

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael G. Summers, Chairman  
William G. Voelp, Vice Chairman  
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Yaakov "Jake" Weissmann



Jared DeMarinis  
State Administrator

Katherine Berry  
Deputy Administrator

**Memorandum**

**TO:** State Board Members  
**FROM:** Jared DeMarinis, Director  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
**DATE:** September 28, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Waiver of late filing fees standards

Enclosed are the waiver requests, which were submitted by campaign committees that have been assessed late filing fees. The attached Waiver Request Information Page contains an overview of each committee as well as the Administrator's recommendation for Board approval on granting a waiver request.

In the past the Board has considered the following facts in determining whether just cause exists to grant a waiver.

- Administrative error of any kind on the part of the Division.
- The lateness is due to extenuating circumstances, i.e. physical illness or death in the family.
- The late report is the first late report and allows the committee to close, or contains minimal financial activity.
- The fee will cause undue financial hardship, if the liability of the fine is the personal responsibility of the officers.
- Computer problems occurred which made timely filing impossible. However, the filer still must have demonstrated a good faith effort to timely file.

Prior to the meeting please review each waiver request. Note the recommendations that you may disagree with or have questions on that you would like to discuss.

Pursuant to Election Law Article §13-337 (b) (3), the State Administrator has denied three waiver request. No Board action is required on the denials. Late fees collected year to date for the month of September are \$103,592.00

Please feel free to contact me at 410-269-2853 if you have any questions.

## Waiver list September

1. Architects PAC, Maryland
2. Baltimore City Republican Central Committee
3. Benn, Sarahia Friends to Elect
4. Bowser, Alan Friends of
5. Campbell, Brian Friends of
6. DeLoach, Jason A. for Orphans' Court
7. Grant, Kathy M. Citizens for
8. Hart, Mike Friends To Elect
9. Hawley, Diana for Board of Education
10. Henson (Johnson), Shaneka Friends of
11. Jones, Rachel R. Friends of
12. Levi, Gerron Committee for
13. Marchio (Joseph) Parents for
14. McCoy, Jacky Friends of
15. McKay, Januari Friends of
16. Sactic, Jorge L. Friends of
17. Schuh, Steve Citizens to Elect
18. Wilson, David Friends of

## Deny

1. Fisher, Wanika Friends of
2. McKay, Steve 4 Frederick County, Friends of
3. Slaughenhaupt, Evan Citizens To Elect

## Committees with late fees outside SOL

1. Barnett, Aaron J. Friends of Beilenson
2. Peter for School Board Bennett-Nwosu
3. Catherine Vote For
4. Hill-Aston, Tessa Friends of Fosselman
5. Pete Friends of Owens
6. LaRhonda Citizens For Minnick
7. Joseph J. Friends Of
8. Xin, (HongJun) HJ for MD Senator Stewart
9. Juan Jr. Supporters of Shnider
10. Paige, Ben Friends of
11. William (BJ) Friends of Parks
12. Kevin E. for Commissioner
13. Smith, Brencis D. The Committee to Elect Porter
14. Karen Committee of Unity for
15. Lenzondzo, Malik (Arian) for State Delegate D20 McClam-Magruder
16. Gloria Campaign to Elect
17. Browning, Everett Citizens to Elect
18. Ponnuri, Pravin People for
19. Jones, Rickey Nelson Esquire Citizens for Rev. Barnett
20. Tanya (Vedia LaTanya) Citizens for Young
21. Rick (Richard) Friends of
22. McCollough, Sharon Friends of Bennett
23. Tiquia for Family Strength Lopez
24. Cary, Julian Friends of
25. Eric Friends for Thompson
26. Bob Friends of Walters
27. Daryl Citizens to Elect Stukes
28. Lindner, Melvin L. People For
29. Genevieve for State Delegate
30. Templeton Granville Citizens for
31. Johnson, George Committee to Elect
32. Howard, Frank Citizens for
33. Schmidt, Kevin Forrest Friends of
34. Hector, Leon Sr. Citizens for Change In Government
35. Progress For The People Slate
36. Wilson, Thea Friends of
37. Wright, (Shannon) for Maryland Parker
38. Richard M. Committee to Elect
39. Krush, Christopher Friends of
40. Spence, Hilary Committee to Elect
41. Walling, Kevin Friends of
42. Montgomery, Karen Citizens for
43. Johnson, Robert Friends of
44. Coalition For A Better Future Slate

## **Committees with late fees outside SOL**

45. Oaks, Nathaniel Committee To Re-Elect
46. Rhodes, Kevin Citizens for
47. Tillman, Marcus N. Friends of
48. West, (Hayward} H. James Citizens for Naish
49. Tom for Caroline County
50. Millennial Maryland PAC
51. Raines, Phil Friends of
52. Smith, Ralph (Mike), Committee to Elect
53. Kelly, Pat Supporters for
54. Killough, William for Sheriff
55. Zajdel, Roger Citizens for
56. Posey, Cornell Elect
57. Charter Yes

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Architects PAC, Maryland	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	03008250	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	4/20/94	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/6/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	PAC Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Barbara Halpen	<b>Start Date: 3/31/22</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Ashutosh Belgi	3/31/232
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Post General Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Pre-General Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Pre-Primary 1 Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Annual Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
2021 Annual Audit		7/15/23	\$1000	\$1000
				<b>Total: \$7,000.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Annual	\$20	paid	N/A
2018 Post General	\$60	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$3,240.00	\$715.00	\$9,516.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states they made every effort to expedite the request report timely but it went back over a period of 10 years of financial records.

### Division Comments

Grant

**Administrator's Decision**

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Lisa Hanzook  
State Board of Elections  
151 West Street Suite 200  
P.O. Box 6486  
Annapolis, MD 21401

September 6, 2023

Dear Ms. Hanzook,

I am writing to you as Treasurer of Maryland Architects PAC. I am following up on the results of our internal audit, our amended reports, and the resultant late reporting fees.

Upon receiving multiple fee notices in May, 2023, from the State Board of Elections, the PAC retained an accountant to perform a comprehensive review of our filings. Based on our discoveries, the accountant's review expanded to several years beyond the reports requested by the State Board of Elections.

We have submitted amended reports and; as of September 5, 2023, you have accepted all of the amended filings. While there were clearly errors in the reports, they were clerical errors and none of them were purposefully intended to provide false information or to otherwise benefit the PAC. Instead, they were the result of volunteers who were inexperienced with the reporting procedures. The PAC treasurers were and are architects and not accountants.

