

1. Welcome

I would like to welcome Art Trechiel to SBE. Art joins SBE as our Chief Information Security Officer from the private sector where he served in the same capacity at an international firm. Although joining SBE at a difficult time, Art has jumped right in and is learning about the various information systems we use to conduct elections. We are happy to have Art and look forward to working with him.

2. Announcements & Important Meetings

Internal Planning Meetings

Each day, SBE staff, our Assistant Attorney General and I meet to identify and resolve issues and tasks related to the April 28th Special General Election for the 7th Congressional District and the June 2nd Presidential Primary Election. This group effort facilitates discussions among different SBE divisions and allows for each division to share decisions and updates related to these elections.

Election Director Conference Calls

We are conducting regular calls with the Election Directors and appropriate staff. Initially, we had calls two to three times a week, and now we have moved to a weekly schedule. During these calls, we share information, review decisions and directives from the Governor and Department of Health, answer or collect questions, and obtain feedback. Topics related to all of the local boards are discussed first, and the meetings typically end with information specific to the local boards in the 7th Congressional District.____

3. Special Primary Election for the 7th Congressional District (February 4, 2020)

Post Election Automated Software Ballot Tabulation Audit

The post-election automated audit of ballot images from the 2020 Special Primary Election for the 7th Congressional District is complete. Before certifying election results, each local board received four reports comparing the voting system's results from election day against the results from the independent tabulation performed by the automated audit software.

These reports showed that:

1. The voting system and Clear Ballot tabulated the same number of ballots (cards cast).
2. Any differences between the two systems' results were less than 0.5%.
3. The voting system accurately tabulated the results

After the completion of the absentee and provisional canvasses and prior to the State Board of Elections' certification of the election results, all ballot images were retabulated, and the second set of reports were issued. These reports confirmed that the voting system accurately tabulated the ballot images from all canvasses. The comparison reports and automated audit results (generated before we provided the voting system's precinct-level results) are posted on SBE's website.

4. Special General Election for the 7th Congressional District (April 28, 2020)

The local boards in the 7th Congressional District, with SBE support, have been busy preparing for a lengthy canvass of vote by mail ballots and in-person voting on April 28, 2020.

Approximately 500,000 ballot packets were mailed to voters who are registered in the 7th Congressional District. The return envelopes included prepaid postage. The three local boards are receiving voted ballots. As of Monday, April 20th, Baltimore City has received approximately 3,600

returned ballots, Baltimore County has received approximately 13,000 returned ballots, and Howard County has received about 6,000 returned ballots. Baltimore County started counting ballots on April 20, 2020. Baltimore City will start on April 22nd, and Howard County will start on April 25th.

Other updates include:

- The local boards tested their live streaming solution and are ready to go. The local boards understand that, if the solution they are using to provide public access stops working, they must stop canvassing.
- Each local board has a location for their in-person election day location. These locations are:

Edmondson High School, 501 N. Athol Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21229

Martin's West, 6817 Dogwood Road. Windsor Mill 21244

Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship 21794

- The local boards have prepared or are preparing the equipment for those locations. During this meeting, we will ask, on behalf of Baltimore City and Baltimore County Boards of Elections, to deploy more ballot marking devices than the State Board policy of four ballot marking devices.
- Our transportation vendor is prepared to move the equipment to the three locations and back to the local board warehouse.
- They each have enough election judges to work these locations, and we will have enough masks, gloves, and sanitizer for each location.
- We expect to have six ballot drop off containers for the three counties - one for each of their offices and one at each of the voting locations. The containers at the local boards' offices will be available from 7 am to 8 pm each day, and the containers at the vote centers will be available from 7 am to 8 pm on April 28, 2020.
- We are working with Clear Ballot Group, the vendor that performs the post-election automated ballot tabulation audit, to prepare for the audit of this election.
- As required under the Governor's Proclamation, we have initiated an effort to educate voters about how these elections will be conducted and how to vote by mail. The April election effort will include radio and digital media buys, making social media posts and issuing press releases. The June campaign is still developing with all of the aforementioned platforms including mailing and some TV.

5. 2020 Presidential Primary Election (June 2, 2020)

Preparation for the June 2nd vote by mail election is moving forward. Approximately 4.1 million ballot packets will be mailed for the June 2nd election. Outgoing and return envelope artwork has been completed and approved by several Mail Design Analysts at the United States Postal Service (USPS). Various inserts, including the instructions and list of vote centers and ballot drop off locations, are being finalized.

Ballots for this election will be transmitted as follows:

- April 16th and 17th: Ballots were transmitted to requesting military and overseas voters. We are happy to report that we complied with the deadline established in the federal Military and Overseas Empowerment (MOVE) Act and in response to a request from the U.S. Department of Justice, we supplied the data on our compliance.
- May 1st: Ballots for voters who do not live in the 7th Congressional District counties will be mailed.

- May 8th: Ballots for voters who live in the 7th Congressional District counties will be mailed.
- Before May 26th, there will be three supplemental data pulls that will include any newly registered voters and voters who requested to receive their ballot at a different mailing address.

As of April 20th, SBE has sent approximately 6,000 emails with information about how to access SBE's online ballot delivery system. Over 3,600 voters have successfully logged into their accounts, and almost 3,000 voters printed their ballots. We are monitoring USPS alerts about countries where mail delivery is impacted by COVID-19 and sharing with voters in these countries options on how to receive and return their ballots.

The final list of vote centers and ballot drop off locations is included in the meeting materials. We are working with the local boards to determine the appropriate amount of equipment to deploy to each voting location and have ordered custom-made ballot drop boxes and personal protective equipment for election judges and voters.

A broader voter education campaign will also be conducted for this election. It will include radio and TV, mailing, digital advertising, continuous social media postings and press releases.

We are also working with the Clear Ballot Group to prepare for the post-election automated ballot tabulation audit for this election.

6. Voter Registration

MDVOTERS

To better support the June 2, 2020 election, the MDVOTERS development team has created a vote-by-mail solution. We are currently scheduled for this release on Friday, May 1, 2020. Additionally, vote-by-mail ballot counts will be updated daily, on the SBE website, to reflect ballots received by the local boards.

MVA Transactions

During February, MVA collected the following voter registration transactions:

New Registration - 8,939	Residential Address Changes - 19,684
Last name changes - 2,645	Political Party Changes - 6,206

During March, MVA collected the following voter registration transactions:

New Registration - 8,715	Residential Address Changes - 21,364
Last name changes - 2,504	Political Party Change - 5,760

Non-Citizens

Due to the telework mandate, no information is available at this time.

