



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal  
by Friends of Maurice Neblett For Mayor (CC-23-02373)  
January 14, 2026

**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 October 28, 2025, at 3:53 PM. A \$100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by Richmond City General Registrar on October 15, 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 28, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of 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. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to difficulties filing a final report and having previously closed the bank account.

**DECISION**

The SBE heard the appeal on January 14, 2026. 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 misunderstood the disclosure requirements for reporting in non-election years.

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