

From: [American Liberty Coalition](#)
To: improvefecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Re: Special Request from FEC Chairman Steve Walther
Date: 06/27/2009 09:59 AM

Mac OS X software please.

From: [American Liberty Coalition](#)
To: improvefecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Re: Special Request from FEC Chairman Steve Walther
Date: 06/27/2009 10:06 AM

There seem to be a lot of updates to the FecFile software. Make them downloadable without having to put in committee info every time.

Make a Mac version of FecFile! I don't even own a Windows PC - as is the same with a good number of us treasurers.

Chris Rye
Treasurer, The American Liberty Coalition

From: [Erik Engquist](#)
To: improvecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Improve the FEC survey
Date: 06/27/2009 12:26 PM

Simple tip on how to improve your Web site:

Check out the ways that watchdog groups like the Center for Responsive Politics aggregate and present FEC data. Then do that.

Reporters like me need to download data in spreadsheet format. We need to be able to search by date range and by contribution level. We do not have time to go through one quarterly filing at a time, looking for stuff. We need you to present the filings in a combined format.

If someone else is aggregating and re-presenting your data, it means you're not doing it well enough. That's probably why you are doing this improvement initiative. Bravo!

Erik

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From: [DLenning](#)
To: improvecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Suggestions to improve fec website
Date: 06/27/2009 02:36 AM

Please make website more user friendly, such as:

- 1) Make icons that match titles to understand the categories easier
- 2) Make the candidate forms have access from the home page.
Forms are what candidates are interested in and have to access regularly for reports.
- 3) Some of the information is antiquated looking, or too long.
I just opened up the website with the email for the survey, hmmm, really needed improving. It was basically 1960s typewriter print that retold what you had just told us in the email....not very professional looking.

Consider more tabs across top to click categories, and words down the left column to click open categories.

Consider categories in some logical order that candidates would be using the information.

Check out Los Angeles County and Orange County Voter/Candidate websites as well as Secretary of State CA websites for ideas.

Tks,
Diane Lenning

From: [Kim Piker](#)
To: improvecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Thanks for asking
Date: 06/27/2009 08:22 PM

For what it is worth here is a vague complaint. Admittedly I don't have a recommendation and I hope the complaint is understandable but... When I go on the site for regulatory information (Law and Regulations), the list is quite non-intuitive. Then I enter search words into the search engine (and try several different words in several different ways) but the list of "articles" that comes up rarely is helpful although I slog through them (or some of them). I wind up getting the information I need in some other avenue...finding a person who has dealt with an issue before and knows the answer. And/or I call someone at FEC.

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From: [Bill Roth](#)
To: improvecfecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Suggestions for improving the FEC Internet
Date: 06/27/2009 11:36 AM

Thanks for soliciting input. In my view, the following things need to improve on the FEC web site:

1. Allow entering of regulatory materials on line, in stead of a 1990s style tool.
2. Save money by having all mailings on line and searchable. Sending out newsletters is very prone to people missing information.
3. Have a standard XML/XSD format so that it is possible for 3rd party tools to generate a file that can be submitted. Many web companies do this.
4. Do a better job of Search Engine Optimization so regulatory results can be found on Google/Yahoo searches.
 - 4a. Propose a microformat to Google so their search engine can pick up entries better
5. Include analytics (like Omniture or Google Analytics) in your pages so you can see how the data is being used.
6. Allow the syndication of reporting data via RSS.
7. Allow for alerts on committees so an email or SMS can go out when new data is available.
8. Allow for immediate posting of files posted from FECfile or the web.
9. Create APIs so programs can search the filings without going to the Web directly. eBay and Amazon do this.

Thank you for allowing me to contribute. I can be reached at this email address or at:

215-717-7019.

Bill Roth, Catholic Democrats PAC