

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015

Report Required by the Ethics
in Government Act of 1978
(5 U.S.C. app. §§ 101-111)

1. Person Reporting (last name, first, middle initial) SPARKS, SAM	2. Court or Organization DISTRICT COURTS--Texas Western	3. Date of Report 05/15/2016
4. Title (Article III judges indicate active or senior status; magistrate judges indicate full- or part-time) ACTIVE ARTICLE III JUDGE	5a. Report Type (check appropriate type) ☐ Nomination ☐ Date ☐ Initial ☒ Annual ☐ Final 5b. ☐ Amended Report	6. Reporting Period 01/01/2015 to 12/31/2015
7. Chambers or Office Address United States Courthouse 501 W. Fifth Street, Suite 4120 Austin, Texas 78701-3822		
IMPORTANT NOTES: The instructions accompanying this form must be followed. Complete all parts, checking the NONE box for each part where you have no reportable information.		

I. POSITIONS. (Reporting individual only; see pp. 9-13 of filing instructions.)

☒ NONE (No reportable positions.)

POSITION

NAME OF ORGANIZATION/ENTITY

1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

II. AGREEMENTS. (Reporting individual only; see pp. 14-16 of filing instructions.)

☒ NONE (No reportable agreements.)

DATE

PARTIES AND TERMS

1.	
2.	
3.	

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III. NON-INVESTMENT INCOME. *(Reporting individual and spouse; see pp. 17-24 of filing instructions.)***A. Filer's Non-Investment Income**NONE *(No reportable non-investment income.)*DATESOURCE AND TYPEINCOME
(yours, not spouse's)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

B. Spouse's Non-Investment Income - *If you were married during any portion of the reporting year, complete this section.**(Dollar amount not required except for honoraria.)*NONE *(No reportable non-investment income.)*DATESOURCE AND TYPE

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

IV. REIMBURSEMENTS *— transportation, lodging, food, entertainment.**(Includes those to spouse and dependent children; see pp. 25-27 of filing instructions.)*NONE *(No reportable reimbursements.)*SOURCEDATESLOCATIONPURPOSEITEMS PAID OR PROVIDED

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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V. GIFTS. *(Includes those to spouse and dependent children; see pp. 28-31 of filing instructions.)*NONE *(No reportable gifts.)*SOURCEDESCRIPTIONVALUE

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

VI. LIABILITIES. *(Includes those of spouse and dependent children; see pp. 32-33 of filing instructions.)*NONE *(No reportable liabilities.)*CREDITORDESCRIPTIONVALUE CODE

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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VII. INVESTMENTS and TRUSTS -- income, value, transactions (Includes those of spouse and dependent children; see pp. 34-60 of filing instructions.)

☐ NONE (No reportable income, assets, or transactions.)

A. Description of Assets (including trust assets) Place "(X)" after each asset exempt from prior disclosure	B. Income during reporting period		C. Gross value at end of reporting period		D. Transactions during reporting period				
	(1) Amount Code 1 (A-H)	(2) Type (e.g., div., rent, or int.)	(1) Value Code 2 (J-P)	(2) Value Method Code 3 (Q-W)	(1) Type (e.g., buy, sell, redemption)	(2) Date mm/dd/yy	(3) Value Code 2 (J-P)	(4) Gain Code 1 (A-H)	(5) Identity of buyer/seller (if private transaction)
1. Condominium (20%) [REDACTED]		None	L	T					
2.									
3. CASH ACCOUNTS:									
4. American Bank of Commerce	A	Interest	M	T					
5. Chase Bank of Texas Accounts	A	Interest	M	T					
6. ML Bank Deposit Program (formerly BIF Tax-exempt Fund)	C	Dividend	O	T					
7. Frost Bank	A	Interest	N	T					
8.									
9. STOCKS:									
10. California Resource	A	Dividend	J	T					
11. Occidental Petroleum	A	Dividend	J	T					
12. Excelon Corporation	C	Dividend	L	T					
13. Royal Dutch Shell PLC	E	Dividend	M	T					
14. Seadrill Limited SHS	D	Dividend	J	T					
15.									
16. BONDS:									
17. Abilene TX CTFS	A	Interest	L	T					

