

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

**State/District officials file with:**  
 Cole Jester, Secretary of State  
 500 Woodlane Street  
 Little Rock, AR 72201  
 Phone (501) 682-5070  
 Fax (501) 682-3548

**Calendar year covered 2024**  
 (Note: Filing covers the previous calendar year)

For assistance in completing  
 this form contact:  
 Arkansas Ethics Commission  
 Phone (501) 324-9600  
 Toll Free (800) 422-7773


Is this an amendment?  Yes  No

Please provide complete information. If the information requested in a particular section does not apply to you, indicate such by noting "Not Applicable" in that section. Do not leave any part of this form blank. If additional space is needed, you may attach the information to this document. Do not file this form with the Arkansas Ethics Commission.

**SECTION 1- NAME AND ADDRESS**

|  |                   |              |
|--|-------------------|--------------|
| Name <u>Watson</u>   | Lee               | Robert       |
| (Last)   | (First)           | (Middle)     |
| Address <u>PO Box 10345</u>  | <u>Fort Smith</u> | <u>AR</u>    |
| (Street or P.O. Box Number)  | (City)            | (State)      |
| Phone <u>870-267-6754</u>  |                   | <u>72917</u> |
|  |                   | (Zip Code)   |
| Spouse's name <u>Watson</u>  | <u>Kathy</u>      | <u>Jo</u>    |
| (Last)   | (First)           | (Middle)     |
| All names under which you and/or your spouse do business: <u>Not applicable.</u> |                   |              |

**SECTION 2- REASON FOR FILING**

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Official  | (office held)   |  <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">Filed</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 5px 0;">Date: <u>1/31/2025</u></div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 5px 0;">Arkansas Secretary of State</div> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate  | (office sought)   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Judge   | (name of district)  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney  | (name of city)  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Government: Agency Head/Department Director/Division Director                  | (name of agency/department/division)                                  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief of Staff or Chief Deputy   | (name of Constitutional Officer, Senate, or House of Representatives) |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public appointee to State Board or Commission <u>Board of Corrections</u> | (name of board/commission)  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Board member  | (name of school district)   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate for school board   | (name of school district)   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public or Charter School Superintendent  | (name of school district/school)                                      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director of Education Service Cooperative                                  | (name of cooperative)   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising and Promotion Commission member  | (name of advertising and promotion commission)                        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research Park Authority Board member under A.C.A. § 14-144-201 et seq.               | (name of research park authority board)                               |   |

Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-403 provides that, upon conviction, any person who violates any provision of subchapter 4, 6, 7, or 8 of chapter 8, Title 21 of the Arkansas Code is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. The culpable mental state required shall be a purposeful violation.



**SECTION 4- BUSINESS OR HOLDINGS**

List the name of every business in which you, your spouse or any other person for the use or benefit of you or your spouse have an investment or holding. Individual stock holdings should be disclosed. Figures should be based on fair market value at the end of the reporting period.

- a)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: Nissan Motor Co. Ltd.  
Address: Held in 401k retirement account with Charles Schwab & Co.,  
1-1. Takashima 1-chome, Nishi-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 220-8686, Japan  
Name under which investment held: **Lee R. Watson**
- b)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: Stubblefield Asset Management LLC, (managed 401k retirement account)  
Address: 240 South Main St., Suite 226, Bentonville, AR 72712  
Name under which investment held: **Lee R. Watson**
- c)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Apple, Inc.**  
Address: Held in 401k retirement account with Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.;  
1 Infinite Loop, Cupertino, CA 95014  
Name under which investment held: **Lee R. Watson**
- d)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Federal Thrift Savings Plan: L2030 Fund**  
Address: Thrift Savings Plan, 12210 Fairfax Town Center, Fairfax, VA 22033  
Name under which investment held: **Kathy J. Watson**
- e)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Federal Thrift Savings Plan: C Fund Common Stock Index**  
Address: Thrift Savings Plan, 12210 Fairfax Town Center, Fairfax, VA 22033  
Name under which investment held: **Kathy J. Watson**
- f)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Federal Thrift Savings Plan: S Fund Small Cap Stock Index**  
Address: Thrift Savings Plan, 12210 Fairfax Town Center, Fairfax, VA 22033  
Name under which investment held: **Kathy J. Watson**
- g)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Federal Thrift Savings Plan: I Fund International Stock Index**  
Address: Thrift Savings Plan, 12210 Fairfax Town Center, Fairfax, VA 22033  
Name under which investment held: **Kathy J. Watson**
- h)  more than \$1,000  more than \$12,500  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Arkansas Best Federal Credit Union**  
Address: 3501 Old Greenwood Road, Fort Smith, AR 72903  
Name under which investment held: **Lee R. and Kathy J. Watson**  
  