New Party

The "Working Class Party" is now a recognized party. The online voter registration application, as well as the website applications have been updated. Mary Wagner will be working with Whitney LeRoux to procure paper applications. Notification has been provided to add this new party to the automatic registration systems for the MVA, Maryland Health Benefits Exchange, Maryland Paratransit and Department of Health Services.

7. Candidacy and Campaign Finance (CCF) Division

Enforcement Actions

The CCF Division received the payments for the following civil penalties:

1. Friends of Robert Stokes paid \$100 on March 13, 2020 for disbursement by unauthorized method- Cash greater than \$25.00.
2. Friends of Abdul Anees Rahim paid \$700.00 on April 1, 2020 for disbursement by unauthorized individual- Candidate.
3. Friends of Jay Mason paid \$100 on April 1, 2020 for disbursement by unauthorized method- Cash greater than \$25.00.
4. Citizens for Carl Jackson paid \$25 on April 8, 2020 for disbursement by unauthorized method- Cash greater than \$25.00.

8. Project Management Office (PMO)

Inventory Management

The FY2020 statewide inventory audit began on March 1, 2020. At this time, 30% of equipment and supplies have been inventory audited.

9. Voting System

Electronic Pollbook

On March 6, 2020, SBE conducted another statewide test of the early voting and election day network. The test involved all local boards of elections (except Washington County) and was executed over a six-hour period. Over 83,000 transactions were generated, and no issues were identified or reported during the testing period.

This network will be used at the vote centers on April 28th and June 2nd to ensure that the most current data about returned ballots is available to election judges. With this network, the election judges will know which voters have returned their voted ballots as of election day morning and the local boards can canvass returned ballots up until the day before the election if they so choose. Without this network, the data in the pollbooks will be outdated and the local boards will have to pause their canvassing for several days.

7. Legislation

Below is a list of bills that passed during the abbreviated legislative session:

1. SB 4 – Expansion of Commercial Gaming – Sports and Event Wagering: Question that will appear on the 2020 General Election ballot.
2. SB 145/HB 37 - Absentee Voting References in Public Communications and Pre-paid Postage for Return of Ballots: Requiring SBE and the local boards to refer to absentee ballots as “mail-in ballots” and absentee voting as “mail-in voting” in all communications with voters and the general public; requiring SBE and the local boards to include in public communications regarding “mail-in voting” a statement that “mail-in voting” is referred to as absentee voting in the Annotated Code of Maryland and the Code of Maryland Regulations; Requiring that AB return envelopes include prepaid postage; requiring AB instructions include information regarding postage; requiring SBE to reimburse each LBE 50% of the cost of pre-paid postage.
Emergency legislation
3. SB 251 (Chapter 10) – Special Elections – Calendar Revisions: Emergency legislation altering certain deadlines related to a special election.
4. SB 390/HB 1158 - Candidate Defeated in Primary Election - Write-In Candidacy in General Election Prohibited. Effective date: January 1, 2021
5. SB 1028 - Balancing the State Budget: Question that will appear on the 2020 General Election ballot.

6. HB 216 – Campaign Material - Definition: Altering the definition of “campaign material” to include certain material that is an automated or prerecorded oral communication. Effective date of January 1, 2021.
7. HB 465 – Campaign Material – Disclosure of the Use of Bots: Requires political committees to disclose the use of bots when transmitting campaign material. Failure to disclose the use of bots may result in the civil penalties. Additionally, the State Board May seek the removal of the bot. Effective date of June 1, 2020
8. HB 1222 – Campaign Finance Enforcement and Compliance – New State Positions: Requiring the Department of Budget and Management to create two new State positions for the State Board of Elections for the purpose of employing staff to enforce campaign finance violations and to ensure compliance with campaign finance law. Effective date of July 1, 2020.



Nikki Charlson -SBE- <nikki.charlson@maryland.gov>

bmd

1 message

Goldman, Abigail <Abigail.Goldman@baltimorecity.gov>
To: Nikki Charlson -SBE- <nikki.charlson@maryland.gov>
Cc: "Jones, Armstead" <Armstead.Jones@baltimorecity.gov>

Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 10:46 AM

This is the official request to have 8 bmds at the vote center in Baltimore City.

Thanks

Abigail

Abigail Goldman, CERA

Deputy Election Director

**Baltimore City Board of Elections
Benton Office Bldg.
417 E. Fayette Street, Room 129
Baltimore, MD 21202**

Telephone: 410-396-5570

Fax: 410-962-8747

"Embrace the Challenge"



Erin Perrone -SBE- <erin.perrone@maryland.gov>

BMD's for 4/28

Katie Brown <kabrown@baltimorecountymd.gov>

Sat, Apr 18, 2020 at 2:43 PM

To: "Charlson, Nikki (Nikki.Charlson@maryland.gov)" <Nikki.Charlson@maryland.gov>, "Lamone, Linda (Linda.Lamone@maryland.gov)" <Linda.Lamone@maryland.gov>

Cc: Erin Perrone -SBE- <erin.perrone@maryland.gov>, Shafiq Satterfield -SBE- <shafiq.satterfield@maryland.gov>, Nancy Stratton <nstratton@baltimorecountymd.gov>

Linda & Nikki – Baltimore County would like to use a total of 9 BMD's for the CD7 General on April 28, 2020 – 3 per room @ Martin's West.

Let me know if/when approved.

Thank you and have a great weekend.

Stay healthy,

Katie

Katie Brown, Director

Baltimore County Board of Elections

11112 Gilroy Road, Suite 104

Hunt Valley, MD 21031

410-887-5700

COVID-19

Stay Home • Wash Your Hands
Avoid Touching Your Face
Disinfect Surfaces Frequently

STOP THE SPREAD • FLATTEN THE CURVE

CONNECT WITH BALTIMORE COUNTY



www.baltimorecountymd.gov

Anyone registered to vote in Maryland can vote by absentee ballot, which lets you vote in an election without going to a polling place. If you are a military voter stationed outside of Maryland or live outside of the U.S., go to fvap.gov to fill out the Federal Post Card Application.

You can register to vote in Maryland online at elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html or at your local election office (see attached list).

How to ask for an absentee ballot

- Fill out this form and get it to your local election office before the deadline, or ask for your absentee ballot online at elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html.

How will you receive your absentee ballot?

- On this form, you choose how you want to receive your ballot: through U.S. Mail, fax, or we will send you an email with a link so you can print your ballot.
- You can also pick it up in person, or have someone pick it up:
 - If you want someone to pick up your ballot for you, you need to provide a *Designation of Agent* form. Get this form at your local election office or online at elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html.
 - The person who picks up your ballot must be at least 18 years old and cannot be a candidate on your ballot. You can also have this person return your voted ballot to your local election office. This person must sign a form to show that he or she handled the ballot properly.

