



# TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

P. O. Box 12070, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711-2070

Tom Harrison  
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Ross Fischer  
Vice Chair

David A. Reisman  
Executive Director

Commissioners

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Wilhelmina Delco  
Jim Graham  
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David Montagne  
Nicholas C. Taylor

November 24, 2008

Ms. Elizabeth Beeton  
1416 Ball Street  
Galveston, Texas 77550-4854

**CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7008 1300 0000 4508 5333,  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

**Re: Notice of Complaint, SC-2811382**

Dear Ms. Beeton:

We received sworn complaint SC-2811382 on November 18, 2008. The complaint meets the technical form requirements for a complaint filed with the Texas Ethics Commission, and the executive director has determined that the Ethics Commission has jurisdiction over the violation of law alleged in the sworn complaint. The complaint alleges that you failed to properly report political contributions, political expenditures and loans in violation of section 254.031 of the Election Code. The complaint alleges that you failed to timely file a pre-election campaign finance report in violation of section 254.064 of the Election Code. The complaint also alleges that you improperly disclosed notice of support from a political committee in violation of section 254.061 of the Election Code.

With this notice, I have included a copy of the sworn complaint, the Ethics Commission's sworn complaint rules, a Statement of Respondent's Rights, and a copy of the relevant statutes of the Election Code. More information about the complaint process is available on the Ethics Commission's website at [www.ethics.state.tx.us](http://www.ethics.state.tx.us).

If you have any information relevant to the complaint, please provide it at this time. Your response must be in writing and under oath. We have enclosed an affidavit form that you may wish to use for your response. Your response must include any challenge you seek to raise to the Ethics Commission's jurisdiction. In addition, in your response you may acknowledge the occurrence or commission of the violations, or deny the allegations and provide evidence supporting that denial.

The sworn complaint allegations will be processed as Category One violations. You are required to respond to an allegation of a Category One violation not later than the 10th business day from the date you receive this notice. **Failure to respond will constitute a separate violation for which a separate civil penalty may be assessed.**

The law requires the commission to mail certain notices relating to a sworn complaint to the respondent and the complainant. The notices are required to be sent by registered or certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested unless the requirement is waived by the respondent or complainant. The enclosed form may be used to submit a waiver.

*Come visit our home page at <http://www.ethics.state.tx.us> on the Internet.*

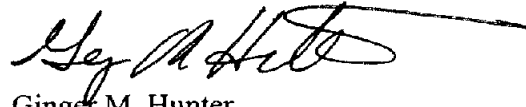
**(512) 463-5800 • 1-800-325-8506 • FAX (512) 463-5777 • TDD 1-800-735-2989**

The Texas Ethics Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Please note that at this stage in the process, Ethics Commission members and staff are required by law to keep the complaint and all documents relating to it strictly confidential. However, other persons, including the complainant and respondent named in the complaint, are not bound by this confidentiality requirement.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Ginger M. Hunter  
Assistant General Counsel

Jurisdiction accepted  
For the Texas Ethics Commission



David A. Reisman  
Executive Director

GMH:mc

Enclosures: Copy of Sworn Complaint  
Statutes and Rules Concerning Sworn Complaints  
Statement of Respondent's Rights  
Affidavit  
Waiver of Notice

c: Mr. Thomas Curry  
P. O. Box 9738  
The Woodlands, Texas 77387-9738

**CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7008 1300 0000 4508 5340,  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

**SWORN COMPLAINT  
BEFORE  
THE TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION**

Revised 01/05/2000

**Office Use Only**

Docket Number

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**I. IDENTITY OF COMPLAINANT**

I, Thomas Curry, complainant,  
(full name of individual filing the complaint)

hereby file this sworn complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission. My address is  
P. O. Box 9738, The Woodlands, TX 77387-9738  
(full mailing or street address, including P.O. box number or street, city, state, and zip code)

My telephone number is 281-728-0511  
(telephone number, including area code)

**II. IDENTITY OF RESPONDENT**

The respondent is Elizabeth Beeton  
(full name of respondent)

The respondent holds the position or title of City Council District 3  
(position or title held by respondent)  
City of Galveston

The respondent's address is 1416 Ball  
(full mailing or street address, including P.O. box number or street, city, state, and zip code of respondent)  
Galveston, TX 77550

The respondent's telephone number is 409-762-7004  
(telephone number of respondent, including area code)

**Attach additional pages, if necessary.**

### III. NATURE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION

(Include the specific law or rule alleged to have been violated, if possible. The Texas Ethics Commission has jurisdiction to enforce *only* Chapters 302, 305, and 572 of the Government Code and Title 15 of the Election Code.)