Because the clerical errors had taken place over such a long period of time, the accountant had to reconstruct 10 years of financial information to assure that the revisions were completely accurate. Once discovered, we made every effort to correct the issues as expeditiously as possible. Unfortunately, the process took time and fees have accrued. At this point the fees exceed the financial resources of the PAC.

We are hoping that your office will acknowledge our additional efforts in going beyond the scope requested to ensure accurate reporting and waive a good portion of these fees. Please advise us of any formal process to request relief of these fees, and whether or not this should be addressed to you or to another office within the State Board of Elections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Halpern". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara Halpern, AIA  
Maryland Architects PAC Treasurer

Cc: Ashutosh Belgj, AIA, Maryland Architects PAC Chairperson

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Baltimore City Republican Central Committee	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	05007580	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	1/01/1901	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/06/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Party CC Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Sheikh Selm	<b>Start Date: 6/20/23</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Thomas Kennedy	6/16/23
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
Post General Audit		7/10/23	\$635	\$635
Pre-General 1 Audit		7/10/23	\$635	\$635
Pre-Primary 1 Audit		7/10/23	\$635	\$635
2022 Annual Audit		7/10/23	\$635	\$635
Pre-General 2 Audit		7/10/23	\$635	\$635
Pre-Primary 2 Audit		7/10/23	\$635	\$635
2021 Annual Audit		7/10/23	\$635	: \$635
				<b>Total \$4445.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2023 Annual	\$1000.00	Outstanding	Yes
Pre-Primary 2	\$80	outstanding	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$0	\$538.00	\$11,111.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee states they had issues filing the audit report as they were not displayed on the reminder screen. The committee was unsure of how to use the system.

### Division Comments

Grant



**Administrator's Decision**

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## The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

Our appeal concerns both the most recent (January 2023) periodic report as well as our responses to more than a half-dozen audit reports. Slow to answer the Board's requests, this committee was eventually levied heavy fines. We are appealing the fees related to the period during which we were unable to upload data into CRIS.

Finally we are appealing the fees subsequently levied against the Baltimore City Republican Central Committee for not paying the original fees (as mentioned in correspondence to us on 21 August), as such fees should not be imposed when the underlying fee has been unjustly levied or improperly calculated.

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First, let me state that as Chairman of the Baltimore City Republican Central Committee, I take full responsibility for the administrative nightmare that has befallen the city GOP and the good people who comprise its central committee.

I will gladly resign the chairmanship of this committee if doing so alleviates the committee of the substantial fines now levied against it.

I assure you that our lateness has not been the result of indifference, malfeasance, or bad faith on anyone's part. After many weeks of exhaustive review conducted by our new Treasurer, Sheikh Selim, and I, we recently submitted amendments to every report since 2020, and have now almost entirely balanced our books. I am hiring an accountant to help us address the remaining discrepancy, which is less than one hundred dollars.

While there are numerous reasons for our inexcusably late responses to your request for reports, I do not contest the general findings of the Maryland State Board of Elections. The Baltimore City Republican Central Committee was delinquent in furnishing numerous current and past reports. True, we are contesting the amount of the fees, as we believe we responsibly attempted to furnish reports far earlier than has been alleged (a fact we shared by phone and through numerous emails with Ms. Diane Zagorski, a member of your administrative staff). We hope that our unsuccessful attempt to report promptly will be taken under consideration and that it may alleviate us in some measure from the crippling fines that have been assessed. Finally, we fully understand our obligation to provide the Board periodically with timely and accurate CRIS reports and to upload specific data related to contributions and expenditures. In this, we failed. More specifically, I failed.

Until this episode, I regarded myself as a competent administrator. But I see now that in my desire to focus on long-term goals and the big picture, I failed to attend to the immediate details that must be addressed if an organization is to be successful.

Please do not think we have been idle or indifferent to the committee's obligations to administer its books. If anything, we were hobbled by bad luck. Since our committee elected officers less than a year ago (November 2022), three individuals have served either formally or informally as Treasurer: Michael Nolet, Nicholas Wentworth, and Sheikh Selim. Dr. Nolet had been reelected to the central committee during the July 2022 primary. At our quadrennial first meeting last November, the committee elected him Treasurer.

However, his participation was limited from the start. A psychologist by profession, he quickly realized that accounting was neither a skillset nor of particular interest to him. He did not register in CRIS. His last committee meeting was in January. By February 16th, Dr. Nolet indicated an intent to leave the committee. On March 30th, Mike Nolet suffered a mild stroke and resigned his membership effective June 14. As Dr. Nolet's lack of involvement was becoming evident, I turned to the only other member with experience in this area: Nolet's predecessor, Nicholas Wentworth. Nicholas had been elected Treasurer four years earlier. From 2019 to 2022, his involvement amounted to little more than drafting checks and maintaining our bank and CRIS accounts. For the current election cycle, at my urging, the committee elected him as our Deputy Treasurer. While I had no reason to doubt Mike, I didn't want to lose Nicholas's skillsets or institutional knowledge, despite his own limited ability to serve in the role. Nicholas's day job (which required frequent overtime) and family commitments (married with a new child) had always constrained his involvement. So, as Mike was fading, Nicholas graciously stepped in, but his involvement involved only basic treasurer functions. It should be said of Nicholas that he almost always entered contributions and expenditures accurately into CRIS. In our recent review of the CRIS reports, Sheikh Selim and I noted that his accounting errors were limited to several high-value fundraising checks for which duplicative entries were made and for failing to note the per-check fees assessed by Nationbuilder (Democracy Engine), which over the course of two large fundraisers had created an aggregate (but heretofore unreported) expenditure of over \$1,000. As mentioned above, these errors have been corrected and the books brought almost into full balance.

Importantly, Nicholas also noted that still listed in CRIS as the committee chairman was the name of my predecessor, Shannon Wright, a critical element that would explain in part why the committee was late in responding to the audits.

In May, Nicholas asked to be relieved of his volunteer duties, and at our June meeting the committee elected Mr. Sheikh Selim, a young man whose energy and commitment were instrumental in helping me to unravel the inconsistencies which the auditors found in more than a half-dozen reports.

This is the environment in which we operated over the past year. We tried in good faith to ensure our committee had a Treasurer who would faithfully execute his responsibilities. But when it rains, it pours. Had the Deficiency notices been mailed in May to me and to Nicholas, most of the issues we now face might have been painlessly resolved. However, at that time, Shannon Wright was still listed in CRIS as chairman. I do not know if Shannon was receiving email or mailed audit notices from CRIS, but she never informed me nor did she pass them to anyone on the committee before submitting her resignation in April this year. Also posted in CRIS at that time was the name and address of Nicholas Wentworth, but Nicholas had moved to another residence the previous year and, given his change in address, may not have received the mailed deficiency notices. I suspect he ignored any emails received from the Board of Elections, because he no longer had time to assist us and honestly believed he had already taken sufficient steps to help install his successor.