Deadlines for returning this form

Your deadline depends on how you send in this form, and on how you want to receive your ballot.

Presidential Primary Election: Since this election will be conducted by mail, we will mail you a ballot. You only need to complete this form if you have a different mailing address, or if you want this ballot by fax or print it from a link.

- If you want your local election office to fax you a ballot:
 - Make sure this form is in our office by 8 pm on Tuesday, May 26, 2020.
 - Or send us this form by email or fax by 11:59 pm.
- If you want to print your ballot from a link:
 - Make sure this form is in our office by 5 pm on Friday, May 29, 2020.
 - Or send us this form by email or fax by 11:59 pm.

Presidential General Election

- If you want your local election office to mail or fax you a ballot:
 - Make sure this form is in our office by 8 pm on Tuesday, October 27, 2020.
 - Or send us this form by email or fax by 11:59 pm.
- If you want to print your ballot from a link:
 - Make sure this form is in our office by 5 pm on Friday, October 30, 2020.
 - Or send us this form by email or fax by 11:59 pm.

You can ask for this form in large type.

Maryland Application for an Absentee Ballot

Register to Vote

1

You must be registered to vote an absentee ballot. If you are not registered to vote in Maryland and want to register, contact your local election office listed on the attached sheet or go to elections.maryland.gov.

Print your name.
Use black or blue ink.

2

Last name _____ Jr Sr II III IV
First name _____ Middle name or initial _____

Election

3

I want an absentee ballot for

Presidential Primary – We will mail you a ballot for the presidential primary election. Fill out Section 6 if you want your ballot mailed to a different address, or if you want your ballot by fax or internet delivery instead of mail.

Presidential General

Party Affiliation:

Democrat Republican Bread and Roses Working Class Other: Specify _____

About you

4

Email Address _____

Birthdate | M | M | / | D | D | / | Y | Y | Y | Y | Phone | | | | - | | | | | | | | | | | |

Your current address

Print your current residential address.

DO NOT write a temporary address used for school, work, or travel. If you want to get your ballot by U.S. Mail, you can put that address in Section 6.

5

Address _____ Apt. number _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code | | | | | | | | | | | |

When did you move here? | M | M | / | D | D | / | Y | Y | Y | Y | If you do not remember the exact date, give the month and year.

How do you want to receive your ballot?

If you choose internet delivery, we will send you an email with a link to your ballot about three weeks before the election. You must print your ballot and return it to your local election office. If you do not see an email from the State Board of Elections, check your spam folder.

Note: A fax or internet ballot you have printed yourself cannot be read by our scanners. Election workers will use the information on your ballot to mark an official ballot for you. The official ballot will be machine counted with other ballots.

If you do not have a Maryland Driver's License or ID card, provide the last 4 digits of your social security number.

6

Choose one:

U.S. MAIL

I want my ballot for the **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION** mailed to:

Same as above The address below

Address _____ Apt. number _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

I want my ballot for the **PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION** mailed to:

Same as above The address below

Address _____ Apt. number _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

INTERNET DELIVERY We will email you an internet link to open your ballot and print it yourself.

Email address _____

Maryland Driver's License or ID Card Number | | | | - | | | | - | | | | - | | | | - | | | |

Issue Date | M | M | / | D | D | / | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Last 4 digits of Social Security number XXX-XX- - | | | | | | | | | | | |

FAX fax number | | | | - | | | | - | | | | - | | | |

Signature

(required)

Anyone can help you fill out this form except

- A candidate on your ballot
- Your employer or an agent of your employer
- An officer or agent from your union

7

Voter's Signature (required)

X

Today's Date | M | M | / | D | D | / | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Assistance Signature (required if you had help)

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby certify that this voter needed help with this form because he or she has a disability or is unable to read or write. The voter authorized me to complete this form. If the voter could not sign this form, I printed the voter's name and wrote my initials.

sign: _____

print: _____

Maryland State Board of Elections

State Board of Elections

P.O. Box 6486, Annapolis, MD
21401-0486 **800-222-8683**
MD Relay Service 800-735-2258
elections.maryland.gov

Local Election Offices

Allegheny County

701 Kelly Rd., Ste. 231
Cumberland, MD 21502
301-777-5931
301-777-2430 (fax)
elections@alleghenygov.org

Anne Arundel County

P.O. Box 490
Glen Burnie, MD 21060
410-222-6600
410-222-6824 (fax)
elections@aacounty.org

Baltimore City

Benton Office Bldg.
417 E. Fayette St., Rm. 129
Baltimore, MD 21202-3432
410-396-5550
410-727-1775 (fax)
410-783-7394 (fax)
election.judge@baltimorecity.gov

Baltimore County

11112 Gilroy Rd., Ste. 104
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
410-887-5700
410-832-8493 (fax)
elections@baltimorecountymd.gov

Calvert County

30 Duke St., Lower Level
P.O. Box 798
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
410-535-2214
410-535-5009 (fax)
elections@calvertcountymd.gov

Caroline County

Health & Public Services Bldg.
403 S. Seventh St., Ste. 247
Denton, MD 21629-1378
410-479-8145
410-479-5736 (fax)
election@carolinemd.org

Carroll County

300 S. Center St., Rm. 212
Westminster, MD 21157
410-386-2080
410-876-3925 (fax)
ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov

Cecil County

200 Chesapeake Blvd.
Ste. 1900
Elkton, MD 21921-6395
410-996-5310
888-979-8183 (fax)
voting@ccgov.org

Charles County

P.O. Box 908
La Plata, MD 20646-0908
301-934-8972
301-870-3167
301-934-6487 (fax)
elections@charlescountymd.gov

Dorchester County

501 Court Ln., Rm. 105
P.O. Box 414
Cambridge, MD 21613-0414
410-228-2560
410-228-9635 (fax)
brittanym.phillips@maryland.gov

