

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal by Payton for Delegate (CC-25-00225) December 1, 2025

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance report due on June 13, 2025, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the required report on June 14, 2025, at 7:50 AM. A \$100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by ELECT on October 27, 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 27, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of retroactive extension of the reporting deadline. Petitioner's basis for appeal was that there was an administrative error in the assessment of the penalty. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to the fact that the candidate was not contested in the primary, citing §24.2-947.9.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on December 1, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE dismissed the appeal for failure to show good cause to justify relief.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner failed to demonstrate good cause, the SBE noted that the Code provision cited by the petitioner did not create a basis to grant relief. Petitioner argued that the cited provision created an exception to the requirement that a large contribution report be filed. However, the provision cited was not applicable in this case, as it only applied to non-primary nominating methods.

John M. O'Bannon

John O'Bannon

Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R Dance

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Georgia Alvis-Long

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