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C/OH Campaign Finance Report (30th day) - 4/11/08

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1) Filed the report late, in violation of Section 254.064.

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2) Failed to disclose the total amount of political contributions maintained, in violation of Section

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254.031(a)(8). The "Contribution Balance" should be at least \$2,097.85.

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3) Failed to disclose the total principal amount of all outstanding loans, in violation of Section 254.031(a)(2).

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4) Reported an incorrect "Total Political Contributions". The political contribution total should be at least

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\$4,898.00, and not \$4,749.00, as reported, in violation of Section 254.031(a)(1).

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5) Failed to fully disclose the addresses of persons giving political contributions (12 places), in violation of

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Section 254.031(a)(1).

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6) Failed to fully disclose the address of person receiving a political expenditure (1 place), in violation of

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Section 254.031(a)(3).

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C/OH Campaign Finance Report (8th day) - 4/30/08

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1) Reported a non-existent general-purpose political committee "Elizabeth Beeton" making political

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expenditures in support of the candidate "Elizabeth Beeton".

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2) Failed to disclose the total amount of political contributions maintained, in violation of Section

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254.031(a)(8). The "Contribution Balance" should be at least \$4,478.86.

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3) Failed to disclose the total principal amount of all outstanding loans, in violation of Section 254.031(a)(2).

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Attach additional pages, if necessary.

### III. NATURE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION

(Include the specific law or rule alleged to have been violated, if possible. The Texas Ethics Commission has jurisdiction to enforce *only* Chapters 302, 305, and 572 of the Government Code and Title 15 of the Election Code.)

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4) Failed to fully disclose the addresses of persons giving political contributions (12 places), in violation of Section 254.031(a)(1).

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5) Failed to disclose the purpose of a political expenditure (1 place), in violation of Section 254.031(a)(3).

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C/OH Campaign Finance Report (July 15) - 7/14/08

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1) Reported a non-existent general-purpose political committee "Elizabeth Beeton" making political expenditures in support of the candidate "Elizabeth Beeton".

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2) Failed to disclose the total amount of political contributions maintained, in violation of Section 254.031(a)(8). The "Contribution Balance" should be at least \$2,626.40.

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3) Failed to disclose the total principal amount of all outstanding loans, in violation of Section 254.031(a)(2).

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4) Failed to fully disclose the addresses of persons giving political contributions (7 places), in violation of Section 254.031(a)(1).

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5) Failed to fully disclose the addresses of persons receiving political expenditures (2 places), in violation of Section 254.031(a)(3).

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6) Failed to disclose the purposes of political expenditures (4 places), in violation of Section 254.031(a)(3).

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Attach additional pages, if necessary.

### IV. STATEMENT OF FACTS

(State the facts constituting the alleged violation, including the dates on which or the period of time in which the alleged violation occurred. Identify allegations of fact not personally known to the complainant but alleged on information and belief. Please use simple, concise, and direct statements.)

As an elected official, Mrs. Beeton must know that the public expects a timely and complete disclosure of her campaign funds, as required by state law.

Attach additional pages, if necessary.

### V. LISTING OF DOCUMENTS AND OTHER MATERIALS

**(List all documents and other materials filed with this complaint. Additionally, list all other documents and other materials that are relevant to this complaint and that are within your knowledge, including their location, if known.)**

Campaign Finance Reports -

4/11/08 (30th day)

4/30/08 (8th day)

7/14/08 (July '08)

**Attach additional pages, if necessary.**

**VI. AFFIDAVIT  
BASED ON PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE**  
(Execute this affidavit if the acts alleged are within your direct personal knowledge.)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, complainant,  
swear that I have knowledge of the facts alleged in this complaint  
and that the information contained in this complaint is true  
and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of complainant

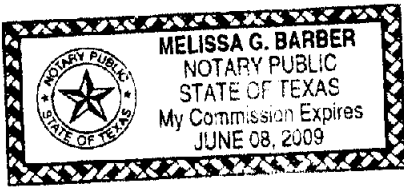
AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said \_\_\_\_\_, this  
the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of officer administering oath      Print name of officer administering oath      Title of officer administering oath

**VII. AFFIDAVIT  
BASED ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF**  
(Execute this affidavit if the acts alleged are not within your  
direct personal knowledge, but are based on reasonable belief.)

I, Thomas Curry, complainant,  
swear that I have reason to believe and do believe that the violation alleged in  
this complaint has occurred. The source and basis of my information and belief  
is Campaign Finance Reports.



Thomas Curry  
Signature of complainant

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said Thomas Curry, this  
the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2008, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Melissa G Barber      Melissa G Barber      Personal Banker  
Signature of officer administering oath      Print name of officer administering oath      Title of officer administering oath