Frederick County

340 A Montevue Ln.
Frederick, MD 21702
301-600-8683
301-600-2344 (fax)
electionboard@
frederickcountymd.gov

Garrett County

2008 Maryland Hwy, Ste. 1
Mountain Lake Park, MD 21550
301-334-6985
301-334-6988 (fax)
sfratz@garrettcountry.org

Harford County

133 Industry Ln.
Forest Hill, MD 21050-1621
410-638-3565
410-638-3310 (fax)
elections@harfordcountymd.gov

Howard County

9770 Patuxent Woods Dr. Ste. 200
Columbia, MD 21046
410-313-5820
410-313-5833 (fax)
tiffany.ferrell1@maryland.gov

Kent County

135 Dixon Dr.
Chestertown, MD 21620
410-778-0038
410-778-0265 (fax)
cheemoandia.blake@maryland.gov

Montgomery County

P.O. Box 10159
Rockville, MD 20849-0159
240-777-8550
TDD 800-735-2258
240-777-8560 (fax)
absentee@
montgomerycountymd.gov

Prince George's County

1100 Mercantile Ln., Ste. 115A
Largo, MD 20774
301-341-7300
TDD 301-726-3352
301-341-7399 (fax)
election@co.pg.md.us

Queen Anne's County

110 Vincit St., Ste. 102
Centreville, MD 21617
410-758-0832
410-758-1119 (fax)
qac.elections@maryland.gov

St. Mary's County

P.O. Box 197
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-4200 ext. *1625
301-475-4077 (fax)
wendy.adkins@stmarysmd.com

Somerset County

P.O. Box 96
Princess Anne, MD 21853
410-651-0767
410-651-5130 (fax)
elections@somersetmd.us

Talbot County

P.O. Box 353
Easton, MD 21601-0353
410-770-8099
410-770-8078 (fax)
jeri.cook@maryland.gov

Washington County

35 W. Washington St.
Rm 101
Hagerstown, MD 21740
240-313-2050
240-313-2062 (fax)
washco.elections@maryland.gov

Wicomico County

P.O. Box 4091
Salisbury, MD 21803-4091
410-548-4830
410-548-4849 (fax)
wicomico.elections@maryland.gov

Worcester County

201 Belt St., Ste. C
Snow Hill, MD 21863-1300
410-632-1320
410-632-3031 (fax)
teresa.riggins@maryland.gov

Harford County

Section 1.2- Purpose

- Addition of the following statement to the end of the Purpose that was recommended in the model bylaws:

*“The Harford County Board of Elections is to provide all eligible citizens of Harford County convenient access to voter registration; to provide all registered voters accessible locations in which they may exercise their right to vote; to ensure uniformity of election practices; to promote fair and equitable elections; and to maintain registration records [, campaign fund reports,] and other election related data accurately and in a form that is accessible to the public **as permitted by law.**”*

Section 1.3- Adoption and Amendment of Bylaws

Section A- Initial Bylaws Approval

- Changed from first meeting to third meeting: “Bylaws shall be reviewed and approved by a majority vote of the full Board at the *third* meeting of each new Board term or as soon as practical thereafter.”

Section 2.2 Officers

Subsection D. Duties – Vice President

- Removed requirement for VP to be of a different part than the President.

Section 3.2- Rules of Order

Subsection A. Quorum

Items 1b and 2b

- Added the word “principal” before political party, so the statements now read: “A *quorum of the Board/Board of Canvassers shall consist of a majority of the membership, including at least one member of each **principal** political party.*

Section 3.3 Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Subsection D- Minutes

- 3) Full minutes of open meetings and summaries of closed meetings *shall be presented for approval at the next Board meeting.*
- 4) Full minutes of closed meetings *shall be presented for approval at the next closed meeting held by the Board.*

Section 4.2- Political Activity

Subsection B- Additional Requirements

- 1) A member *may attend* campaign fundraisers held by candidates, political parties, or ballot issue committees provided the member discloses this fact to the Board and does not publicly indicate that he or she is a member of the Board.

- 2) A member *may make* campaign contributions to candidates or issues on the ballot in an election for which the member will be serving on the local Board of Canvassers provided the member discloses the contributions to the Board.
- 3) A member *may* publicly display support or opposition to candidates or issues on the ballot in any election (including yard signs, bumper stickers, etc.) for which the member will be serving on the local Board of Canvassers provided the member discloses the displays to the board.
- 4) A member *may* wear campaign paraphernalia showing support or opposition for or against candidates or issues on the ballot in any election for which the member will be serving on the local Board of Canvassers.

Recommendation: Approve

Title 33 STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Subtitle 11 ABSENTEE BALLOTS
Chapter 03 Issuance and Return

Authority: Election Law Article, §§2-102(b)(4), 2-202(b), 9-303, 9-305, 9-306, 11-301, 11-302, and 11-304,
 Annotated Code of Maryland

.06 Return of Ballot.

A. Date Stamp Return Envelope.

(1) Except as provided in §(A)(2) of this regulation, whenever [Whenever] an absentee ballot is received by a local board office, the election director shall stamp the return envelope with the date received.

(2) For special general election for the 7th Congressional District held on April 28, 2020, and the 2020 Presidential Primary Election held on June 2, 2020, the election director shall:

(a) Stamp the return envelope with the date received if the local board received the return envelope on the day before the election or any day thereafter; and

(b) Store the return envelopes in a container labeled with the date the ballots were received.

B. – E. (text unchanged)

Explanation: Because of the number of returned ballots each local board will receive for the special general election for the 7th Congressional District and the 2020 Presidential Primary Election, the requirement to stamp the date received on each return envelope is changed.

- If a return envelope is received two or more days before election day, the local board is not required to date stamp the return envelope but it must store the return envelopes in a container with a label showing the date the return envelopes were received.
- If a return envelope is received the day before the election, election day, or any day after election day, a local board must date stamp each return envelope.

This change is being proposed as an emergency change. This means that the changes to 33.11.0306 would be effective for the special general election for the 7th Congressional Election (April 28, 2020) and the presidential primary election (June 2, 2020). After these elections, the requirement to date stamp all return envelopes – regardless when they are received – would return.

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman
Malcolm L. Funn
Kelley Howells
William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone
Administrator

Nikki Charlson
Deputy Administrator

Memorandum

TO: State Board Members
FROM: Jared DeMarinis, Director
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
DATE: April 22, 2020
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 five waiver request, for the month of April. No Board action is required on the denials. Late fees collected year to date for Late Fee Waivers are \$114,801.00.