It was only in June when both Sheikh (6/20/23) and I (6/16/23) were registered in CRIS. Until then, neither of us were aware of the delinquent January 2023 report or the many audit deficiencies. I do not offer this as an excuse, because the simple fact is that I should have been listed in CRIS, and this singular failure is the proximate cause of the difficulties we now face. I can offer no good reason why I was not. In attending to the general management of the committee, I believed I was acting responsibly by addressing the succession of Treasurers, requesting monthly summaries of funds expended and received (which I reported in our meeting agendas), and encouraging new fundraising activities. I didn't see the ticking time bomb under my nose.

At this point in the narrative, it is appropriate to discuss in some detail the efforts Mr. Selim made to

respond to the audit deficiencies once he assumed office.

The audit deficiency notices were first transmitted via CRIS to the Central Committee chairmen and treasurers on May 17. Responses were due no later than June 21st.

A day earlier, on June 20, Sheikh and I received electronic notice of our CRIS registrations. The notice did not inform us of the audit reporting deadline then only a day away. I am not challenging the contents of this letter, but simply explaining that the letter did not prompt us to action. It would be several days before Sheikh or I reviewed the CRIS website and learned the full gravity of the delinquent reports.

On June 28, Sheikh attempted to address the 2022 Annual, 2022 Preprimary 1, 2022 Preprimary 2, 2022 PreGeneral 2, 2022 PreGeneral 1, 2022 PostGeneral, and 2021 Annual reports. At first, Sheikh believed CRIS accepted the modifications he had entered. However, he soon realized that his requested changes had not gone through.

On June 29, Mr. Selim sent an email to the SBE, Subject: Request to Cease Charging Late Fees for Baltimore City Republican Central Committee. It read as follows:

Dear Maryland State Board of Elections,

I am writing to bring to your attention some significant issues we have encountered with the Maryland Campaign Reporting Information System (MDCRIS) and to request that the Baltimore City Republican Central Committee be exempted from any further late fees until these issues are resolved.

I believe it is important to address these concerns promptly to ensure fairness and accuracy in the reporting process.

Firstly, we have observed that MDCRIS did not display the upcoming filing dates for the Audit report on its reminders page. This omission created confusion and hindered our ability to meet the required deadlines. We kindly request that future reminders include all necessary filing dates to avoid any potential oversights.

Furthermore, we were only notified about late amendments a week after they had already begun to be filed. This delay in communication severely impacted our ability to comply with the necessary reporting requirements. It is crucial for us to receive timely notifications about any amendments or updates to ensure accurate and up-to-date finance campaign reporting.

Additionally, we encountered a significant malfunction within the MDCRIS system. Not only did the system incorrectly indicate that the Treasurer's password was incorrect when attempting to sign off the Amended Campaign Finance Report, but it also altered the amendments altogether and removed essential 2021 annual information from the system. Moreover, it inexplicably modified the "New Ending Cash Balance on Hand" figures to almost double the original amounts. These technical issues have severely compromised the integrity of our financial reporting, and we urge you to investigate and rectify them immediately.

Moreover, we have experienced great difficulty in reaching the MDCRIS support team. Despite multiple attempts to contact them via the provided support number, our calls have gone unanswered, and we have been redirected by automated voice prompts. This lack of accessible support has further hindered our efforts to address and resolve the aforementioned issues. We kindly request that appropriate measures be taken to ensure prompt and responsive customer support for MDCRIS users.

Considering the severity of these system failures and the resulting disruptions to our reporting process, I kindly request that the Maryland State Board of Elections refrain from charging any further late fees to the Baltimore City Republican Central Committee. It is evident that the current MDCRIS system is not functioning adequately, and it would be unfair to penalize us for delays and inaccuracies caused by these technical difficulties.

Alternatively, I propose that any late fees be suspended until a few days after the upcoming long weekend. This additional time would allow us to assemble a team of individuals who can thoroughly assess and address the issues arising from the malfunctioning system. By extending this grace period, we can work towards resolving the problems effectively and ensure the accurate and timely reporting of campaign finances.

I sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter and kindly request that you treat it with the urgency it deserves. I believe that by addressing these issues promptly, we can uphold the integrity of the reporting process and maintain fairness among all political committees in Baltimore City. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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On Friday, June 30th, the SBE responded with two emails, the first at 9:27 am...

Hello Mr. Sheikh,

I left you and the committee's treasurer a message regarding your email. Please give me a call back at 410-269-2874 regarding MD CRIS help. I am also including the audit manager and auditor in this email so you can contact them about amending audit reports.

Diane Zagorski-410-269-2873- [diane.zagorski@maryland.gov](mailto:diane.zagorski@maryland.gov)

Lisa Hanzook-410-269-2904- [lisa.hanzook@maryland.gov](mailto:lisa.hanzook@maryland.gov)

You can also apply for the late fees waiver request after you file for the audit amendments. Thanks.  
[https://elections.maryland.gov/campaign\\_finance/waiver\\_form.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/campaign_finance/waiver_form.html)

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At 9:59 am, Ms. Zagorski provided a second response:

Mr. Sheikh,

Thank you for your feedback. I will share with the appropriate parties and with our software vendor.

We are unable to prevent further accrual of late fees. The committee can stop late fees from accruing by filing an amendment to address bank balances or other errors. Although not all items will be addressed, this could be a great starting point for subsequent amendments.

The committee can request a waiver from the Board for their review.

[https://elections.maryland.gov/campaign\\_finance/waiver\\_form.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/campaign_finance/waiver_form.html)

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On July 5th, with our issues still unsolved, Mr. Selim again wrote to the SBE reiterating our concern and requesting assistance:

From: Sheikh Selim <sheikh.s.selim@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jul 5, 2023 at 7:27 PM

Subject: Urgent Request for Restoration of 2021 Records and Resolution of System Issues

To: Tom Kennedy <tjkkenn@aol.com>, ccf sbe -SBE- <ccf.sbe@maryland.gov>

Dear Maryland State Board of Elections,

I am writing to address a critical matter concerning the recent filing of amendments using the MDCRIS system. I have encountered significant issues during the filing process, resulting in the loss of our 2021 records and incorrect bank balance calculations. I kindly request your immediate attention to rectify these problems and restore our entered data.

