

Address Confidentiality Resources

Candidates for public office are required to disclose their residential address for elections officials and the public to confirm that candidates and elected officials reside in the appropriate district and/or jurisdiction. However, there are some ways to help shield your personal address from the public record if a candidate or elected official has public safety concerns.

To remove your address from the statewide voter file (SEL 550)

To exempt a voter registration address from public record a voter would need to submit the SEL 550 to their county clerk. Please use the form below to request exclusion from the statewide voter file. This form should be returned to the applicant's local elections official. The form allows the applicant to submit evidence to document their concerns, however elections officials traditionally process these requests without requiring a lengthy explanation. These exemptions are granted at the discretion of the clerk.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Documents/SEL550.pdf>

Steps to limit access to your residential address display on ORESTAR

There are a few different places where an elected official's address may display: old candidacy filings, statements of organization and individual campaign finance transactions. *If you use a professional service for your campaign disclosures, you may want to contact them to request assistance.*

- **For individual campaign finance transactions**, committees are required to report the address of contributors, but may provide a P.O. Box. If a contributor's address is changed to a P.O. Box, it will not update the address of previously filed transactions unless the committee takes action to amend those transactions. However, the history of transactions is still viewable by the public.
- **For statements of organization**, a person *may not use a PO box*, but they do not need to list their residence address. A candidate is required to provide the street address of a residence or -- *an office, headquarters, or similar location where the candidate can conveniently be located*. Please note that although the statement of organization address can be updated, the history may still display the address if it existed on previous filings.
- **For candidacy filings**, candidates are required to list their residence address to ensure they qualify for the office. **Note:** *if you filed your declaration of candidacy with the county or city elections office, you will need to contact that office to obtain information about exempting your address on those filings.*
- **Anyone can submit the attached Nondisclosure Form to the Oregon Elections Division.** The form needs to be signed by a judge and sent to elections.sos@oregon.gov. When the form is processed by the Elections Division, ORESTAR will attempt to identify addresses that may need to be exempt from public record. It does this by attempting to match names and addresses of individuals but cannot guarantee that all iterations of an elected official or candidate's address will be excluded from public record.

Please note that the Elections Division is unable to review individual transactions for exempt information. Additionally, the Elections Division cannot review petition sheets for exempt information. Addresses are not required to be listed on petition sheets, though they are helpful when trying to find the signer. PO boxes are allowed.

Lastly, the Oregon Department of Justice has an Address Confidentiality Program, "a free mail forwarding service. It helps survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking shield their physical address." Use the link below for more information.

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/crime-victims/victims-resources/victims-services/address-confidentiality-program-acp/>