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

Waiver Request List 4-22-20

1. Brown, Gary Friends of
2. Davis (William) Will Friends of
3. Delauter, Kirby Friends of
4. Fogg, Matthew Citizens to Elect
5. Frank, Arthur Committee to Elect
6. Havis, Lee (Andrew) for Senate
7. Herd, (William) Citizens for Mayor Herd
8. Jones, Jermaine People for
9. Lewis, (Shavonte) Shay Friends for
10. Malesh, William Friends for Public Education
11. MAPDA Businesses fr a Better Tomorrow PAC
12. Maryland Promise Committee
13. Mayer, Morgan for Board of Education
14. Newsuan, Theresa (Dolores Reyes) Register of Wills
15. Nicholson, Penelope for Somerset County School Board
16. Novinger, Frank Friends of
17. O'Connor, Carrie Lee Friends of
18. Parrott, Neil for Delegate
19. Porter, Jonathan Friends of

Denied Waivers

1. Bair, Margaret Peggy Citizens for
2. Ciliberti, Barrie Citizens for
3. Hoffmann, Susan Friends of
4. Purnell, (Tamara) for 7th District
5. West, Westley Friends of

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Brown, Gary Friends for	
CCF ID:	01010059	Status: Active
Date Established	2/24/14	
Date Waiver Requested	2/19/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Maryland Green	Start Date: 2/24/14
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Gary Brown	2/24/14
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/22/20	\$140	\$140
			\$	\$
				Total: \$140

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
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

My treasurer mistakenly filed the 2021 report, the error was brought to our attention on Jan 22, 20. We immediately made the correction.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request, it has been verified that the 2021 report was filed by mistake.

Administrator's Decision

--

February 19, 2020

From : Friends for Gary Brown, ID 01010059

To: Jared DeMarinis, Director and the
Maryland Board of Elections

I am writing this letter to request that a waiver of the late fee in the amount of \$140.00 for the annual report for the year of 2020. My treasurers mistakenly clicked and filed the 2021 report which he thought was the 2020 option on January 15th. This error was brought to our attention on January 22th via email of the late notice. After calling and speaking with one of the representatives it was brought to our attention that we filed for the next year oppose to the current year. We immediately filed the correct report and was advised to write this letter to explain the mistake and we could request a waiver. The campaign had no activating for the entire 2019 year and has no plans for any this year.

We respectfully request that you consider this request for the waiver of any late fees sine the report was correct but the wrong year was filed.

Thanks for your consideration.

Gary Brown, Candidate & Chairman

Maryland Green, Treasurer

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Davis, (William) Will Friends of	
CCF ID:	01012172	Status: Active
Date Established	1/11/18	
Date Waiver Requested	3/04/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Pat Hold	Start Date: 1/11/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Will Davis	1/11/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/22/20	\$140	\$140
			\$	\$
				Total: \$140

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
	\$0	\$0	\$-3,346	\$5,452
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I didn't realize I hadn't filed the report until I received the notices.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
P.O. BOX 6486
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486
JARED DEMARINIS, DIRECTOR

Re: Account: Davis, (William) Will Friends of
CCF ID: 01012172


Mr. DeMarinis,

I am writing this to ask for forgiveness for the late fee penalty of \$140.00. The campaign has insufficient funds in its account since 2/4/2019 and still has outstanding loans owed to the candidate. I have filed all other finance reports in a timely manner.

When I was filing the 1/15/2020 report, I noticed that the Chairman didn't sign/send the last report of 8/28/2019. I guess that I panicked and didn't complete my part of the 1/15/2020 report correctly. I asked Chairman to sign reports, not realizing that I didn't complete the 1/15/2020 report. I later went and checked and didn't see any pending verifications. I didn't even realize that I didn't file it until I received the late fee postcard.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (410) 996-3136.

Sincerely,


Patricia Hold, Treasurer
Friends of Will Davis

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Delauter, Kirby Friends of	
CCF ID:	01011611	Status: Inactive
Date Established	3/07/17	
Date Waiver Requested	2/19/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Jennifer Burriss	Start Date: 3/07/17
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Kirby Delauter	3/07/17
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		3/13/20	\$1000	\$1000
			\$	\$
				Total: \$1000

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
1/16/19	\$50	Paid	N/A
11/20/18	\$60	Paid	N/A

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/15/20	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

We had tried to close out several times but had issue due to closing expenses. We were able to receive assistance from your staff to accomplish this.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision

February 19, 2020

Maryland State Board of Elections

151 West Street, Suite 200

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

To whom it may concern:

The Friends of Kirby Delauter Campaign is asking for relief in the amount of \$1,000 for the Late Fee Bill dated February 19, 2020. We have tried to close out the campaign several times and had issues due to closing out expenses that were not covered by donations. I was able to receive assistance from the people at the Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance to finally accomplish this and believed the last step was to complete the Campaign Closeout. I completed this on the most recent due date of 1/15/2020 and received confirmation by email that the report was received.

On 1/22/20, I received an email stating that our report had not been received. I was confused as I thought the closeout was the end of my reporting requirements. I emailed info.sbe@maryland.gov and explained my confusion and was told that I needed to also complete an Annual Report, which I did online, but I was still confused as to why this was a requirement after completing the campaign closeout.

Today, I spoke with Ms. Ebony and she directed me that I needed to send a letter stating that Kirby Delauter forgave the outstanding loan debt. I have completed this and emailed to Ms. Ebony today.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at 301-447-5881 x201 or at jennyburriss@gmail.com. I thank you for your consideration in relief of the late fees.

Sincerely,



Jenny Burriss
Campaign Treasurer

RECEIVED
FEB 19 2020
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Fogg, Matthew, Citizens to Elect	
CCF ID:	01010155	Status: Active
Date Established	2/17/14	
Date Waiver Requested	2/24/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Karen Murphy	Start Date: 2/24/17
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Matt Fogg	2/24/17
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		2/04/20	\$685	\$685
			\$	\$
				Total: \$685

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
11/20/18	\$30	paid	N/A
11/18/14	\$10	paid	N/A
8/26/14	\$20	paid	N/A

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I was not working in the office the time it was due because of the passing of my mother.

Division Comments

Grant

Administrator's Decision

RECEIVED

FEB 24 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

February 17, 2020

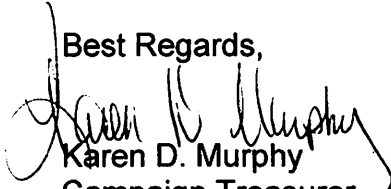
To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to request a waiver of all late fees accrued from January 16-February 4, 2020. The Maryland Campaign Finance 2020 Annual Report for Citizen to Elect Matthew Fogg was filed late due to me being out of the office on bereavement leave. I filed it when I returned to the office on February 4th. I am Mr. Fogg's treasurer, therefore it's my responsibility to file the report. The total that I am asking to be waived is \$385 [$20 \times 7 = \140 (Jan 16-24) and $\$35 \times 7 = \245 (Jan 27-Feb 4th)].

