



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Eli Rybinni AKA Shawn Hunter for Lynchburg City Council (CC-26-00305)
June 30, 2026

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a Statement of Organization due April 19, 2026. Petitioner submitted the Statement of Organization on May 12, 2026. A \$200 civil penalty for failure to file the required Statement of Organization was issued by Lynchburg City General Registrar on May 13, 2026.

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 May 12, 2026. Petitioner sought relief in the form of forgiveness of the assessed penalty. Petitioner's basis for appeal was that there was an administrative error in the assessment of the penalty. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to an alleged communication by the General Registrar's office that the candidate did not need to file a Statement of Organization until after their candidate documentation was received by the Registrar's office.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on June 30, 2026. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE determined that the petitioner demonstrated good cause to justify relief as requested.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner demonstrated good cause, the SBE noted the alleged miscommunication between the General Registrar's office and the petitioner regarding notice of penalties. The SBE also noted that the petitioner completed the required Statement of Organization once they were notified of the requirement.

John M. O'Bannon, III

John M. O'Bannon, III (Jul 2, 2026 14:59:35 EDT)

John O'Bannon
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R. Dance

Rosalyn R. Dance (Jul 16, 2026 13:45:59 EDT)

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

Georgia Alvis-Long

Georgia Alvis-Long (Jul 8, 2026 14:45:22 EDT)

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle

Christopher P. Stolle (Jul 3, 2026 09:25:36 EDT)

Christopher P. Stolle
Member, State Board of Elections

Sally Hudson

Sally Hudson (Jul 17, 2026 11:57:18 EDT)

Sally Hudson
Member, State Board of Elections