

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT

The **reporting requirements** of the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA) apply in Recall Elections.

All forms required by the act must be **filed** with the **Town Clerk's Office**.

FCPA violation complaints are also required to be filed with the **Town Clerk's Office** per the Municipal Code. [Town of Firestone Code Section 2.14.020](#)

It is the **responsibility** of each candidate to become **familiar** with and meet the reporting and filing provisions of the **Fair Campaign Practices Act**.



FCPA REQUIREMENTS AND RECALL ELECTIONS

Recall Committees

- Issue committees are formed to support or oppose the recall of any municipal officer.
- Must register within 10 calendar days of accepting/making contributions or expenditures in excess of \$200 to support/oppose the recall.
- An ***incumbent*** subject to recall wishing to oppose it must form an **issue committee**. The incumbent may not use his/her candidate committee to oppose the recall.
- Persons seeking to fill the vacancy created by a successful recall must form a **candidate committee** if accepting contributions.
- Persons supporting/opposing candidates to fill the vacancy must form a **political committee**.



Recall Issue Committees:

Within 15 days of registering
Every 30 days thereafter until the date the recall election has been established; then,
14 days before the recall election
7 days before the recall election
30 days following the recall election



Other committees file on 'normal' FCPA filing deadlines. All filings to done with the municipal clerk.

FCPA REQUIREMENTS – FILING DATES

CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTS



Contributions

- \$20 or more itemized.
- \$100 or more, report individual occupation and employer

Expenditures

- Report all.
 - In kind contributions- anything of value from a 3rd party that is not reimbursed.
 - Report reimbursements to yourself or 3rd party as an expenditure.
-
- Campaign finance is not a cash operation. Cash and coin- no more than \$100 in contribution or expenditure.

RECALL COMMITTEE

(Recall Committee, Recall Issue Committee, Recall Issue Committee)

FILING DATES

Must register within ten (10) calendar days of accepting or making of contributions or expenditures in excess of \$200 to support or oppose the recall.

- **Within 15 days of registration of petitions**– 1st Report filing due.
- **Every 30 days thereafter** until the date the recall election has been established; then,
- **April 7th** – 1st Recall Committee Report Filing due.
- **April 14th** – 2nd Recall Committee Report Filing due.
- **May 21st** – Post Election Recall Committee Report Filing Due

Termination Report filed with a zero balance.

CANDIDATE COMMITTEES

A candidate committee **accepts contributions** and **makes expenditures under the authority of the candidate.**

A candidate committee **includes** the candidate- additional members are not required.

A candidate can only have **one** active candidate committee.

The Secretary of State recommends **registering a candidate committee** with the appropriate filing office (the Town Clerk) **before** accepting contributions or making expenditures.

You also need to designate a **registered agent** who will act as the committee's representative; the candidate can serve as the registered agent.

RECALL CANDIDATE COMMITTEE

(Candidate Committee or Stand-Alone Candidate)

FILING DATES

Deadline

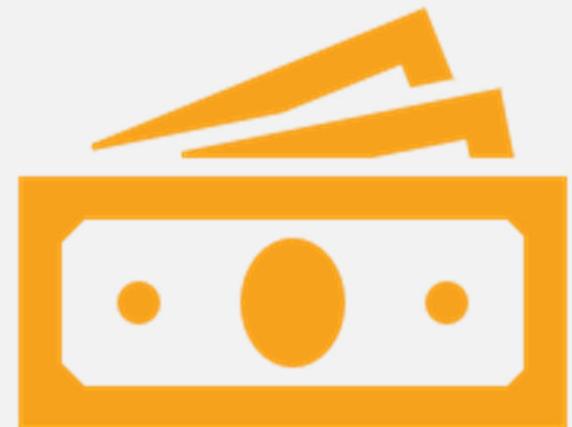
- ▶ **Within 10 days of petition acquisition**
- ▶ **February 20, 2026** (60 days before ED)
- ▶ **March 23, 2026** (30 days before ED)
- ▶ **April 6, 2026** (15 days before ED)
- ▶ **May 21, 2026** (30 days after ED)

Form

- ▶ Candidate Affidavit
- ▶ First Campaign Report due
- ▶ Second Campaign Report due
- ▶ Third Campaign Report due
- ▶ Fourth/Post Campaign Report due

CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES

- Established limits for aggregate individual contributions to a candidate committee at a maximum of \$400.00.
- Established maximum aggregate contribution limits for small donor committees at \$4,000.00.
- Added an additional campaign finance filing report and modified the due dates.
- Requires municipality to make filed campaign finance reports available free of charge on town website.
- Increases the retention period for campaign finance reports for candidates from one year to ten years, and for elected officials from one year to six years after the candidate leaves office.



STAND ALONE CANDIDATES (CANDIDATES WITHOUT COMMITTEES)

Standalone candidates are candidates **without a candidate committee**.

You **do not need a candidate committee** if you will **not solicit or accept contributions** during your candidacy or if you will only **spend** your own money.

