



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Virginia Natural Gas PAC (PAC-12-00005)
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 16, 2025, at 12:02 AM. A \$100 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. 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, continued from November 17, 2025. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE grants 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 committee experienced issues accessing the electronic filing system. The SBE also noted that the committee has not had any recent late filed reports on record.

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