

Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission

Certification of non-foreign-influence.

City law requires that **corporations** (defined term) who make Independent Expenditures or contributions to Independent Expenditure Committees must file a copy of the certification with the C4 and send the certification to the City Clerk and the receiving IE campaign within 7 days of making the contribution.

Corporations who contribute to a candidate must file the certification with the City Clerk and the campaign within 7 business days. If the corporation files campaign disclosure reports with the SEEC, this certification is not required to be filed by the Corporation with the C4 when the corporation makes a contribution directly to a candidate's campaign.

The Certification

The certification, signed by the corporation's chief executive officer under penalty of perjury, avows that after due inquiry, the corporation was not a foreign-influenced corporation on the date such contribution or independent expenditure was made.

A certification must be completed for each contribution or independent expenditure made by the corporation.

Where to file

File with the Seattle City Clerk at clerkfiling@seattle.gov or Seattle City Clerk, PO Box 94728, Seattle, WA 98124-4728.

Send a copy to the campaign who received your contribution. Campaign addresses can be found at seattle.gov/elections → Campaigns. Click on the name of the candidate or Independent Expenditure Committee for the campaign address.

For Independent Expenditure Committees or persons who make Independent Expenditures, the treasurer, or person filing reports, must include a copy of the certification with the next C4 filed.

To file with the C4, send a copy of the certification to ethicsandelections@seattle.gov.

"Corporation" means a corporation, company, limited liability company, limited partnership, business trust, business association, or other similar entity. SMC 2.04.010

Sample Certification – Contribution to a Candidate or Independent Expenditure Committee

I, [Name of Chief Executive Officer], avow under penalty of perjury that after due inquiry, [Name of Corporation] was not a foreign-influenced corporation on the date(s) the contribution(s) listed below was/were made.

Date Contribution Made	Recipient Committee or Candidate	Contribution Amount

s/Chief Executive Officer_____ date_____

Send to Recipient committee and Seattle City Clerk within 7 business days of making contribution.

Sample Certification –Independent Expenditure Made by Corporation

I, [Name of Chief Executive Officer], avow under penalty of perjury that after due inquiry, [Name of Corporation] was not a foreign-influenced corporation on the date(s) the independent expenditure(s) listed below was/were made.

Date of Independent Expenditure	Vendor name and name of Candidate Committee that benefitted from the IE. Eg. Seattle Times for Joe Smith	Expenditure Amount

s/Chief Executive Officer_____ date_____

File with the Seattle City Clerk. If corporation is required to file C4, file a copy of certification with next C4.

Appendix A.

2.04.260 - Treasurer's reports—Contents

- A. Each report required under [Section 2.04.250](#) shall disclose:
2. The name and address of each person who has made one or more contributions during the reporting period, together with:
- d. A copy of the certification provided pursuant to subsection [2.04.270.D](#), by the chief executive officer of any corporation making a contribution, that the corporation is not a foreign-influenced corporation.

([Ord. 126035](#), § 3, 2020; Ord. 123070, § 13, 2009; Ord. [120831](#), § 6, 2002; Ord. [118569](#), § 12, 1997; Ord. [116368](#), § 17, 1992 [position name change]; Ord. [111223](#), § 9, 1983; Ord. [106653](#), § 10, 1977.)

2.04.270 - Independent expenditures; contributions to out-of-state committees— Reports

D. Any corporation making an independent expenditure or contributing to an independent expenditure committee shall, within seven business days after making such expenditure or contribution, file with the City Clerk a statement of certification signed by its chief executive officer under penalty of perjury, avowing that after due inquiry, the corporation was not a foreign-influenced corporation on the date such expenditure or contribution was made. The corporation shall also provide a copy of the statement of certification to any independent expenditure committee to which it makes a contribution.

2.04.370 - Mandatory limitations on contributions to candidates

- E. Contributions from foreign-influenced corporations prohibited.
1. No candidate for Mayor, member of the City Council, or City Attorney of the City shall solicit or receive campaign contributions from a foreign-influenced corporation.
2. Any corporation making a contribution to a candidate for Mayor, member of the City Council, or City Attorney of The City of Seattle shall, within seven business days after making such contribution, file with the City Clerk a statement of certification signed by its chief executive officer under penalty of perjury, avowing that after due inquiry, the corporation was not a foreign-influenced corporation on the date such contribution was made. The corporation shall also provide a copy of the statement of certification to any campaign to which it contributes.