

Form 23-3 - Statement of Officer (General Information)

The attached form is designed to meet minimal constitutional filing requirements pursuant to the relevant provisions. *This form and the information provided are not substitutes for the advice and services of an attorney.*

Execution and Delivery Instructions

A Statement of Officer required to be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State is considered filed once it has been received by this office.

Mail: P.O. Box 12887, Austin, Texas 78711-2887.

Overnight mail or hand deliveries: James Earl Rudder Officer Building, 1019 Brazos, Austin, Texas 78701.

Fax: (512) 463-5569.

Email: Scanned copies of the executed Statement may be sent to register@sos.texas.gov

NOTE: The Statement of Officer form, commonly referred to as the “Anti-Bribery Statement,” must be executed and filed with the Office of the Secretary of State before taking the Oath of Office (Form 2204).

Commentary

Article XVI, section 1 of the Texas Constitution requires all elected or appointed state and local officers to take the official oath of office found in section 1(a) and to subscribe to the anti-bribery statement found in section 1(b) before entering upon the duties of their offices.

Elected and appointed state-level officers required to file the anti-bribery statement with the Office of the Secretary of State include members of the Legislature, the Secretary of State, and all other officers whose jurisdiction is coextensive with the boundaries of the state or who immediately belong to one of the three branches of state government. Questions about whether a particular officer is a state-level officer may be resolved by consulting relevant statutes, constitutional provisions, judicial decisions, and attorney general opinions. For more information, see Op. Tex. Att’y Gen. No. JC-0575 (2002) (determining the meaning of “state officer” as it is used in Article XVI).

Effective September 1, 2017, Senate Bill 1329, which was enacted by the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, amended chapter 602 of the Government Code to require the following judicial officers and judicial appointees to file their oath and statement of officer with the secretary of state:

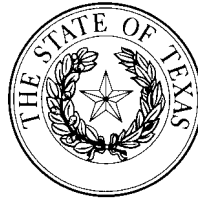
Officers appointed by the supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, or the State Bar of Texas; and
Associate judges appointed under Subchapter B or C, Chapter 201, Family Code.

Local officers must retain the signed anti-bribery statement with the official records of the office. *As a general rule, city and county officials do not file their oath of office with the Secretary of State— these officials file at the local level. The Legislature amended the Texas Constitution, Article 16, Section 1, in November 2001 to no longer require local level elected officials to file with our office.* **The Office of the Secretary of State does NOT file Statements or Oaths from the following persons:** Assistant District Attorneys; City Officials, including City Clerks, City Council Members, Municipal Judges, Justices of the Peace, and Police/Peace Officers; Zoning/Planning Commission Members; County Officials, including County Clerks, County Commissioners, County Judges, County Tax Assessors, and District Clerks; and Officials of Regional Entities, such as, Appraisal Review Districts, Emergency Service Districts, and School Districts (ISD’s).

Questions about this form should be directed to the Government Filings Section at (512) 463-6334 or register@sos.texas.gov

Revised 09/2023

Form #23-3 Rev. 09/2023
Submit to:
SECRETARY OF STATE
Government Filings
Section P O Box 12887
Austin, TX 78711-2887
512-463-6334
512-463-5569 - Fax
Filing Fee: None



STATEMENT OF OFFICER

Statement

I, Justin Oates, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have not directly or indirectly paid, offered, promised to pay, contributed, or promised to contribute any money or thing of value, or promised any public office or employment for the giving or withholding of a vote at the election at which I was elected or as a reward to secure my appointment or confirmation, whichever the case may be, so help me God.

Title of Position to Which Elected/Appointed: City of La Vernia, Councilman

Execution

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing statement and that the facts stated therein are true.

Date: 05/08/2025

Signature of Officer