To provide clarity on the issues encountered, I have attached "before" and "after" documents, illustrating the discrepancies in the information displayed for the amendments. Initially, when attempting to file the amendments, the system consistently requested another officer's signature. However, upon obtaining the signature, the system erroneously deemed the password provided as incorrect, despite our careful verification of its accuracy.

Furthermore, despite the system's notification indicating that the amendment did not go through, it inexplicably deleted our 2021 filings and associated records. This unexpected deletion has caused significant inconvenience, as it is now impossible for us to access crucial information. Therefore, I urgently implore you to take immediate action to restore our 2021 records in their entirety.

As the newly appointed treasurer, I find myself in a challenging situation due to the lack of comprehensive data. I possess only a limited amount of information from the bank, which restricts my ability to accurately record transactions made during the affected period. Consequently, it is of utmost importance that the MDCRIS system promptly returns our entered data, enabling us to proceed with any necessary amendments accurately.

In light of the circumstances outlined above, I kindly request the following actions be taken:

**Restoration of 2021 Records:** Please prioritize the restoration of our 2021 filings and associated records, ensuring that all data is reinstated accurately and completely within the MDCRIS system.

**Resolution of System Issues:** Please thoroughly investigate the technical issues encountered during the filing process, specifically the system's refusal to accept the amendments initially and the subsequent deletion of our 2021 data. It is imperative that these issues are addressed promptly and remedied to prevent further complications.

I trust in the expertise and professionalism of the Maryland State Board of Elections to handle this matter expediently and efficiently. Given the time-sensitive nature of this request, I kindly urge you to provide a prompt response and keep us informed of the progress made in resolving these critical issues.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response and a swift resolution to the problems encountered.

Very Respectfully,

Sheikh Selim

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On July 6, Ms. Zagorski responded as follows:

Thank you for this information. I have notified our software vendor and marked the ticket as critical.

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Later that afternoon, at 3:53 pm on July 6, Ms. Zagorski provided the following information:

I was informed by our software vendor that the issue has been resolved.

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On July 10, Mr. Selim amended and filed all reports.

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On August 7, at 3:54 pm, following a telephone conversation with Mr. Selim and myself, Ms. Zagorski sent the following:

As follow up to our conversation, I opened the support ticket #4675426417 to inquire as to why the amendment for the 2021 Annual filed on 6/28/2023 did not update the subsequent reports. As a result, the system is not recognizing the subsequent reports as being amended until 7/10/2023. I do not have an ETA on when our vendor will have more information on this issue.

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END OF EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

Fees were being levied against the Baltimore City Central Committee during this period (6/28 thru 7/10), even though we had attempted to comply with CRIS requirements and respond promptly to the report deadlines as early as June 28th. Indeed, per Ms. Zagorki's emails, the software vendor acknowledged the technical issues confronting us and reported to her that those issues were resolved on July 6th. Four calendar days later, Sheikh entered all required data.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a reasonable mitigation of the original late filing fees and dismissal of the subsequent "failure to pay" fees.

Dating back at least six decades the Baltimore City Republicans have been in the political wilderness, unsuccessful at filling even a single city council or general assembly seat. Recently, however, they have enjoyed a few rare "wins." After a decade of inactivity, they've held several successful fundraisers, which in turn helped them field a number of fine candidates in the general election. I deeply regret that my failures

as chairman now jeopardize the committee's ability to build on the committee's hard work over the past several years. They deserve better. The shortcomings of the committee over these past few months, including its failure to respond promptly to your reasonable filing requests, are entirely my own. For my inattention to the administrative details which comprise my office, I offer my resignation. While it is not necessarily yours to accept in any official capacity, I offer it nonetheless in the hope that, by this gesture, you will give due consideration to my earlier efforts to install a competent, full-time Treasurer, as well as our numerous unsuccessful attempts, shortly after Sheikh and I registered in CRIS, to file timely responses to your audit requests. I will gladly relinquish this position if by doing so the Board will mitigate the onerous fines which, if imposed, will effectively undo the only true progress our committee members have made in the past ten years. The committee itself is blameless; its members are industrious and well-intentioned, and in a just and objective adjudication they would not bear the consequences brought about by the shortcomings of their committee chairman. I therefore request that you remediate the assessed fines and, by doing so, enable the BCRCC to continue to perform its functions.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy  
Chairman  
Baltimore City Republican Central Committee

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Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

THOMAS J KENNEDY

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This form was created inside of State of Maryland.

Google Forms



## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Benn, Sarahia Friends to Elect	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01012216	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	1/22/18	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/22/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Wesynd Davis	<b>Start Date: 1/22/18</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Sarahia Benn	1/22/18
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Pre general Audit		8/12/23	\$40	\$40
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		8/12/23	\$40	\$40
2022 Pre-Primary 1 Audit		8/12/23	\$40	\$40
2022 Annual Audit		8/12/23	\$40	\$40
				<b>Total: \$160.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Pre-General 1	\$100	waived	N/A
2020 Annual	\$80	paid	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2022 Pre-General 1	\$1,503.00	\$718.00	\$8,887.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states they received no letter stating a deadline of August 10 for the audit.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

To the SBE Campaign Finance and Audit Deficiency Team,

I am writing to address the matter concerning my account, Friends to Elect Sarahia Benn. On June 29, 2023, I received a notification to review my account for potential deficiencies across multiple reports. Following your provided guidelines, I diligently examined my account and found that it was in full compliance with your system's requirements, showing no deficiencies.

According to the instructions, if no deficiencies were found, no further action was necessary. Moreover, the initial communication did not specify any deadline except for the mention of upcoming audits in July.

I was thus taken aback to receive another communication from your organization in August 2023. Given that I do not monitor this email daily, it was the treasurer who informed me on August 12, 2023, that we had received notices indicating outstanding requirements from the SBE. These notices pertained to the need for amended reports, with a stated deadline of August 10, 2023. It's important to note that no prior correspondence from your side had alerted us to this August 10th deadline. Therefore, if there are associated fees related to this report, we kindly request a waiver for all of them.