Please consider that I am usually prompt when filing this monthly report and because my mother transitioned, I was not working in the office around the time it was due.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Best Regards,



Karen D. Murphy
Campaign Treasurer

RECEIVED
FEB 14 1968
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 13, 1968

The Board of Education

The Board is to request a review of all new teachers from January 1968 through
1970. The Board has assigned James J. O'Connell, Director of Curriculum
Development, to lead this effort. He has been assigned to the office of the
Director of Curriculum Development, State Board of Education, 100 West
Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. He will be in charge of the
entire project. The Board has also assigned to the office of the Director of
Curriculum Development, State Board of Education, 100 West Washington
Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601, the following staff members: James J.
O'Connell, Director of Curriculum Development; Robert J. Kelly, Director of
Instructional Services; and Robert J. Kelly, Director of Instructional Services.

It is requested that you advise the Board of any changes in the
staff of the State Board of Education, Chicago, Illinois 60601, which
may affect the above mentioned project.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
James J. O'Connell

James J. O'Connell
Director of Curriculum Development
State Board of Education

The Board of Education

The Board is to request a review of all new teachers from January 1968 through
1970. The Board has assigned James J. O'Connell, Director of Curriculum
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Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601, the following staff members: James J.
O'Connell, Director of Curriculum Development; Robert J. Kelly, Director of
Instructional Services; and Robert J. Kelly, Director of Instructional Services.

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Frank, Arthur Committee to Elect	
CCF ID:	01009521	Status: Active
Date Established	11/14/13	
Date Waiver Requested	2/27/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Jeff Stoller	Start Date: 11/14/13
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Jean Ferguson	11/14/13
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/22/20	\$140	\$140
			\$	\$
				Total: \$140

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
1/20/16	\$500	Paid	Yes

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

When my treasurer went to file the ALCE for the annual it was not in the drop-down box assuming there was a problem with the system he filed the 2021 report.

Division Comments

Grant

Administrator's Decision

Law Offices of
Arthur M. Frank, P.A.
101 E. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 200
Towson, Maryland 21286
www.ArthurFrank.com

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

410-446-1800 (Direct)
410-727-2500 (Office)

410-828-1584 (Facsimile)
ArthurFrank@comcast.net

February 23, 2020

Maryland State Board of Elections
P.O. Box 6486
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-0486

Attn: Mr. Jared DeMarinis, Director

Account: Frank, Arthur Committee to Elect
CCF ID: 01009521
Amount Owed: \$140.00

Dear Mr. DeMarinis:

When my Treasurer first attempted to file the Affidavit of Limited Contributions and Expenditures, for some reason, the only item in the drop-down box indicated the 1/20 / 2021 Annual Report. There was no item in the drop-down box where it could have been filed correctly.

Assuming that there was some mistake in the computer system at the State Board of Elections, our Treasurer proceeded with the filing of the report, even though it was for the 2021 reporting year (see attached)

As soon as we received notice that there was a late filing, we immediately went back to the website and filed the appropriate annual report for 2020. As a matter of fact, as is usual, there was not even an item in the drop-down box for the 2021 election cycle.

Accordingly, my committee is requesting a waiver or cancellation of the \$140.00 late fee.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

With best wishes, I remain,

Very truly yours,



Arthur M. Frank

AMF/tam
Attachment

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Havis, Lee (Andrew) for Senate	
CCF ID:	01011776	Status: Active
Date Established	7/5/17	
Date Waiver Requested	2/13/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Frank Welsh	Start Date: 7/5/17
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Andrew Havis	7/5/17
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/20/20	\$210	\$210
			\$	\$
				Total: \$210

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
1/15/20	\$0	\$0	\$201	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I was using a new software program which register a false positive result. I was not aware the report was not submitted.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request.

Administrator's Decision

--



HAVIS for Senate
Maryland State Senate, Legislative District 21
including College Park, Beltsville, Laurel, and Odenton

Lee Havis, Candidate, 6812 Dartmouth Ave. College Park, MD 20740 Tel. 240-481-1566



February 11, 2020

Maryland State Board of Elections
PO Box 6486
Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

RECEIVED

FEB 13 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

RE: #01011776

Gentlemen:

I'm writing about a notice I received about a "late report" due 01/15/2020 (2020 annual) for my campaign. My request is that you remove the late fee applied in the amount of \$210, on the basis of comments in this letter here below.

While it's true that an official annual report was only registered in your office on January 24, 2020, that was submitted only after a prior timely report was submitted before. Unfortunately, the prior "submit" did not register with your office since I was using a new Windows 10 software, just installed on my computer, which rendered a false positive result. I only learned that the "submit" did not somehow register with your office until several days later. At that time, I therefore promptly completed another report, which your office ultimately confirmed as received on January 24, 2020.

Let me add that the campaign is no longer active and the account needs to be closed, which will be done as soon as the late fee matter is resolved.

Thanks for your cooperation with this matter. Any questions, please contact me directly if necessary. You can contact me through lee@patriotvoting.com or telephone.

Sincerely,

Lee Havis

Leadership for a Better Maryland

• lee@patriotvoting.com •

By authority, Havis for Senate, Frank Welsh, Treasurer

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Herd, (William) Citizens for Mayor Herd	
CCF ID:	01013225	Status: Active
Date Established	8/07/19	
Date Waiver Requested	2/25/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Viola Herd	Start Date: 8/07/19
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Will Herd	8/07/19
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		2/7/20	\$835	\$835
			\$	\$
				Total: \$835

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
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

Kindly have your board get rid of any amount owed, I have no intention of paying it out of my pocket or the treasurer's

Division Comments

Grant 1st request.

Administrator's Decision

2-21-20

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ATTN: VICTORIA MOLINA
P.O. BOX 6486
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-0486

W. G. HERD
3459 CHESTNUT AVE.
BALTO. MD. 21211
410-467-8624

RE: RESPONSE TO LETTER DATED 2-19-2020

RECEIVED

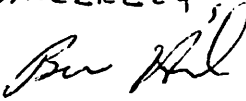
FEB 25 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

DEAR VICTORIA:

PER OUR CONVERSATION TO THE DATE ABOVE, KINDLY HAVE YOUR BOARD GET RID OF ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY OWED. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF PAYING IT OUT OF MY OR THE TREASURER'S OWN MONEY. AN ANNUAL 2020 REPORT SHOULD BE JUST AS IT SAYS (2020 ANNUAL). WHEN THE CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT GETS UP TO \$5000.00 BY OTHERS LESS EXPENSES OF \$5000/MONTH (\$10,000.00), I WILL PERSONALLY LET YOU KNOW. PHYSICALLY I AM UNABLE TO WALK WELL BUT HAVE TAKEN THE STEPS TOWARD CORRECTION. YOUR REPORT OF 3-15-20 WILL BE RESPONDED TO, BUT PROBABLY JUST ANOTHER WASTE OF TIME. ANY QUESTIONS KINDLY CALL AND TALK TO ME DIRECT, MY CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT WILL NEVER GO OVER \$100.00 BY MYSELF ONLY.