Standalone candidates **must** report **all expenditures** to the clerk.

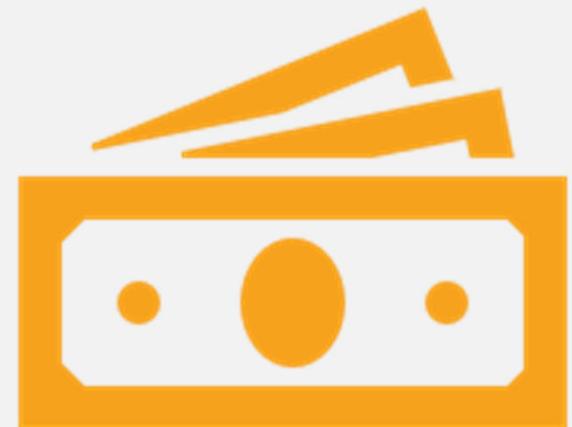
Standalone candidates **must itemize all expenditures of \$20 or more** (either one-time expenditures or expenditures greater than \$20 in aggregate during a reporting period)

The law does not require standalone candidates who do not make expenditures to file disclosure reports, but candidates may file a zero report if they choose.



CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR ISSUE COMMITTEES

- Established limits for aggregate individual contributions to a candidate committee at a maximum of \$400.00.
- Established maximum aggregate contribution limits for small donor committees at \$4,000.00.
- Added an additional campaign finance filing report and modified the due dates.
- Requires municipality to make filed campaign finance reports available free of charge on town website.
- Increases the retention period for campaign finance reports for candidates from one year to ten years, and for elected officials from one year to six years after the candidate leaves office.



STAND ALONE CANDIDATES V. CANDIDATE COMMITTEES

Stand alone candidates

- ▶ Without a candidate committee
- ▶ **Will not solicit contributions**
- ▶ **Will not accept contributions**
- ▶ Will only **spend your own money**
- ▶ **Report all expenditures to Town Clerk**
- ▶ No affirmative action required to end candidacy.
- ▶ Written withdrawal and disclosure reports required to exit the race.

Candidate committees

- ▶ **Committee** under the authority of candidate and **includes candidate.**
- ▶ **Solicits and accepts contributions.**
- ▶ **Makes expenditures.**
- ▶ Must file **all** assigned disclosure reports.
- ▶ Must **register committee.**
- ▶ Must have a **registered agent.**
- ▶ Candidate committee **remains in existence** until terminated.

WHAT IF FCPA DISCLOSURES AREN'T FILED ON TIME?

The Town Clerk's Office will impose **penalties of \$50 per day**, including weekends and holidays, for reports filed after the due date, even if your committee has no activity during the reporting period.

FCPA complaints can be filed with the Town Clerk's Office following the process outlined in the Firestone Municipal Code.



A stack of rolled-up newspapers is shown, with a black rectangular text box overlaid in the center. The text box contains the title "ELECTIONEERING AND POLITICAL SIGNS" in white, bold, uppercase letters. The newspapers in the background are slightly out of focus, showing various colors and text.

ELECTIONEERING AND POLITICAL SIGNS

Electioneering is any communication broadcasted by television or radio, printed in a newspaper or on a billboard, directly mailed or delivered by hand to personal residences or otherwise distributed.

Does more than just simply refer to a candidate. The communication must also express electoral advocacy and seek to influence the outcome of a Colorado election.

(SOS Campaign Finance Manual)

Political signs regulations

Must be on private property

Must not obstruct the motorist view (traffic sightlines)

NEXT STEPS

- ▶ The Town Clerk's Office Election webpage provides links to required reports. The Town Clerk's Office will endeavor to **remind** candidates of upcoming **FCPA deadlines**.
- ▶ The **Lot Draw** will be scheduled at a later date to determine the order of the candidates on the ballot.
- ▶ **UOCAVA ballots** will be mailed on or before **March 7th**, and **all other ballots** mailed will begin by **March 30th**.

BEST PRACTICES

▶ Self-education is vital

- ▶ Read the **Candidate Informational Packet** in its entirety, if questions arise, please contact the Town Clerk's Office and we will do our best to assist you, however, **we cannot provide legal advice.**
- ▶ Read the **Colorado Revised Statutes Title 31**, the **Fair Campaign Practices Act**, and **any citations referenced** in the Candidate Informational Packet.
- ▶ Ensure you and your petition circulator(s) are clear on the laws surrounding petition circulation.
- ▶ Read the [Firestone Municipal Code](#) especially the sections relating to the Board of Trustees and elections.

▶ All candidates will be given the same forms, documentation, etc.

- ▶ If you would like to review records, you will need to fill out a [Colorado Open Records Request form](#) found on the Town's website.
- ▶ If you have questions for Town staff, please **route those questions** through the **Town Clerk or the Town Manager.**
 - ▶ **Answers** to questions will be routed to **all candidates.**



QUESTIONS?