COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Factocracy, Inc. (PAC-26-00051)
September 15, 2026

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a campaign finance report(s) due June 1, 2026, at 11:59:59 PM. Petitioner submitted the required report(s) on August 18, 2026, at 11:50 AM. A $100 civil penalty for failure to file a required report was issued by ELECT on August 15, 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 August 18, 2026. Petitioner sought relief in the form of forgiveness of the assessed penalty. Petitioner's basis for appeal was that circumstances made filing the required reports or requesting an extension by the deadline impracticable. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to the committee's lack of knowledge of their filing obligations.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on September 15, 2026. Pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code, the SBE dismissed the appeal for failure to show good cause to justify relief.

RATIONALE

In finding that the petitioner failed to demonstrate good cause, the SBE noted that the political committee filing obligations are listed on the Virginia Department of Elections website.

John O'Bannon
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Christopher P. Stolle
Member, State Board of Elections

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

Sally Hudson
Member, State Board of Elections

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections