

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal by D. Keith Guzy, Jr (CC-25-00654) December 1, 2025

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had campaign finance (4) reports due from July 15, 2025 to October 27, 2025. Petitioner submitted the required reports on October 30, 2025. A \$3,100 civil penalty for failure to file the required reports was issued by Page County General Registrar on October 29, 2025.

Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code of Virginia (the Code), petitioner submitted a *Petition to Appeal Campaign Finance Penalty* to the State Board of Elections (SBE) on October 29, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of a forgiveness of the assessed penalties. Petitioner's basis for appeal was that circumstances made filing the required report or requesting an extension by the deadline impracticable. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to lack of notice of penalties and not knowing that he was out of compliance.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on December 1, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE determined the petitioner demonstrated good cause to grant relief, not in the amount requested but in the form of a reduction of the total penalty amount from \$3,100 to \$100.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted the lack of communication between the general registrar's office and the petitioner regarding notice of penalties. The SBE also noted that the petitioner stated that he would not have been out of compliance after notice of the first initial penalty.

John M. O'Bannon John M. O'Bannon (Dec 11, 2025 19:28:36 EST)

John O'Bannon

Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R Dance

Rosalyn R. Dance

Vice-Chairman, State Board of Elections

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