BH

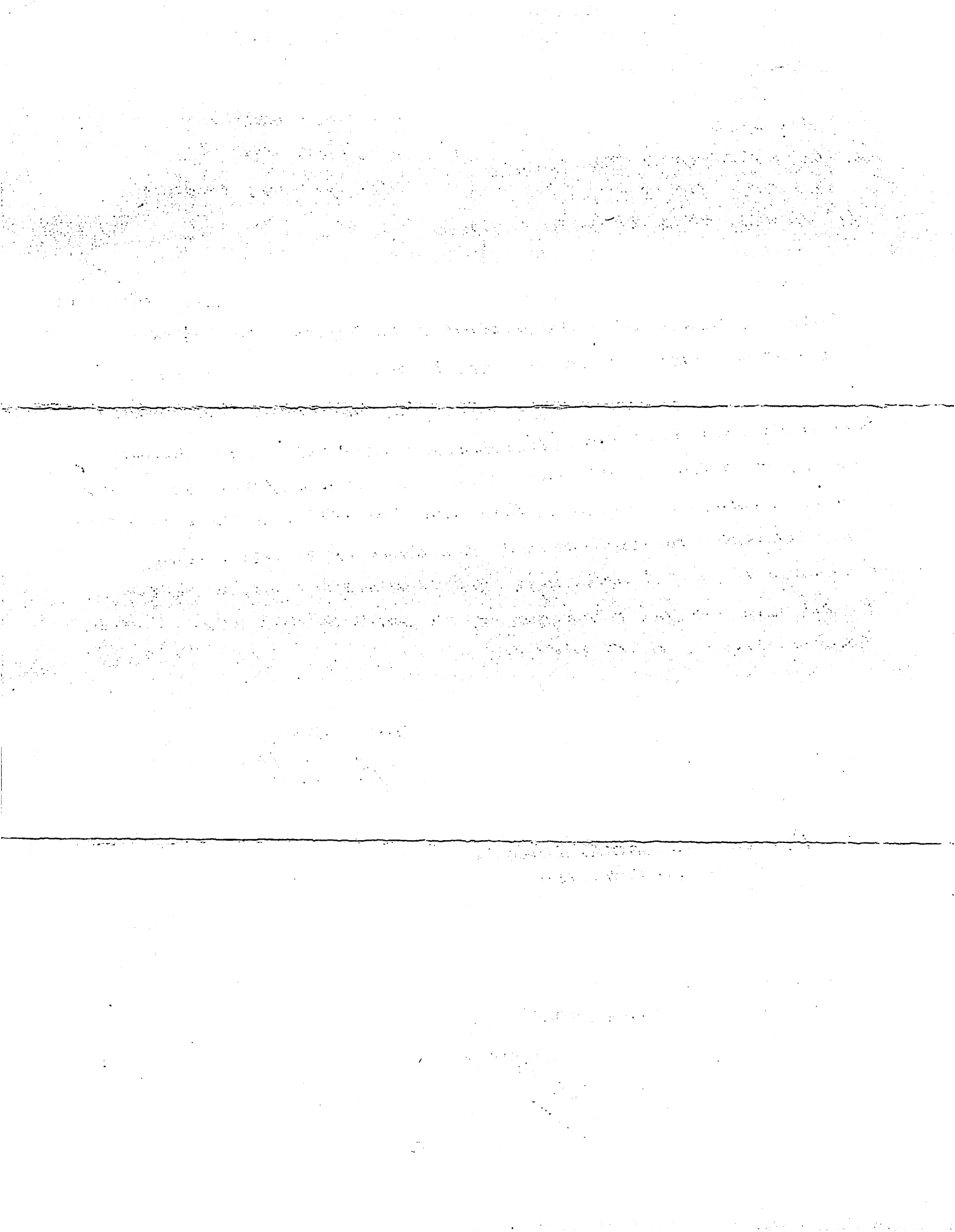
SINCERELY,

BILL HERD

P.S. OUR CONVERSATIONS SHOULD BE NOTED & NOT WRITTEN.

ORIGINAL: FILE

COPY: VICTORIA MOLINA (MADE)

REG MAIL



Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Jones, Jermaine People for	
CCF ID:	01010295	Status: Inactive
Date Established	2/25/14	
Date Waiver Requested	2/19/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Juwan Jones	Start Date: 2/25/14
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Jermaine Jones	2/25/14
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/16/19			\$500	\$500
11/20/18			\$500	\$500
10/26/18			\$500	\$500
8/28/18			\$500	\$500
6/15/18			\$500	\$500
5/22/18			\$500	\$500
1/17/18			\$500	\$500
				Total:3,500.00

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
1/18/17	\$500	Waived	Yes
11/22/16	\$500	Waived	Yes
10/28/16	\$500	Waived	Yes

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

Per OSP the defendndant has plead guilty and paid a citation fee pursuant to the agreement they have dismiss the remaining citations and closed the case

Division Comments

Grant per OSP

Administrator's Decision

STATE OF MARYLAND



CHARLTON T. HOWARD III
Maryland State Prosecutor

OFFICE OF
THE STATE PROSECUTOR

Hampton Plaza
Suite 410
300 East Joppa Road
Towson, MD 21286-3152
Telephone (410) 321-4067
Fax (410) 321-3851

February 19, 2020

Mr. Jared DeMarinis
Director - Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
Maryland State Board of Elections
151 West Street, Suite 200
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: *People for Jermaine Jones, 19-5317, CCF: 01010295*

Dear Mr. DeMarinis:

The above-referenced case was referred to our office for election law violations stemming from the failure to file campaign finance reports. As a result of our investigation, we issued civil citations.

