Rule 2.2. Definitions.

As used in Rule 2:

1. “Campaign” means all activities for or against the election of a candidate for elective state office or for or against a state question;

2. “Candidate” means an individual who has filed or should have filed a statement of organization for a candidate committee for state office with the Commission as required by these Rules. A candidate committee shall include committees for candidates for partisan elective offices, for nonpartisan judicial offices and for judicial retention offices;

3. “Candidate committee” means the only committee authorized by a candidate to accept contributions or make expenditures on behalf of the candidate’s campaign, including the campaign of a judicial retention candidate;

4. “Clearly identified candidate” means a candidate whose name, nickname, photograph or drawing appears, or whose identity is otherwise apparent by unambiguous reference;

5. “Commission” means the Oklahoma Ethics Commission;

6. “Contribution” means any gift, subscription, loan, guarantee or forgiveness of a loan, conveyance, advance, payment, distribution or deposit of money made to, or anything of value given to, or an expenditure other than an independent expenditure made on behalf of, a political party, political action committee or candidate...
committee, but shall not include the value of services provided
without compensation by an individual who volunteers those
services;

7. “Coordination” or “coordinated” means providing, making
available information benefitting the candidate’s campaign, or
harming the campaign of an opponent of the candidate by a
candidate, or an officer, agent, or consultant of a candidate
committee that could reasonably be construed to further one or
more communications advocating for the candidate, or, against an
opponent of the candidate; or, that references the candidate or an
opponent of the candidate within thirty days prior to a primary
election or within 60 days prior to a general election when the
cost of the communication is not paid for by the candidate or
candidate’s committee. Coordination does not include the use of
information in a communication that is available to the general
public so long as the candidate, or an officer, agent, or
consultant of a candidate committee does not direct the
information to a person, or agent of a person making the
communication.

8. “Electioneering communication” means any communication or
series of communications that is sent by Internet advertising,
direct mail, broadcast by radio, television, cable or satellite,
or appears in a newspaper or magazine that (a) refers to a clearly
identified candidate for state office, (b) is made within sixty
(60) days before a general election (including a special general election) or thirty (30) days before a primary or runoff primary election (including a special primary or runoff primary election) for the office sought by the candidate, (c) that is targeted to the relevant electorate and (d) does not explicitly advocate the election or defeat of any candidate. “Relevant electorate” shall mean twenty-five thousand (25,000) or more persons in the State of Oklahoma in the case of a candidate for statewide elective office, two thousand five hundred (2,500) or more persons in the district the candidate seeks to represent in the case of a candidate for the Oklahoma State House of Representatives or judge of the District Court, and five thousand (5,000) or more persons in the district the candidate seeks to represent in the case of all other elective state offices. An electioneering communication shall not include:

a. news or feature reporting activities and editorial comment by working members of the press, however, such exception will not apply when the publisher is a political party, political action committee, or candidate or candidate committee;

b. a candidate debate or forum so long as the sponsor of the debate or forum does not endorse, support, or oppose political candidates; and the sponsor does not promote or advance one political party over another except for a debate or forum held prior to a primary election where the
candidates involved are seeking the nomination of one
political party;

§ 9. “Expenditure” means a purchase, payment, distribution, loan,
advance, compensation, reimbursement, fee, deposit or gift made by
a political party, political action committee, candidate committee
or other individual or entity that is used to expressly advocate
the election, retention or defeat of one or more clearly
identified candidates or for or against one or more state
questions;

§ 10. “Family member” shall include spouse, children (including
stepchildren), mother, father, sister or brother;

101. “Independent expenditure” means an expenditure made by a
person for a communication expressly advocating the election or
defeat of a clearly identified candidate or a vote for or against
the retention of a judicial retention candidate that is not
coordinated made in coordination with, cooperation with,
consultation with, or concert with, or at the request or
suggestion of, a candidate, a candidate committee, or their
agents, or a political party committee or its agents. An
independent expenditure shall not include:

a. the display of a noncommercial yard sign, lapel pin, button,
bumper sticker or similar de minimis display of support or
opposition to a political party or a candidate;
b. news or feature reporting activities and editorial comment by working members of the press, however, such exception will not apply when the publisher is a political party, political action committee, or candidate or candidate committee;

c. a candidate debate or forum so long as the sponsor of the debate or forum does not endorse, support, or oppose political candidates; and the sponsor does not promote or advance one political party over another except for a debate or forum held prior to a primary election where the candidates involved are seeking the nomination of one political party;

122. “Independent judicial retention committee” means a political action committee organized exclusively for the purpose of making independent expenditures or electioneering communications supporting or opposing the retention of a candidate for judicial retention;

123. “Labor union” means an organization of workers formed for the purpose of advancing its members’ interests in respect to wages, benefits and working conditions;

124. “Limited committee” means a political action committee organized to make contributions to candidates. A limited committee may make independent expenditures or electioneering communications, but may not accept contributions in excess of the limits prescribed for limited committees;
“Officeholder expenses” means ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in connection with a candidate’s duties as the holder of a state elective office, provided that the expenses are not otherwise reimbursed or paid for by the state. “Ordinary and necessary expenses” are those that would not exist but for the fact that the candidate was elected to and holds a state elective office;

“Political action committee” means a limited or unlimited committee that has filed or should have filed a statement of organization with the Commission as required by these Rules;

“Political party” means a political party recognized under laws of this state;

“Political party committee” means a committee authorized by the political party to accept contributions or make expenditures on behalf of the political party. A political party committee may include a state committee, a Congressional District committee, a county committee, a precinct committee or any other committee or entity of the party officially recognized in the party’s bylaws or similar governing document;

“State question communication” means an expenditure made by a person for a communication or series of communications that is sent by internet advertising, direct mail, broadcast by radio, television, cable or satellite, or appears in a newspaper, magazine, or other printed medium supporting or opposing a state
question that is made within sixty (60) days before the election
deciding the state question. A state question communication shall
not include the display of a noncommercial yard sign, lapel pin,
button, bumper sticker or similar de minimis display of support or
opposition to a state question;

“State question” means an initiative or referendum petition
for which the Governor has issued a proclamation setting the date
on which an election shall be held or a legislative referendum
referred by the Legislature for a vote of the people; and

“Unlimited committee” means an independent judicial
retention committee, a political action committee organized
exclusively for the purpose of making independent expenditures or
electioneering communications or a political action committee
organized exclusively for the purpose of advocating the approval
or defeat of a state question.