COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DECISION ON APPEAL

In the matter of the campaign finance penalty appeal
by Friends of Sabrina (CC-26-00014)
September 15, 2026

FACTS

The above-named petitioner had a report due July 15, 2026. Petitioner submitted the required report on July 16, 2026, at 12:00 AM. A $100 civil penalty for failure to file the required report was issued by Fairfax County General Registrar on July 22, 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 July 28, 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 and circumstances that occurred that made filing the report by the deadline impracticable. Petitioner stated that good cause existed to provide relief due to the report being submitted seconds after the deadline.

DECISION

The SBE heard the appeal on September 15, 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 candidate's report was prepared prior to the deadline, and the report was submitted 6 seconds after the deadline had passed.

John Maurice O'Bannon, III
John Maurice O'Bannon, III (Oct 1, 2026 11:32:23 EDT)

John O'Bannon
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Rosalyn R Dance (Oct 1, 2026 09:57:07 EDT)

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

Georgia Alvis-Long
Georgia Alvis-Long (Sep 30, 2026 17:46:22 EDT)

Georgia Alvis-Long
Secretary, State Board of Elections

Christopher P Stolle
Christopher P Stolle (Oct 1, 2026 10:41:08 PDT)

Christopher P. Stolle
Member, State Board of Elections

Sally Hudson
Sally Hudson (Oct 7, 2026 10:56:58 EDT)

Sally Hudson
Member, State Board of Elections