

COMMISSION MEMBERS

James Hester, FAICP
Chair

Maxene Bardwell, CPA
Vice Chair

Toni Drake, Esq

Robert Scaggs

Karen Lubieniecki

Lynne Sport, Alternate



COMMISSION STAFF

Cristian L. Pulley, CPM
City Administrator
Executive Officer

Dennis Whitley, III, Esq.
Legal Counsel

Laura Christoplos
Administrative Assistant II

ANNUAL MANDATORY FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT 2024

1. Fill in the preliminary information requested in the box below. Be sure to identify the correct reporting period.
2. Upon completing your Advanced Financial Disclosure Statement, sign and date the lower portion of this page and make the required oath or affirmation before a notary public or other officer is authorized to take oaths.
3. Submit your completed statement to the City Administrator *in person or postmarked* by the **April 30, 2025, due date indicated on the cover sheet. This April 30th due date is *firm* and there are unfortunate consequences for not meeting this date.** These consequences will include, but are not limited to, a mandatory \$5.00 a day fine, up to a maximum of \$500, and a directive to recuse yourself from any official actions in your position. Other possible consequences may arise for continued failure to submit in a timely fashion. To avoid any chance of such consequences, the Ethics Commission urges you to submit your Financial Disclosure Statement as soon as possible.
4. A paper copy with an original signature **must** be submitted. **Faxed, electronic or incomplete copies are unacceptable.**

Regular Reporting Period: January 1 through December 31, 2024

or **Termination Report** (If individual left before the end of the year): **January 1 through** , 2024

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	LAST NAME
CURRENT HOME ADDRESS (NOT A BUSINESS ADDRESS OR POST OFFICE BOX) Street Address:		
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE:		
IF AN INCUMBENT, OFFICE HELD:		
OFFICE FOR WHICH CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY IS OR HAS BEEN FILED, IF ANY: <input type="checkbox"/> MAYOR <input type="checkbox"/> CITY COUNCIL MEMBER		
EMAIL ADDRESS:		
Please notify me if anyone requests to view my form: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		

This financial disclosure statement describes all interests and related transactions and matters required to be disclosed by City Government Article, Title 15, Subtitle 6 of the Maryland Public Ethics Law, and City of Laurel Ordinance No. 1722 for the period indicated and pertaining to the person filing the statement. The statement consists of this cover sheet, the checklist, and Schedules A through L.

I acknowledge that any information required under §15-513(b) of the Maryland Public Ethics Law and City of Laurel Ethics Ordinance No. 1722 that becomes reportable after the statement is filed shall be reported immediately to the City of Laurel Ethics Commission, as required by law

I hereby make an oath or affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that the contents of this financial disclosure statement, including the Schedules attached hereto, are complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Signature of Person Filing

Date

NOTARY:
Seal

Signature of Notary

Print Name

My Commission Expires:

Schedule A: Real Property Interests

☐ Yes
☐ No (Go to Schedule B)

1. What is the address of the property?

City/State/Zip Code

Improved (residential or commercial property, etc.): _____

3. Is the interest held directly by you, or is it attributable to you? (See Definitions section of Instructions for the definition of "Attributable.")

Direct	Attributable
<p>1. Direct</p> <p>2. Attributable</p>	<p>3. Direct</p> <p>4. Attributable</p>

Owner Tenant

Solely _____ Jointly _____ Tenants by the Entirety _____

If held jointly, or by tenants by the entirety, the name(s) of the other owner(s): _____

Yes

No

A. What is/are the name(s) of the lender(s), creditor(s), lien holder(s), etc.?

7. What date was the property acquired? _____

8. How was the property acquired? (Example: purchase, gift, inheritance, etc.) _____

Schedule A: continued

9. From whom was the property acquired? (Name of individual or entity you purchased or inherited the property from or who gifted the property to you.) _____

10. What consideration was given when the property was acquired? (Dollar amount paid or, if you received the property as a gift or inherited it, the fair market value at the time you acquired your interest in the property) _____

11. Have you transferred any interest in this property during the reporting period?

___ Yes

___ No

If Yes to #11:

A. What percentage of interest did you transfer: _____%

B. What consideration did you receive for the interest: _____

C. To whom did you transfer the interest: _____

If you have any additional interests in real property in Maryland, any other state, or any other country, a separate Schedule A must be completed for each property.

Schedule B: Interests in Corporations and Partnerships

Did you have any interest in any corporations, partnerships, limited liability partnerships (LLP), or limited liability companies (LLC) during the reporting period? Did the entity do **business with the City?**

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Schedule C)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule B is required for each interest.

1. What is the name of the entity? Include the complete name of the entity, do not identify solely by trading symbol: _____

2. Does the stock of the corporation trade on a stock exchange?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If No to #2:

A. What is the legal address of the entity's principal office:

3. Is the interest held directly by you or is it attributable to you? _____

Directly: _____ Attributable: _____

4. Do you hold the interest in your name alone, or is it held jointly?

In your name alone: _____ Jointly: _____

If jointly, the percentage of your interest: _____ %

5. What is the nature of your interest and its dollar value or the number of shares? (Example: stock, notes, bonds, puts, calls, straddles, purchase options, etc.) If in a non-publicly traded entity or LLP or LLC, report the percentage of ownership.

Type: _____

Dollar Value of Shares: _____ or Number of Shares: _____

Percentage of ownership : _____ %

6. Are there any legal conditions or encumbrances that apply to your interest in the entity? (Example: mortgages, liens, contracts, options, etc.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

If Yes to # 6:

A. Name of entity holding the encumbrance: _____

Schedule B: continued

7. Did you acquire an interest in the entity during the reporting period?

_____ Yes

_____ No

If Yes to #7:

A. In what month was the interest acquired? _____

B. How was interest in entity acquired? (Example: purchase, gift, will, etc.): _____

C. From whom did you acquire the interest in the entity? (If you purchased it from a brokerage, the name of the brokerage): _____

D. What consideration was given when the interest was acquired? (Dollar amount paid, or if you received the property as a gift or inherited it, the fair market value at the time you acquired your interest in the property): _____

8. Have you transferred any interest in this entity during the reporting period?

_____ Yes

_____ No

If Yes to #8:

A. What portion of the interest was transferred? _____

B. What consideration did you receive for the interest in the entity? (Dollar amount paid, or if you received the property as a gift or inherited it, the fair market value and terms at the time you transferred your interest in the property): _____

C. To whom did you transfer your interest in the entity? _____

If you have additional interests in corporations or partnerships, a separate Schedule B must be completed for all interests.

Schedule C: Interests in Non-Corporate Business Entities Doing Business with the City of Laurel (Please refer to the list of Business Entities doing business with the City at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/1458/Laurel-Ethics-Commission>)

Do you have an interest in any non-corporate business entity (a sole proprietorship) that did business with the City during this reporting period?

☐ Yes
☐ No (Go to Schedule D)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule C is required for each business entity to be disclosed.

1. Name and Address of the Principal office of the business entity:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

2. Is the interest held directly by you, or is it attributable to you? See Definitions section of Instructions for the definition of "Attributable."

Direct: _____ Attributable: _____

3. Do you hold the interest solely, or is it jointly held with another?

Solely: _____ Jointly: _____

If jointly, the percentage of your joint interest: _____ %

Dollar value of your interest in the entity: \$ _____ ; or percentage of your interest in the entity: _____ %

4. Are there any legal conditions or encumbrances that apply to your interest in the entity? (Example: mortgages, liens, contracts, options, etc.)

☐ Yes (If Yes provide name of creditor): _____
☐ No

5. Was any interest acquired during the reporting year?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If Yes to #5:

What month was the interest acquired?

A. How was the interest in the entity acquired? (Example: purchase, gift, will, etc.)

B. From whom did you acquire the interest? _____

C. What consideration was given when the interest was acquired? (Dollar amount paid or if you received the property as a gift or inherited it, the fair market value at the time you acquired your interest in the property) _____

Schedule C: continued

6. Did you transfer any of your interest during the reporting period?

_____ Yes
_____ No

If Yes to #6:

A. What percentage of interest, if less than all, was transferred? _____ %

B. What consideration did you receive for the interest in the entity? (Dollar amount paid or if you received the property as a gift or inherited it, the fair market value and terms at the time you transferred your interest in the property): _____

C. To whom did you transfer your interest in the entity? _____

A separate Schedule C must be completed for all interests.

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s).

Schedule D: Gifts

During the reporting period, did you receive any gift(s), directly or indirectly, in excess of a value of \$20 from a person or entity who: 1) did business with the City; 2) engaged in an activity that was regulated or controlled by the City, or 3) was a regulated lobbyist? Gifts received from a member of the official's or employee's immediate family, or a parent of the individual do not need to be disclosed.

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Schedule E)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule D is required for each gift.

