



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Friends of Pam Garner (CC-23-00620)
November 17, 2025

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance report due on July 15, 2025, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the required report on July 22, 2025, at 3:03 PM. A \$100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by ELECT on July 16, 2025, at 12:05 AM.

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 August 18, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of “full 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 impracticable, and there was an administrative error in the assessment of the penalty. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to alleged technical difficulties whilst attempting to file the required report.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on November 17, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE determined the petitioner demonstrated good cause to justify the granting of relief as requested.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted that the petitioner is a first-time candidate and does not have a prior history of filing late reports. The SBE also noted that the petitioner made a good effort to attempt to file the report timely, prior to the deadline.

John M. O'Bannon
John M. O'Bannon (Nov 27, 2025 09:24:02 EST)

John O'Bannon
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R. Dance
Rosalyn R. Dance (Nov 30, 2025 13:11:39 EST)

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

Georgia Alvis-Long
Georgia Alvis-Long (Dec 3, 2025 17:14:08 EST)

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle
Christopher P. Stolle (Dec 3, 2025 11:11:46 EST)

Christopher P. Stolle
Member, State Board of Elections

J. Chapman Petersen
J. Chapman Petersen (Dec 5, 2025 14:15:09 EST)

J. Chapman Petersen
Member, State Board of Elections