1. Income Gain Codes:	A = \$1,000 or less	B = \$1,001 - \$2,500	C = \$2,501 - \$5,000	D = \$5,001 - \$15,000	E = \$15,001 - \$50,000
(See Columns B1 and D4)	F = \$50,001 - \$100,000	G = \$100,001 - \$1,000,000	H1 = \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	H2 = More than \$5,000,000	
2. Value Codes	J = \$15,000 or less	K = \$15,001 - \$50,000	L = \$50,001 - \$100,000	M = \$100,001 - \$250,000	
(See Columns C1 and D3)	N = \$250,001 - \$500,000	O = \$500,001 - \$1,000,000	P1 = \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	P2 = \$5,000,001 - \$25,000,000	
	P3 = \$25,000,001 - \$50,000,000		P4 = More than \$50,000,000		
3. Value Method Codes	Q = Appraisal	R = Cost (Real Estate Only)	S = Assessment	T = Cash Market	
(See Column C2)	U = Book Value	V = Other	W = Estimated		

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18. Austin TX LTD GO	A	Interest	L	T					
19. Barbers Hill TX GO	A	Interest			Redeemed	02/15/15	K	A	Market
20. Beaumont TX ISD	A	Interest	L	T					
21. Cypress-Fairbanks TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
22. Dallas Cnty Tx Comnty College	A	Interest	K	T					
23. Dallas TX GO BDS 2007	A	Interest	K	T					
24. Dallas TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
25. Ft. Worth TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
26. Frisco TX ISD GO	A	Interest	K	T					
27. Goose Creek TX Cons Indpt	A	Interest	K	T					
28. Goose Creek TX Cons Indpt 2005	A	Interest			Redeemed	02/25/15	L	A	Market
29. Granbury TX ISD	A	Interest	L	T					
30. Harris Cnty TX G/O RFDG	A	Interest	K	T					
31. Hawkins TX ISD GO	A	Interest	K	T					
32. Houston TX RFDG Pub Impt	A	Interest	L	T					
33. Humble TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
34. Jacksonville TX ISD	A	Interest	L	T					

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2. Value Codes (See Columns C1 and D3)	J = \$15,000 or less N = \$250,001 - \$500,000 P3 = \$25,000,001 - \$50,000,000	K = \$15,001 - \$50,000 O = \$500,001 - \$1,000,000	L = \$50,001 - \$100,000 P1 = \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 P4 = More than \$50,000,000	M = \$100,001 - \$250,000 P2 = \$5,000,001 - \$25,000,000	
3. Value Method Codes (See Column C2)	Q = Appraisal U = Book Value	R = Cost (Real Estate Only) V = Other	S = Assessment W = Estimated	T = Cash Market	

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☐ NONE (No reportable income, assets, or transactions.)

A. Description of Assets (including trust assets) Place "(X)" after each asset exempt from prior disclosure	B. Income during reporting period		C. Gross value at end of reporting period		D. Transactions during reporting period				
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35. La Joya TX ISD	A	Interest	J	T					
36. La Joya TX ISD	A	Interest	L	T					
37. Lampasas TX ISD	A	Interest	L	T					
38. Lancaster TX ISD GO	A	Interest			Redeemed	09/21/15	K	A	Market
39. La Vernia TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
40. Lower Colo. Riv. Auth. Tex. Rev.	A	Interest			Redeemed	05/15/15	L	A	Market
41. Lubbock TX CTFS	A	Interest	L	T					
42. New Braunfels TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
43. New Braunfels TX Util Rev	A	Interest	K	T					
44. New Caney TX ISD GO	A	Interest	K	T					
45. Northwest TX ISD GO	A	Interest	K	T					
46. Northwest TX ISD	A	Interest	J	T					
47. Pearland TX ISD GO	A	Interest			Redeemed	02/15/15	K	A	Market
48. Pearland ISD GO	A	Interest	K	T					
49. Plano TX GO BDS	A	Interest	L	T					
50. Richardson TX ISD	A	Interest	J	T					
51. Richardson TX GO	A	Interest	K	T					

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52. SOCORRO Tex ISD G/O	A	Interest	K	T					
53. Splendora TX ISD	A	Interest	K	T					
54. UT Austin Rev.	B	Interest	K	T					
55.									
56. MERRILL LYNCH IRA									
57. American Balance	E	Dividend	O	T					
58. Bristol Myers Squibb Co.	B	Dividend	L	T					
59. Chevron-Texaco Corp.	D	Dividend	N	T					
60. DTE Energy PFD	C	Dividend	L	T	Buy	01/16/15	L		Market
61. Entergy Arkansas PFD	C	Dividend	L	T	Buy	01/16/15	L		Market
62. Entergy LA PFD	C	Dividend	L	T	Buy	01/30/15	L		Market
63. Exxon Mobil Corp	C	Dividend	M	T					
64. Genitope Corp.		None	J	T					
65. Goldman Sachs PFD	D	Dividend	M	T					
66. Halliburton	A	Dividend	L	T					
67. HSBC PFD	C	Dividend	L	T					See note in Section VIII.
68. IShares 7-10 ETF	A	Dividend	L	T					

