



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal  
by Friends of Samuel Yan (CC-25-00075)  
January 14, 2026

**FACTS**

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance (5) reports due from October 25, 2025 to November 1, 2025. Petitioner submitted the required reports on November 6, 2025. A \$4,100 civil penalty for failure to file the required reports was issued by Loudoun County General Registrar on November 17, 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 1, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of forgiveness of the \$4,100 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 of the Large Contribution Pre-Election Reporting Requirements.

**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 assessed penalty amount from \$4,100 to \$100.

**RATIONALE**

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted the lack of understanding of the Large Contribution Pre-Election Reporting Requirements. The SBE also noted that the petitioner has no other late report filings.

*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