Name under which investment held: **Lee R. Watson**
- i)  more than \$1,000  **more than \$12,500**  
Name of business, firm or enterprise: **Vanguard Trgt Rtmt 2025 Tr Pls**  
Address: Held in 401k retirement account with Principal Financial Group, Inc., 711 High Street, Des Moines, IA 50392  
Name under which investment held: **Lee R. Watson**

**SECTION 5- OFFICE OR DIRECTORSHIP**

List every office or directorship held by you or your spouse in any business, corporation, firm, or enterprise subject to jurisdiction of a regulatory agency of this State, or of any of its political subdivisions.

a) Not Applicable

(name of business, corporation, firm, or enterprise)

(address)

(office or directorship held)

(name of office holder)

b) Not Applicable

(name of business, corporation, firm, or enterprise)

(address)

(office or directorship held)

(name of office holder)

**SECTION 6- CREDITORS**

List each creditor to whom the value of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more was personally owed or personally obligated and is still outstanding. (This does not include debts owed to members of your family or loans made in the ordinary course of business by either a financial institution or a person who regularly and customarily extends credit.)

a) Not Applicable

(name of creditor)

(address of creditor)

b) Not Applicable

(name of creditor)

(address of creditor)

c) Not Applicable

(name of creditor)

(address of creditor)

**SECTION 7- PAST-DUE AMOUNTS OWED TO GOVERNMENT**

List the name and address of each governmental body to which you are legally obligated to pay a past-due amount and a description of the nature of the amount of the obligation.

a) Not Applicable

(name of governmental body)

(address of governmental body)

(amount owed)

(nature of the obligation)

b) Not Applicable

(name of governmental body)

(address of governmental body)

(amount owed)

(nature of the obligation)

**SECTION 8- GUARANTOR OR CO-MAKER**

List each guarantor or co-maker who has guaranteed a debt of yours that is still outstanding. (This includes debt guarantors arising or extended and refinanced after Jan. 1, 1989. Members of your family who are your guarantors are not required to be disclosed.)

a) Not Applicable

(name)

(address)

b) Not Applicable

(name)

(address)

**SECTION 9- GIFTS**

List the source, date, description, and a reasonable estimate of the fair market value of each gift of more than \$100 received by you or your spouse and of each gift of more than \$250 received by your dependent children. The term "gift" is defined as "any payment, entertainment, advance, services, or anything of value unless consideration of equal or greater value has been given therefor." There are a number of exceptions to the definition of "gift." Those exceptions are set forth in the Instructions for Statement of Financial Interest prepared for use with this form. (Note: The value of an item shall be considered to be less than \$100 if the public servant reimburses the person from whom the item was received any amount over \$100 and the reimbursement occurs within ten (10) days from the date the item was received.)

a) Not Applicable

(description of gift)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of gift)

b) Not Applicable

(description of gift)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of gift)

c) Not Applicable

(description of gift)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of gift)

d) Not Applicable

(description of gift)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of gift)

e) Not Applicable

(description of gift)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of gift)

**SECTION 10- AWARDS**

If you are an employee of a public school district, the Arkansas School for the Blind, the Arkansas School for the Deaf, the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, a university, a college, a technical college, a technical institute, a comprehensive life-long learning center, or a community college, the law requires you to disclose each monetary or other award over one hundred dollars (\$100) which you have received in recognition of your contributions to education. The information disclosed with respect to each such award should include the source, date, description, and a reasonable estimate of the fair market value.