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69. IShares 20t ETF	B	Dividend			Sold	01/16/15	L	D	Market
70. IShares 7-10 ETF	A	Dividend	L	T					
71. IShares 20t ETF	B	Dividend			Sold	01/16/15	L	D	Market
72. IShares 7-10 ETF	A	Dividend	L	T					
73. IShares 20t ETF	B	Dividend			Sold	01/16/15	L	D	Market
74. IShares 7-10 ETF	A	Dividend	L	T					
75. IShares 20t ETF	B	Dividend			Sold	01/16/15	L	D	Market
76. IShares 7-10 ETF	D	Dividend	N	T					See note in Section VIII.
77. Johnson & Johnson	C	Dividend	M	T					
78. Meg Energy		None	K	T					
79. Morgan Stanley PFD	C	Dividend	L	T					
80. Nextera Energy PFD	C	Dividend	L	T	Buy	01/16/15	L		Market
81.	A	Dividend	J	T	Buy (add'l)	01/21/15	J		Market
82. Proctor & Gamble Co.	C	Dividend	M	T					
83. Royal Dutch Shell PLC	D	Dividend	L	T					
84. SCE Trust PFD	A	Dividend	J	T	Buy	01/16/15	J		Market
85.	C	Dividend	L	T	Buy (add'l)	01/20/15	L		Market

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86. Spanish Broadcasting, Inc.		None	J	T					
87. Steris Corp.	A	Dividend	L	T					
88. Wells Fargo Co. PFD	D	Dividend	M	T					
89. Bank of America, NA (formerly FIA Card SVS NA)	A	Interest	M	T					
90.									
91. MISCELLANEOUS:									
92. LRF Limited Pship	A	Royalty	J	W					
93.									
94. SPOUSE - SEPARATE PROPERTY									
95. EDWARD JONES --									
96. Capital Income Builder Fund	B	Dividend	M	T					
97. Growth Fund of Am.	A	Dividend	M	T					
98. Pacific Life Fund	B	Dividend	M	T					
99. Tax Exempt Bond Fd of Am	E	Interest	K	T					
100.									
101. BENIFICIARY-CB&T Trustee IRA of Spouse's Dec'd Parent	C	Distribution	L	T					
102. American Mutual Fund Inc	A	Dividend	K	T					

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103. Bond Fund of American Inc	A	Dividend	K	T					
104. Capital World Growth	A	Dividend	K	T					
105. Annuity-Sunamerican Life Insurance Polaris Variable Annuity	A	Dividend	L	T					
106.									
107. IRA-EDWARD JONES CUSTODIAN									
108. John Hancock Lifestyle Growth	A	Dividend	K	T					
109. STOCKS:									
110. Conagra Foods, Inc.	A	Dividend	J	T					
111. Coca-Cola Co.	A	Dividend	J	T					
112. Chevron Corp.	A	Dividend	J	T					
113.									
114. Property - DeBaca Co, New Mexico		None	J	W					
115. Property - Brewster Co, TX		None	J	W					
116. Royalty Interest - Upton Co, TX	A	Royalty	J	W					
117. Royalty Interest - Palo Pinto Co, TX	A	Royalty	J	W					

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VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR EXPLANATIONS. *(Indicate part of report.)*

Line 67. Separate purchases of HSBC PPD shown in 2014 report on Lines 77 and 78 combined in this report on Line 67.

Line 76. Two additional purchases in 2014 were discovered when preparing this report. No confirmation was sent by broker last year. Line 76 reflects the values for 2015 report.

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IX. CERTIFICATION.

I certify that all information given above (including information pertaining to my spouse and minor or dependent children, if any) is accurate, true, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that any information not reported was withheld because it met applicable statutory provisions permitting non-disclosure.

I further certify that earned income from outside employment and honoraria and the acceptance of gifts which have been reported are in compliance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. app. § 501 et. seq., 5 U.S.C. § 7353, and Judicial Conference regulations.

Signature: s/ SAM SPARKS

NOTE: ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY FALSIFIES OR FAILS TO FILE THIS REPORT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CIVIL AND CRIMINAL SANCTIONS (5 U.S.C. app. § 104)

Committee on Financial Disclosure
Administrative Office of the United States Courts
Suite 2-301
One Columbus Circle, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20544