I have promptly accessed your CRIS system today and made the necessary amendments to the reports you indicated required attention. This did not show up when I went on previously just that the account had no deficiencies. It's worth mentioning that all our previous reports have consistently maintained compliance. In discussions with various representatives from your organization, I have come to understand that systemic issues, stemming from underlying bugs, continue to affect your system's functionality. I sincerely hope that these issues can be addressed and resolved in the near future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that the amendments made will rectify any outstanding concerns.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

8-21-23

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Bowser, Alan Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01010432	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	2/21/14	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/29/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Leslie Hansley	<b>Start Date: 1/22/20</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Alan Bowser	7/18/23
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-Primary 1 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-Primary Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
				Total: \$480.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Pre-Primary 1	\$175	paid	N/A
2022 Post General	\$10	paid	N/A
2022 Pre-General 1	\$100	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2022 Pre-General 2	\$0	\$391.00	\$4,891.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

We have a recently appointed treasurer, and with her efforts, we have completed the review of the 2014, 2018, and 2022 records

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

## The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

We would like to respectfully request a waiver of the late fee for the following reasons:

We have a recently newly appointed campaign treasurer, Leslie Hansley. She has worked very hard to complete an accurate audit of our campaign finances dating back to the 2014 Primary Election and 2018 Primary Election. She was the treasurer for the 2022 Primary Election.

With her efforts, we have completed a thorough review of all of the campaign reports and bank statements for the 2014 and 2018 and 20122 Primary Elections.

Her work was made more difficult, due to the fact that our campaign treasurer for the 2014 Primary campaign, William Earley, had passed away. We previously requested and received a late fee waiver from the Board after notifying you that he was ill and had died.

For the 2018 Primary campaign, Jeffrey L. Jackson was our campaign treasurer. He resigned prior to the 2022 Primary campaign. Mr. Jackson was very, very thorough in his supervision of the committee's campaign finances, and he was very diligent in providing accurate reports to the online system. What we discovered during our complete review, dating back to Spring 2014, is that, notwithstanding that he had uploaded information from his spreadsheets to the CRIS, expenditures were reported, but contributions were not. Nonetheless, he received several confirmations from CRIS that the information was properly uploaded, when in fact, fifty nine (59) contributions were not uploaded to the system. Ms. Hansley discovered that issue and we diligently searched for and found the contributor records, and we uploaded them manually to CRIS, for a complete record.

As previously communicated to SBE, our former campaign chairman, Ms. Charlotte Coffield is in memory care in Silver Spring and has been unable to perform her verification responsibilities as chair for several years.

With three campaign treasurers since 2014, and the problems we discovered with the 2018 contributions, the SBE-requested audit took longer than expected.

The audit has been completed and we believe that we are in full compliance with SBE requirements for reporting.

It is for the above reasons, we request a waiver of the late fee of \$480 dollars from the State Board of Elections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alan Bowser  
Chairman  
Friends of Alan Bowser Campaign Committee

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Alan S. Bowser August 24, 2023

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Campbell, Brian Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013845	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	10/04/21	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/22/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Barbara Hurley	<b>Start Date: 10/03/21</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Brian Campbell	10/03/21
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		8/17/23	\$140	\$140
2022 Post General Audit		8/17/23	\$140	\$140
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		8/17/23	\$140	\$140
				Total: \$420.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A	\$		
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$0	\$0	\$1,222.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee states they were not aware of the audit, upon receiving the notice they completed the audit immediately.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

--

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

420.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

I am requesting a waiver of the fees indicated because I was not aware of the audit deficiency notices and due dates until Monday 8/14/23 when I received the email with the Fee Running Notices, dated Friday, 8/11/23, for the 3 reports indicated. These were received after the amendment due dates. As soon as I received them I began the process of reviewing the reports, and on Tuesday 8/12/23 reached out to the Board for assistance. Devki was able to explain where the discrepancy was on the reports, and I was able to identify that there was an expenditure discrepancy of \$18.34 that was due to the worksheet with the transaction on it having a calculated total of \$0.00 in error, however we could not get it correct on the reports. Devki referred me to the auditor, Lisa Hanzook, who was able to correct the discrepancy, which she stated was the result of the transaction somehow getting attributed to 2024 in error. As of today, 4 business days after receiving the Fee Running Notices, the amendments have been filed. I respectfully request that the fees associated with these reports be waived. Thank you in advance.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Barbara E. Hurley

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	DeLoach, Jason A. for Orphans' Court	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01014137	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	2/05/022	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/31/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Pamela Jupiter	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/05/22
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Cathy Loach	2/05/22
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Post General Audit		8/31/23	\$735	\$735
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		8/31/23	\$735	\$735
				Total: \$1,470.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Post General	\$385	paid	yes
2022 Pre-General 2	\$20	paid	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$500	\$156	\$174	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee stated they thought they had met all requirements for the audit, but missed one report.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

--



Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

1470

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

I thought I was meeting all of my requirements with the amendment I filed on August 10th. As soon as I was made aware of the other amendments, I filed them immediately.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Cathleen DeLoach

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Grant, Kathy M. Citizens for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01009491	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	11/01/13	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/16/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Beatrice Saul	<b>Start Date: 11/01/13</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Kathy Beckett	11/01/13
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Annual Audit		8/15/23	\$100	\$100
			\$	\$
				Total: \$100

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2015 Pre-Primary 2	\$80	paid	N/A
2015 Annual	\$10	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2024 Annual	\$1,540.00	\$1,797.00	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee states they did not realize they had to file the report.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

\$100.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

Did not realize I had to file this one

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Beatrice Wright

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Hart, Mike Friends To Elect	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01009593	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	12/23/13	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/06/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Jenny Thompson	<b>Start Date: 12/23/13</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Mike Hart	12/23/13
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		8/30/23	\$685	\$685
			\$	\$
				Total: \$685.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Pre primary 2	\$150	paid	N/A
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2024 Annual	\$0	\$0	\$403	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states they made the error of not pushing the red button file all to state.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*

Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

\$689.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

After receiving the notice for Audit 344 we contacted Lisa Hanzook and she helped us file the correction. I was to contact her after the funds were returned for help in completing the correction if I had any other questions. I was confused so I did leave several messages about next steps required. She did call back but unfortunately we were unable to speak. Just leave each other voicemails. I finally emailed the general info box on August 8th stating I had been working with Lisa but was confused on next steps. I had filed a campaign report with the treasurer. I received an email that day from Lisa asking for a copy of the deposited check, which I emailed back. At the end of August I received a letter stating the audit was not completed on time and I contacted Ebony by phone and email again stating I had been working with Lisa and thought it was complete. My error was not pushing the red file amendment to state button. I had filed a campaign report. Ebony had Devi contact me and walk me through the final steps. She asked me to contact Lisa today 9/5 and let her know about the notices. I didn't contact her and leave another message.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Mike Hart

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Hawley, Diana for Board of Education	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013761	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	8/10/21	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/06/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Andrea Gilde	<b>Start Date: 8/10/21</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Dine Hawley	8/10/21
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Post General Audit		8/11/23	\$20	\$20
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		8/31/23	\$735	\$735
				Total: \$755.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/22/22 Post General	\$20	paid	N/A
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
11/22/22	\$0	\$251.00	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states upon receiving the July notification he filed what they thought was the correct report upon receiving a fee running notice they filed the 2<sup>nd</sup> report.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

\$755

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

Upon receipt of the July 31 notification, I filed what I believed to be was the correct report and information. I received no notification that there were any additional reports due for 30 days. If I had received a notification sooner, I would have amended my reports at that time. The reporting website is very difficult to navigate and to determine what is needed to file.