a) Not Applicable

(description of award)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of award)

b) Not Applicable

(description of award)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of award)

c) Not Applicable

(description of award)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of award)

d) Not Applicable

(description of award)

(date)

(fair market value)

(source of award)

**SECTION 11- NONGOVERNMENTAL SOURCES OF PAYMENT**

List each nongovernmental source of payment of your expenses for food, lodging, or travel which bears a relationship to your office when you appear in your official capacity when the expenses incurred exceed \$150.

a) Not Applicable

(name of person or organization paying expense)

(business address)

\$

(date of expense)

(amount of expense)

(nature of expenditure)

b) Not Applicable

(name of person or organization paying expense)

(business address)

\$

(date of expense)

(amount of expense)

(nature of expenditure)

**SECTION 12- DIRECT REGULATION OF BUSINESS**

List any business which employs you and is under direct regulation or subject to direct control by the governmental body which you serve.

a) Not Applicable

(name of business)

(governmental body which regulates or controls)

b) Not Applicable

(name of business)

(governmental body which regulates or controls)

c) Not Applicable

(name of business)

(governmental body which regulates or controls)

d) Not Applicable

(name of business)

(governmental body which regulates or controls)

**SECTION 13- SALES TO GOVERNMENTAL BODY**

List the goods or services sold to the governmental body for which you serve which have a total annual value in excess of \$1,000. List the compensation paid for each category of goods or services sold by you or any business in which you or your spouse is an officer, director, or stockholder owning more than 10% of the stock of the company.

a) Not Applicable

(goods or services)

(governmental body to whom sold)

(compensation paid)

b) Not Applicable

(goods or services)

(governmental body to whom sold)

(compensation paid)

c) Not Applicable

(goods or services)

(governmental body to whom sold)

(compensation paid)

d) Not Applicable

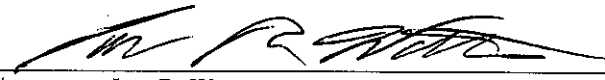
(goods or services)

(governmental body to whom sold)

(compensation paid)

**SECTION 14- SIGNATURE**

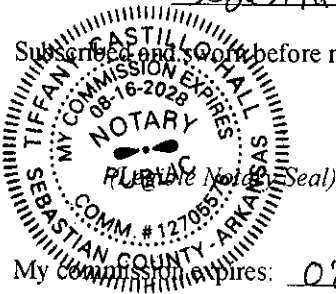
I certify under penalty of false swearing that the above information is true and correct.

  
Signature – Lee R. Watson

STATE OF ARKANSAS

COUNTY OF Sebastian } ss

Subscribed and sworn before me this 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025.



  
Notary Public

My commission expires: 08-16-2028

Note: If faxed, notary seal must be legible (i.e., either stamped or raised and inked) and the original must follow within ten (10) days pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-703(b)(3).

**IMPORTANT**

**Where to file:**

- State or district candidates/public servants file with the Secretary of State.
- Appointees to state boards/commissions file with the Secretary of State.
- County, township, and school district candidates/public servants file with the county clerk.
- Municipal candidates/public servants file with the city clerk or recorder, as the case may be.
- City attorneys file with the city clerk of the municipality in which they serve.
- District judges file with the Secretary of State.
- Members of regional boards or commissions file with the county clerk of the county in which they reside.

**General Information:**

- \* The Statement of Financial Interest should be filed by January 31 of each year.
- \* The filing covers the previous calendar year.
- \* Candidates for elective office shall file the Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year on the first Monday following the close of the period to file as a candidate for elective office unless already filed by January 31. In addition, if the party filing period ends before January 1 of the year of the general election, candidates for elective office shall file a Statement of Financial Interest for the previous calendar year by no later than January 31 of the year of the general election.
- \* Agency heads, department directors, and division directors of state government shall file the Statement of Financial Interest within thirty (30) days of appointment or employment unless already filed by January 31.
- \* Appointees to state boards or commissions shall file the Statement of Financial Interest within thirty (30) days after appointment unless already filed by January 31.
- \* If a person is included in any category listed above for any part of a calendar year, that person shall file a Statement of Financial Interest covering that period of time regardless of whether they have left their office or position as of the date the statement is due.