



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Democratic Latino Organization of Virginia (PAC-12-00612)
January 14, 2026

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance report due on October 15, 2025, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the required report on October 17, 2025, at 6:34 PM. A \$1,000 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by ELECT on October 16, 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 December 4, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of forgiveness of the assessed penalty, or a reduction in the penalty to \$500 if full forgiveness was not granted. 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 alleged difficulties accessing the electronic filing system.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on January 14, 2026. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE determined the petitioner demonstrated good cause to grant relief, not in the amount requested but in the form of a reduction of the total penalty amount from \$1,000 to \$500.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted that the committee experienced issues accessing the electronic filing system. The SBE also noted that the individual responsible for filing the reports was recently appointed.

John M. O'Bannon

John M. O'Bannon (Feb 2, 2026 17:53:24 EST)

John O'Bannon
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R. Dance

Rosalyn R. Dance (Feb 2, 2026 15:51:41 EST)

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

Georgia Alvis-Long

Georgia Alvis-Long (Feb 2, 2026 15:55:51 EST)

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle

Christopher P. Stolle (Feb 2, 2026 15:59:31 EST)

Christopher P. Stolle
Member, State Board of Elections

J. Chapman Petersen
Member, State Board of Elections