1. Who gave you the gift? _____

2. What was the nature of the gift? (Example: book, restaurant meal, theater tickets, etc...) _____

3. What was the value of the gift? _____

4. If the gift was given to someone else at your direction, list the identity of the recipient of the gift. _____

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries

Schedule E: Officers, Directorships, Salaried Employment, and Similar Interests

During the reporting period, did you or any member of your immediate family or independent child have any salaried employment or hold any office or directorship with a for-profit or not for profit business entity that did business with the City?

___ Yes

___ No (Go to Schedule F)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule E is required for each disclosure.

1. What is the name and address of the business entity?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

2. Who was the individual who held the position or interest listed above? (Example: yourself, spouse, dependent child)

Self: _____ Spouse: _____ Dependent Child: _____

Name of spouse or dependent child: _____

3. What is the title of the office you, your spouse or dependent child held? (Example: limited partner, director, treasurer, chair of the board of trustees, etc.) _____

4. What year did the position begin? _____

5. With what City of Laurel Agency(ies) did the entity do business? _____

6. What was the nature of the business? (Example: regulated by your agency, registered under the lobbying law, or involved with sales and contracts with the City) _____

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule F: Debts You Owe

During the reporting period, did you owe a debt (excluding a retail credit account) to a financial entity that did business with the City? **[NOTE: If on Schedule A, B, or C, you listed a financial entity that did business with the City as the holder of your mortgage or other encumbrance, you must complete Schedule F about that indebtedness.]**

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Schedule G)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule F is required for each debt to be disclosed.

1. To whom did you owe the debt? (Do not include consumer credit debts)

2. When was the debt incurred? _____

3. What are the interest rate and terms of payment of the debt?

Interest Rate _____

Terms (monthly, bimonthly, annually, etc): _____

4. What was the amount of the debt as of the end of the reporting period? If debt existed during the reporting period but was paid in full at the end of the period, put \$0. \$ _____

5. Did the principal of the debt increase _____ or decrease _____ during the reporting period, and by how much? \$ _____

6. Was any security given for the debt?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If Yes to #6:

A. Please state what type of security was given (home, car, boat, etc): _____

7. If this is a transaction in which you were involved, but which resulted in a debt being owed by your spouse or dependent child, identify your spouse or child and describe the transaction.

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule G: Family Members Employed by the City of Laurel

During the reporting period, were any members of your immediate family (spouse or dependent children) employed by the City in any capacity?

___ Yes

___ No (Go to Schedule H)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule G is required for each member of the immediate family employed by the City of Laurel.

1. What is the relation and name of the immediate family member employed by the City?

2. What is the name of the agency that employed the member of your immediate family?

3. What was the title of your immediate family member's position in the City Agency during the reporting period? _____

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule H: Employment/Business Ownership

Did you or any member of your immediate family receive any earned income from an entity other than the City of Laurel during the reporting period? **Please include your primary source of income.** Please note that your dependent child's employment or business ownership does not need to be disclosed unless the place of employment or the business entity is subject to regulation or the agency's authority or has contracts in excess of \$10,000 with your agency.

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Schedule I)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule H is required for each member of the immediate family who had employment or ownership of a business entity.

1. If, during the reporting period, you or a member of your immediate family had employment from which you or they earned income, list the relation, name, and address of the employment.

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Name of Employer: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

2. If, during the reporting period, you or a member of your immediate family wholly or partially owned any business entity from which income was earned, list the relation, name, and address of the business entity.

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Name of Employer: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule I: Disclosure of Interest – Representation before the City of Laurel

Did you represent a person before a City of Laurel agency other than in a judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding?

___ Yes

___ No (Go to Schedule J)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule I is required for each interest to be disclosed.

1. I am representing or have represented for compensation:

Name: _____

As an: _____

Before: _____

Date: _____

For the following consideration: _____

2. I am representing or have represented not for compensation:

Name: _____

As an: _____

Before: _____

Date: _____

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule J: Disclosure of Interest: Financial Relationship with the City of Laurel

Did you represent a person before a City of Laurel agency for compensation, or had a contractual relationship with the City of Laurel, or conducted a transaction with the City of Laurel agency in the City for monetary compensation?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Schedule K)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule J is required for each interest to be disclosed.

1. I have entered into a financial relationship with:

Name of Government Agency: _____

Position of Employment, Services Performed, or Details of Transaction Entered Into:

**For the following consideration: \$_____

**** NOTE:** The law prohibits a legislator from being directly involved in negotiations, discussions, or other contacts with a government entity regarding a procurement contract in which the legislator has a financial interest.