I ask you to please waive the late fees for this account. Any remaining campaign funds were donated to educational charities upon conclusion of the election.

Thank you for you consideration

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Andrea L. Gilde

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Henson (Johnson), Shaneka Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013197	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	5/07/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/06/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Sherry Galloway	<b>Start Date: 5/07/19</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Shaneka johnson	5/07/19
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Pre-General Audit		8/31/23	\$735	\$735
			\$	\$
2022 Annual Audit		8/31/23	\$735	\$735
				Total: \$1470.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Post General	\$885	paid	N/A
2022 Pre- General 2	\$40	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$8,002.00	\$9,140.00	\$13,273.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states a deficiency showing errors for missing addresses delayed our filing.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision



Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*

Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

1,470.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

One of the deficiency reports was an error. It showed missing addresses, but when verified I was not. This error delayed our submission.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Sherry Galloway 08/31/2023

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Jones, Rachel R. Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013632	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	4/28/21	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/25/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Andrea Hawkins	<b>Start Date: 4/28/21</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Rachel Jones	4/28/21
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
2022 Post General Audit		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
2022 Pre-General Audit 2		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
2022 Pre-General 1		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
2022 Pre-Primary 2		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
2022 Pre-Primary 1		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
2022 Annual		8/27/23	\$535	\$535
				<b>Total: \$3,745.00</b>

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Post General	\$60	paid	N/A
2022 Pre-Primary 1	\$140	waived	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$0	\$1.00	\$9,347.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee states they did not receive any notice that an audit was due.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

---

## Fwd: Late Fee Waiver Request

1 message

---

**Audit SBE -SBE-** <audit.sbe@maryland.gov>

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 9:11 AM

To: Jessica Perkins -SBE- <jessica.perkins@maryland.gov>, Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rachel Jones** <friendsofrachelrjones@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 27, 2023 at 7:27 PM

Subject: Late Fee Waiver Request

To: <audit.sbe@maryland.gov>, Aunnie <dreahawk04@yahoo.com>

Good evening,

Please see the attached late fee waiver requests for my campaign account 01013632, Friends of Rachel R. Jones. I didn't receive any notification that there were deficiencies found in an audit and that my previous reports needed to be amended. This was my first campaign cycle and my Treasurer's as well. Error such as missing occupation or street address were made on 7 reports from May of 2021 through January of this year.

I received an email on May 25, 2023 citing that routine audits would be conducted. I received no additional notice to check the MD CRIS website until August 11, 2023 after \$3745 in late fees had been applied to my account when I was never notified that amendments were required. I'm respectfully requesting a waiver of those fees. Please see the attached request forms for the reports I was charged late fees for. I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Rachel Jones

--

### **Audit & Enforcement Unit**

Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division

Maryland State Board of Elections

151 West Street, Suite 200

Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

Phone: 410-269-2873 or 410-269-2904



**Rachel Jones CFR Late Fee Waiver Request.pdf**

4742K

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Levi, Gerron Committee for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01003001	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	10/11/05	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/29/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Deron Roberson	<b>Start Date:</b> 9/15/17
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Gerron Levi	10/11/19
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		8/25/23	\$385	\$385
			\$	\$
				Total: \$385.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2020 Annual	\$245	paid	Yes
2019 Audit	\$150	paid	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$42,176.00	\$1,500.00	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states they are currently unemployed.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

On Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 1:11 PM Diane Zagorski -SBE- <diane.zagorski@maryland.gov> wrote:

Ms. Levi, please complete the late fee waiver request form I sent you earlier today. Only the Board has jurisdiction over late fee waiver requests (review & decision).

On Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 1:00 PM gerron levi <glevi@me.com> wrote:

Jared: Have you been able to review this request, by chance?

Also, can you waive the late fees on my account. I lost my job on August 22 and so I am now unemployed. In addition I sent the payment on July 31 but apparently it was not processed by the 10th. It had to be very close. Please help!

Thank you much!

Gerron S. Levi

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Marchio (Joseph) Parents for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01014130	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	2/02/22	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/16/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Danielle Cochran	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/02/22
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Joe Marchio	2/02/22
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Post General Audit		8/11/23	\$20	\$20
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		8/11/23	\$20	\$20
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		8/11/23	\$20	\$20
2022 Spring Audit		8/11/23	\$20	\$20
				Total: \$80.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Post General	\$20	waived	N/A
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2022 Pre-General	\$0	\$20	\$1,100.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states he submitted the report on 8/1/22, it was not until he received the notice that he realized it was not submitted.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

80.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

Attempted to submit 8/1/23. There was some sort of glitch that did not allow them to be posted either on my end or CRIS end, but they were submitted within plenty of time. It was not until I had received the Aug 11 notice of a bill that I realized they were not submitted and promptly resubmitted the same day after work. This would come from my personal assets and it would be looked at as my mistake. I ask forgiveness as this is my first time ever volunteering for this position. Honest mistake.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Danielle Cochran 8/16/2023

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	McCoy, Jacky Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01014716	<b>Status:</b> Inactive
<b>Date Established</b>	4/02/22	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/07/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Vicky Richardson	<b>Start Date:</b>	4/02/22
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>			
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Jacky McCoy		4/02/22
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>			

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Post General Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
2022 Pre-Primary 1 Audit		8/16/23	\$120	\$120
				Total: \$720.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Pre-Primary 2	\$80	waived	N/A
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$10.00	\$4,408.00	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states they received no notification of the audit due.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision



Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*

Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

720

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

The Candidate and Treasurer did not received the audit findings July 10th, which stipulated a completion date of August 10th. Friday, August 12th the Candidate and Treasurer received a slew of emails stating the audit findings and that it was past due. I, the Treasurer, reviewed the campaign finance site various times during the month of July 2023 and did not see any notification of audit findings. The treasurer also inquired of the Candidate if she had heard anything, to no available. I am requesting that the late fees be waived.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Victoria Richardson

