



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal  
by Stacy Rush (CC-25-00739)  
December 1, 2025

**FACTS**

The above-named petitioner had campaign finance reports due on July 15, 2025, and September 15, 2025. Petitioner submitted the required reports on October 1, 2025. A \$1,100 civil penalty for failure to file the required reports was issued by Nelson County General Registrar on October 6, 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 22, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of 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 the lack of knowledge of the exemption process and assumed they were exempt from filing reports without needing to submit an exemption form.

**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 petitioner's provided explanation (unaware of requirement to file an exemption form) was not sufficient. Further, the SBE noted the petitioner's lack of attendance at the hearing. Since the petitioner was not present to provide any additional testimony to supplement the appeal and there was nothing on review of the record that provided a clear basis to grant relief, the SBE stated that it could not find that the petitioner demonstrated good cause.

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 09:21:01 EST)

Georgia Alvis-Long  
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle  
Christopher P. Stolle (Dec 15, 2025 18:52:38 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