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule K: Disclosure of Interest: Interest in a Business Regulated by a City of Laurel Agency

Did you, your spouse, or dependent children together or separately have either 10% or more of the capital stock or stock worth \$25,000 or more in a corporation subject to regulation by a City agency or any interest in a partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company subject to regulation by a City agency?

☐ Yes
☐ No (Go to Schedule L)

If Yes: Answer each question below. A separate Schedule K is required for each interest to be disclosed.

I hereby report that I and/or Name of Immediate Family Member:

First: _____

Middle: _____

Last: _____

My _____ (spouse, self, dependent child) together or separately own a reportable interest in: _____

This Business Entity is subject to regulation by: _____

If necessary, please use additional sheet(s) for any additional entries.

Schedule L: Other

Is there any additional information you would like to include?

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The Maryland Public Ethics Law and City of Laurel Ethics Ordinance No. 1722 includes standards of conduct applicable to financial disclosure filers and other City employees. The standards address disqualification from participation, prohibited secondary employment, prohibited ownership interests, misuse of position, prohibited solicitation and acceptance of gifts, misuse of confidential information, post-employment limitations, prohibited dealings with the State, and procurement specifications assistance restrictions. The law provides for exceptions and exemptions under certain circumstances.

Filers wanting more detailed information about these requirements should contact the offices of the City of Laurel Ethics Commission.

PRIVACY NOTICE

The Public Ethics Law (State Government Article, Title 15), Annotated Code of Maryland) and City of Laurel Ethics Ordinance No. 1722 requires the collection of this information, which will be used primarily for public disclosure and to determine compliance with the law. The information may be disclosed to any requesting person, including officials of State, local or federal government, who records their name and address, and this record will be provided to the filer upon request. The subject has the right to review, correct and amend the record as set forth in the Public Ethics Law, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-625 (Supp. 2004). Failure to file or to report information required by Public Ethics Law §15-607 and City of Laurel Ethics Ordinance No.1722, Section 2-54, can subject you to civil and administrative penalties including termination or other disciplinary action, suspension of pay, a late filing fee up to \$500, and a civil fine of up to \$5,000 per day. Willful and false filing is subject to criminal penalty for perjury pursuant to Criminal Law Article §9-101, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Check the proper block for sections A through L. Do not leave any sections unanswered. If you checked "YES," the corresponding Schedule must be completed.

Caution: Please read all instructions on the accompanying instruction sheet, including all definitions, before completing this form.

- A. I held interests during the reporting period in any real property. (If Yes, complete Schedule A.) (pages 3 & 4)
- B. I held interests during the reporting period in corporations, partnerships, and Similar entities. (If Yes, complete Schedule B.) (pages 5 & 6)
- C. I held interests in a non-corporate business entity that did business with the City. (If Yes, complete Schedule C.) (pages 7 & 8)
- D. I received gifts from persons doing business with the City, regulated by the City, or registered or required to register as lobbyists. (If Yes, complete Schedule D.) (page 9)
- E. A member of my immediate family or I was a partner or held an office, directorship, or salaried employment in or with a business entity doing business with the City. (If Yes, complete Schedule E.) (page 10)
- F. A member of my immediate family or I owed debts (excluding retail credit accounts) to persons doing business with the City of Laurel. (If Yes, complete Schedule F.) (page 11)
- G. The City of Laurel employed a member of my immediate family. (If Yes, complete Schedule G.) (page 12)
- H. A member of my immediate family or I received a salary or was a sole or partial owner of a business entity from which earned income was received. (If Yes, complete Schedule H.) (page 13)
- I. I represented a person for compensation before a City of Laurel agency other than in a judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding. (page 14)
- J. I represented a City of Laurel agency for compensation or had a contractual relationship with the City of Laurel, or conducted a transaction with a City of Laurel agency for monetary compensation. (page 15)
- K. My spouse, dependent children, or I together or separately, have either 10% or more of the capital stock or stock worth \$25,000 or more in a corporation subject to regulation by a City of Laurel agency or any interest in a partnership, limited liability partnership or limited liability company subject to regulation by a City of Laurel agency. (page 16)
- L. Is additional information set forth on Schedule L? (If Yes, complete Schedule L.) (page 17)

	YES	NO
A.		
B.		
C.		
D.		
E.		
F.		
G.		
H.		
I.		
J.		
K.		
L.		