



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Kathleen Murphy for Delegate (CC-13-00014)
January 14, 2026

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had campaign finance reports due on September 15, 2025, October 15, 2025, and October 27, 2025, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the reports on December 1, 2025. A \$2,100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by ELECT on September 16, 2025, October 16, 2025, and October 28, 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 November 14, 2025. Petitioner sought relief in the form of the “penalty be waived or reduced to \$100” for each assessed penalty to an aggregate penalty of \$300. 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 illness of the candidate, who is also the spouse of the treasurer.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on January 14, 2026, continued from December 1, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE granted relief as requested by the petitioner for ability to demonstrate good cause.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted that the petitioner had outside factors, such as the illness of a spouse, that may have impacted his ability to file reports timely. The SBE also noted that the petitioner alleges difficulty receiving email notification reminders.

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