



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
By Garrett Dillard 4 Supervisor (CC-25-00628)
December 1, 2025

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance report due on October 27, 2025, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the required report on November 19, 2025, at 10:52 AM. A \$100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by Henry County General Registrar on November 21, 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 November 21, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of forgiveness of the assessed penalty. Petitioner's basis for appeal was that circumstances made filing the required report or requesting an extension by the deadline impractical. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to a mistakenly submitted final report for a previously filed report (October 15, 2025). They noted that they did not receive an electronic notice of a due report as a result of this mistake, and has since amended the report, in order to file the required report.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on December 1, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE grants relief as requested by the petitioner for ability to demonstrate good cause.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted that the candidate made a good-faith mistake in attempting to file the required report. The SBE also noted that there was confusion between the general registrar's office and the petitioner concerning the submission status of the required report, prior to the deadline, when the general registrar sent a reminder to the candidate.

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 (Dec 15, 2025 12:17:20 EST)

Rosalyn R. Dance
Vice-Chairman, State Board of Elections

Georgia Alvis-Long
Georgia Alvis-Long (Dec 12, 2025 09:21:03 EST)

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle
Christopher P. Stolle (Dec 15, 2025 13:52:38 EST)

Christopher P. Stolle
Member, State Board of Elections

JC Petersen
JC Petersen (Dec 15, 2025 16:37:27 EST)

J. Chapman Petersen
Member, State Board of Elections