



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Tammy S Bylski (CC-23-00776)
December 1, 2025

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had campaign finance reports due on July 15, 2024, January 15, 2025, and July 15, 2025, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted a final report for the July 15, 2025 report on November 18, 2025, at 8:13 PM. A \$2,100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by Dickenson County General Registrar on September 10, 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 12, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of “forgiveness of all assessed penalty.” 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 a lack of understanding on how to close the campaign account in COMET, and having closed the bank account on January 31, 2024.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on December 1, 2025, continued from November 17, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE granted 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 petitioner had difficulty understanding how to file a final report and filed the report at the request of the SBE, after the hearing was continued. The SBE also noted the lack of communication between the petitioner and the general registrar’s office concerning the penalties, raising due process concerns.

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 19:21:01 EST)

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle

Christopher P. Stolle (Dec 15, 2025 12:52:38 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