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	McKay, Januari Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013850	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	10/12/ 21	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/29/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Alisha Willoughby	<b>Start Date: 10/12/21</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Vaneesha Ali	10//12/21
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		8/24/23	\$385	\$385
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		8/24/23	\$385	\$385
2022 Annual Audit		8/24/23	\$385	\$385
				Total: \$1,155.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Post General	\$20	paid	N/A
2022 Pre General	\$20	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2024 Annual	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee states they thought the account was closed.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

1155.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

I didn't know we still owed and still filings to complete, I thought it was closed at the last filing. My apologies

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Alisha Willoughby 8/24/23

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Sactic, Jorge L. Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013913	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	11/29/21	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/22/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Concepcion Gualda	<b>Start Date: 11/28/21</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	N/A	
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		8/18/23	\$175	\$175
2022 Pre-General Audit		8/18/23	\$175	\$175
				Total: \$350.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/22/22 Post General	\$1000	waived	N/A
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2024 annual	\$0	\$35.00	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee had trouble getting assistance with data entry.
---

### Division Comments

Grant
-------

### Administrator's Decision

--

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*

Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

\$350

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

Had trouble getting assistance from SPE to help with data entry

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Jorge Sactic - 08/18/2023

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Schuh, Steve Citizens to Elect	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01002851	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	4/04/05	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/29/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Daria Shaw	<b>Start Date:</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		6/04/07
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Steven Schuh	
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		4/04/05

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2022 Post General Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2022 Pre-Primary 1 Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2022 Annual Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2021 Annual Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		8/23/23	\$350	\$350
				Total: 2,800.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2010 Annual Audit	\$250	paid	N/A
2008 Annual Audit	\$250	Paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$34,351.00	\$88,242.00	\$1,793.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee was unsure of how to proceed to meet the deadline.
--

### Division Comments

Grant
-------

**Administrator's Decision**

--

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

2800.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

On July 31, 2023 I sent Mr. DeMarinis and email following up from a phone conversation a day or two before. I attached Mr. Schuh's letter addressing the current audit finding the campaign report balance and bank account balance discrepancies in eight (8) reports. I also included bank statements for the following years: 2021, 2022 & 2023 (current).

We'd greatly appreciate your acknowledgment of this email and with directive as to how to proceed to meet the August 10th amended reporting deadline.

We received an email correspondence from on 7/31/2023 from Mr. DeMarinis the the material was received and would be reviewed. Mr. Schuh followed up on 8/11/2023 and again on 8/17/2023. Mr DeMarinis gave us the directive on 8/21/2023.

Upon having difficulty with the filing contacted Lisa Hanzook for assistance.



Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Daria Shaw

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Wilson, David Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01014576	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	3/14/22	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/31/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Chris Hansen	<b>Start Date: 3/14/22</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	David Wilson	3/14/22
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Post General Audit		8/18/23	\$175	\$175
			\$	\$
				Total: \$175.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/22/22	\$1000	Waived	N/A
10/28/22	\$40	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
11/22/22	\$300	\$1,271.00	\$128.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states somehow, they missed the audit the candidate has moved out of state, and they want to close this account.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

--

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

175.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

I have a notice to file after audit, and then I have a notice of late fees in my email. I'm sure electrons were scattered and I missed this. It remains, are accounts are empty and my candidated moved out of state. Please consider my plight.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Christopher Hansen 8/30/2023

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Fisher, Wanika Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01011590	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	2/23/17	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/22/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Phylicia Henry	<b>Start Date: 1/20/21</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Wanika Fisher	2/23/17
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2023 Annual Audit		N/A	\$280	\$280
2022 Post General Audit		N/A	\$280	\$280
2022 Pre-General 1 Audit		N/A	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Pre-Primary 1 Audit		N/A	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Annual Audit		N/A	\$1000	\$1000
2021 Annual Audit		N/A	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Pre-General 2 Audit		N/A	\$1000	\$1000
2022 Pre-Primary 2 Audit		N/A	\$1000	\$1000
				Total: \$6,560.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
2022 Annual	\$20	paid	
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2023 Annual	\$9,275.00	\$1,497.00	\$16,611.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The treasurer states they are in the process of reconciling the account, starting from when it opened.

### Division Comments

Deny reports have not been filed

**Administrator's Decision**

--

Fisher, Wanika Friends of

On Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 12:45 PM Phylicia Henry <pmhenry89@gmail.com> wrote:

Jared,

Good afternoon. I hope this email finds you well. My name is Phylicia Henry, Council member Fisher's treasurer. I wanted to reach out to touch base as our filings are delayed and to inform you that in consideration of our circumstances - the passing of the former treasurer Joseph Kitchen, we plan to submit a request for fee waiver.

We are in the process of reconciling the bank accounts and we're starting from the opening of the account which caused this delay.

Best,

Phylicia Henry

3013579608

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	McKay, Steve 4 Frederick County, Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01012032	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	11/14/17	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	9/06/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Jennifer Rucker	<b>Start Date: 11/14/17</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Steven Mckay	11/14/17
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Annual Audit		N/A	\$315	\$315
			\$	\$
				Total: \$315.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A	\$		
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2024 Annual	\$250.00	\$373.00	\$2.00	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee stated they were confused about how to file an amendment and which report to file.

### Division Comments

Deny report has not been filed.

### Administrator's Decision

## The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

I mistakenly received \$6,250 from a single individual during the 2019-22 cycle and this was reported to me during your audit. I contacted my donor (Ballard Jamieson) and explained the situation and he requested that I refund him \$250, and his wife (Diana Jamieson) would make a donation of the same amount. These transactions were accomplished in the first week of August. We then had difficulty following the instructions on how to record these transactions in compliance with the Deficiency Report Notice. The Deficiency Report Notice directed us to file an amended report - which presumably would have been the 1/19/2022 Annual. However, there was no option to amend that report available on line. We could not amend the actual transaction because the corrective actions took place in 2023, not when the prior donations were received. We tried to enter a "Return Contribution" using the left side menu; however, the webpage did not allow us to select a "Filing Period" and we could not complete that submission. We found that the only way that we could file the information - which was consistent with the instruction on the Deficiency Report (not the notice) - was to enter a "New Return Contribution" from the blue buttons on the bottom of the website, while completing a new filing. We successfully did this as part of the 1/17/2024 Annual Report (the only report option available), including both the new donation and the return donation. This was filed on 8/6/2023, before the deadline noted in the Deficiency Report. We thought we were done. Then on 8/11/2023, we received notice that you had not received our amended campaign finance report and that we were being fined. On 8/22/2023, I spoke with Diane Zagorski in your office and explained everything that I have explained here. At that time, she told me that I had done everything that I could have done but asked if I had emailed an image of the return donation. I had not done this because there was never any instruction to do this. She also told me that our fines were over \$300 at that point, but that she would put a note in the system to stop additional fines. She also provided me the link to this form so that we could explain the situation and request a release from the fines. We did everything that was available to us via the MDCRIS website. In fact, the option we chose was consistent with the instruction on the Deficiency Report which states "On the next campaign finance report due, indicate the return of the contribution on Schedule 2: Z-Returned Contribution." This is exactly what we did and we did it on time; therefore we should not face any late fines. Thank you for your consideration of this request and explanation.

