



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal  
by Friends of Tom Bauserman for Commissioner (CC-23-00944)  
April 8, 2026

**FACTS**

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance report due January 16, 2024, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the required report on January 17, 2024, at 8:55 AM. A \$1,000 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by Page County General Registrar on October 29, 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 19, 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 impractical. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to their lack of knowledge of the upcoming deadline.

**DECISION**

The SBE heard the appeal on April 8, 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 the petitioner had filed a day late, after the deadline. The SBE also noted that the petitioner has prior late campaign finance report filings on record.

John M. O'Bannon  
John M. O'Bannon (Apr 20, 2026 09:56:57 EDT)

John O'Bannon  
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R. Dance  
Rosalyn R Dance (Apr 28, 2026 09:15:55 EDT)

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

Georgia Alvis-Long  
Georgia Alvis-Long (Apr 19, 2026 17:11:35 EDT)

Georgia Alvis-Long  
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle  
Christopher P. Stolle (Apr 28, 2026 09:05:59 EDT)

Christopher P. Stolle  
Member, State Board of Elections

Sally Hudson  
Sally Hudson (Apr 24, 2026 08:46:29 EDT)

Sally Hudson  
Member, State Board of Elections