---

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Steven McKay 9/1/2023

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Slaughenhaupt, Evan Citizens To Elect	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01005175	<b>Status: Inactive</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	8/11/08	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/29/23	
<b>Account Type</b>	Campaign Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Greg Kernan	<b>Start Date: 8/11/08</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Evan Slaughenhaupt	8/11/08
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2022 Annual Audit		N/A	\$315	\$315
			\$	\$
				Total: \$315.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
7/22/19 Audit	\$250	Waiver	Yes
	\$		

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
2024 Annual	\$0	\$5,428.00	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee states they were in the process of closing the account when there was an overlap in timing.

### Division Comments

Deny report has not been filed.

### Administrator's Decision

Waiver of late fees for the following Business Contribution Disclosure Statement Report (s): \*  
Check the Business Disclosure Report(s) that apply.

- Spring Business Contribution Statement
- Fall Business Contribution Statement
- None - Submitting MDCRIS

Total Amount of late fee(s) \$ \*

300.00

The basis for the request \*

The request must provide just cause for the waiver of the late fee(s).

I/we were in the process of closing the account with Campaign Finance staff when there was an overlap in timing. Everything has been filed correctly now.

Print Name and Date: \*

By printing your name below, you certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and under the penalties of perjury.

Gregory Kernan August 22, 2023

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**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**P.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840**

William G. Voelp, Chairman  
Carlos Ayala  
Janet Millenson  
Michael G. Summers  
Yaakov "Jake" Weissman



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

**Memorandum**

**TO:** State Board Members  
**FROM:** Jared DeMarinis, Director  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
**DATE:** September 28, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Waiver of late filing fees – Persons Doing Public Business, Title 14 of the Election Law Article

Enclosed are the waiver requests, which were submitted by businesses that have been assessed late filing fees. The attached Waiver Request Information Page contains an overview of each entity as well as the Agency's recommendation to the Board.

The Board should consider the following factors in determining whether just cause exists to grant a waiver.

1. Administrative error of any kind on the part of the Division.
2. The lateness is due to extenuating circumstances, i.e. physical illness or death in the family; or
3. Computer problems occurred which made timely filing impossible. However, the filer still must have demonstrated a good faith effort to timely file.

Prior to the meeting please review each waiver request. Note the recommendations that you may disagree with or have questions on that you would like to discuss.

§ 14-107(c) Late Filing Fees

- (1) As provided in this subsection, the State Board may impose fees for late filing of:
  - (i) a statement required under § 14-104 of this title; or
  - (ii) an amended statement required under subsection (b) of this section.
- (2) The State Board may impose late filing fees in the same amounts and in the same manner as provided under § 13-331(a) and (b) of this article for late filing of campaign finance reports.
- (3) Late filing fees imposed under this subsection shall be distributed to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund.

Pursuant to COMAR 33.20.07.01C, the State Administrator has denied one late fee waiver request. No Board action is required on the denials.

Late fees collected year to date for Title 14 Late Fee Waivers are \$28,690.00

## Title 14 Waivers

### Grant

1. AnnDyl Policy Group

### Denied

1. E&R Services Inc

**Business Contribution Disclosure System  
RECONSIDERATION  
Waiver Request Information Page-Late Fees**

**General**

<b>Account Name</b>	AnnDyl Policy Group
<b>BID ID:</b>	14001493
<b>Date Established</b>	12/01/22
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	8/26/23
<b>Account Type</b>	Title 14-Person Doing Public Business

**Officers**

<b>Current Filer</b>	Kathy Rinaidi	Start Date:
<b>Principal Officer</b>	Andrea Hickman	Start Date:

**Waiver Request Dates**

Late Report	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
11/30/22	12/07/22	\$140	\$140
		\$	\$
			Total: \$140.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

**Prior Waiver and Fees**

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
N/A	\$		

**Reason for Waiver**

The filer had trouble with the first report, they tried to troubleshoot and correct the issues.

**Agency Comments**

Grant

AnnDyl

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out on behalf of a constituency group in our district, AnnDyl Policy Group. While attempting to submit their campaign contribution disclosure, the website was allegedly having technical difficulties. As a result, they were unable to file on time and received a fine. Below is some of the information they relayed to me:

AnnDyl made every effort to file on time (before the due date of November 30, 2022) but had been unable to do so because of online system-related issues. Specifically, the online system prevented us from accurately populating information for the filing. AnnDyl had reached out to the State Board of Elections multiple times via multiple emails and phone calls to rectify this issue which was finally done early December. We then received two late notices and a fine letter for lack of timely submission. We filed a waiver to have these fines lifted due to the state's technical issues for the first time filing and were denied. When I was having much trouble on November 29th last year figuring out this new system I reached out (these emails were after many calls and voicemails) and you can see that they had to back date our registration due to the system not recognizing us since our registration was done November 2nd, and the disclosure period ended on October 31st.

# Business Contribution Disclosure System

## Waiver Request Information Page-Late Fees

### General

Account Name	E&R Services Inc
BID ID:	14001233
Date Established	9/02/21
Date Waiver Requested	9/06/23
Account Type	Title 14-Person Doing Public Business

### Officers

Current Filer	Hugo Flores	Start Date: 9/02/21
Principal Officer	Hugo Flores	Start Date: 9/02/21

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
5/31/23	8/29/23	\$1000	\$1000
		\$	\$
			Total: \$1000.00

All required notices were sent to this campaign account for the above listed report(s).

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/321	\$485	paid	N/A

### Reason for Waiver

The business states they have been diligent with filing reports but somehow missed the may report and are requesting a waiver.

### Agency Comments

Deny



On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 11:36 AM Hugo Flores <hugo@erservicesinc.com> wrote:

Mr. Demarinis,

We received this letter with \$1000 in fees for a missed report. We had been pretty diligent with reporting and somehow missed the May report. Is there any way to reduce or waive these fees? They are very high.

Thanks!

Hugo Flores

E & R Services, Inc.

Certified 8(a), MBE, DBE

Office: 301-805-1731 Fax No: 240-770-5790

6222 Seabrook Road, Lanham MD 20706

hugo@erservicesinc.com