Defendant Jermaine Jones entered into a plea agreement whereby he pled guilty and paid four citations totaling \$3,000 (4Z42302649, 5Z42302650; 3Z42302648, 2Z42302647). Pursuant to the agreement, we dismissed the remaining citations. This matter is now closed.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Bird

Lindsay Bird
Assistant State Prosecutor

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Lewis, (Shavonte) Shay Friends for	
CCF ID:	01013006	Status: Inactive
Date Established	5/24/18	
Date Waiver Requested	2/25/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Theresa Davis	Start Date: 5/24/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Shavonte Lewis	5/24/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		2/10/20	\$985	\$985
			\$	\$
				Total: \$985

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
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I thought I had closed my account after campaigning and losing the race.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision

Lewis, Shay Friends of

Shavonte' Lewis
108 Wood Duck
Cambridge, MD 21613
443-205-5552
slewis62642@gmail.com

February 20, 2020

Maryland State Board of Elections
151 West St #200
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-269-2840

Dear Mrs. Vicki, Candidacy & Campaign Finance Division,

I am submitting this as an official request to have the late campaign fees waived from my account. During the last election term, I filed my candidacy with no previous knowledge of how to campaign; however, as a community advocate, I desired to be the voice for my community by running for a county council seat. Although I was unsuccessful, I maintained my accounts with the Board of Elections and the bank to run for the local school board this election term. After accepting a volunteer position with a local non-profit agency, I made the decision not to run for the Board of Education, so I proceeded to close my campaign bank account with SECU and the campaign. In December, I called the Board of Election to follow up with instructions to close the account. After receiving the instructions, I thought that I had completely closed everything out. In the process, I had misplaced my mailbox key and was no longer checking the registered email account (shay4council) I had used when I filed my candidacy paperwork. Once I retrieved the key to my mailbox, I had two postcards from the finance division advising me to submit my report in CRIS. The next day, I contacted the office and spoke to Ms. Vicki, who suggested that once I filed the affidavit since I had never received any contributions, then I would need to click on the box that indicated I wanted to close out my account. She also, at that time, advised me of the late fees that had accumulated on my account, totally shocked I explained that I thought my account had been closed and that I did not have the funds to take care of the fees. Ms. Vicki informed me that I could submit a waiver request that would be reviewed by the Board. Please accept this letter as my official request to have the late fees on my account waived.

Thank you for your time and attention. I look forward to hearing from someone in your office. Have a fabulous weekend.


Shavonte' Lewis

RECEIVED
FEB 25 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Malesh, William Friends for Public Education	
CCF ID:	01010304	Status: Active
Date Established	2/24/14	
Date Waiver Requested	2/26/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Ben Malesh	Start Date: 2/26/20
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Will Malesh	2/26/20
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/20/20	\$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
1/16/19	\$40	Paid	No

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I was with him when he filed the report I don't know how your system says it was received on the 20th. We have always run unopposed, so no money was spent.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision

Appeal

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

2/24/20

Dear Board of Elections,

Please reconsider my sons and my fine \$100 each?

This is my 6th year on the school board. We have done many finance reports. I was standing over his shoulder when he filed our reports saying we only have three days left. I do not know how you data says they came in on the 20th. Searching for your received notes but have not been able to find them.

I have always run unopposed and never spent a penny. The board position only pays a small stipend (basically, gas money and they feed up)

Any consideration would be appreciated
thanks!

BOFE Cecil County Bill Malesh

Ben Malesh

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Dear Board of Elections

I have received your letter regarding the

the is not a part of the process on the

board. It is not a part of the process

to have this information. I will be

concerned about the information that

is being shared with the public.

I have been informed that you are

going to be on the 2020 ballot.

I am sure you received more than

just one letter about this.

I am sure you are aware of the

fact that you are a public

figure and your actions are

subject to public scrutiny.

I am sure you understand the

importance of transparency

and accountability in public

service.

Thank you for your attention to this

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	MAPDA Businesses for a Better Tomorrow PAC	
CCF ID:	1301993	Status: Active
Date Established	5/21/18	
Date Waiver Requested	2/20/20	
Account Type	Independent Expenditures Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	James Taylor	Start Date: 5/21/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Don Burch	5/21/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/0		1/21/20	\$120	\$120
			\$	\$
				Total: \$120

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
1/15/20	\$0	\$0	\$101,101	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

Neither the chairman nor I received the pre report notice.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision



Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Fwd: FW: Late Fee Bill for the 1/15/2020 Annual Report

6 messages

info sbe -SBE- <info.sbe@maryland.gov>

Thu, Feb 20, 2020 at 9:14 AM

To: Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>, "Ebony R. Parran -SBE-" <ebony.parran@maryland.gov>

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

From: Jensen, Jodi <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, Feb 20, 2020 at 8:42 AM

Subject: FW: Late Fee Bill for the 1/15/2020 Annual Report

To: info.sbe@maryland.gov <info.sbe@maryland.gov>

Good Morning,

I write regarding the attached notice and invoice received by the MAPDA Businesses for a Better Tomorrow PAC (MAPDA BBT PAC), an independent expenditure committee registered with the Board.

According to the invoice, the 2020 annual report of the MAPDA BBT PAC was filed six days late. According to the Board's website:

The State Board of Elections (SBE) sends a Pre Report Notice before each report is due. This notice is only sent if our system indicates that your entity owes the report. If you receive a Pre Report Notice that you feel is in error, please immediately contact this office for assistance. Fees will be assessed for campaign finance reports received late. The maximum late fee is \$1,000 per report.

Neither the treasurer nor the chair of the MAPDA BBT PAC received a Pre Report Notice. Upon logging into the MAPDA BBT PAC CRIS account in January, the only report noted as being due was a January 2021 report. This combined with ambiguity in the state statutes caused MAPDA BBT PAC to conclude that no report was due.

On January 21, 2020, I inquired with Board staff about whether the MAPDA BBT PAC should have filed an annual report. Unfortunately, staff was unable to provide guidance and referred me to Mr. DeMarinis who was not able to respond that day. As a result, MAPDA BBT PAC filed an annual report on January 21, 2020 as a precautionary measure.

We are seeking clarification as to why MAPDA BBT PAC did not receive a notice before the report was due. In addition, since the treasurer and the chair did not receive a notice and since we sought advice from the Board about our filing obligations in an effort to comply, we respectfully request that the late fees be waived in this instance. Prior to this filing, all of the MAPDA BBT PAC reports have been filed on time as required by statutes. Please let me know if we can provide additional information.

Jodi Jensen | Attorney

608.284.2611 direct | [REDACTED]

GODFREY KAHN s.c.

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[REDACTED]

Third block of faint, illegible text, possibly containing a signature or name.

Fourth block of faint, illegible text, continuing the document's content.

Fifth block of faint, illegible text, possibly containing a signature or name.

Sixth block of faint, illegible text, continuing the document's content.

Seventh block of faint, illegible text, possibly containing a signature or name.

Eighth block of faint, illegible text, continuing the document's content.

[REDACTED]

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Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Maryland Promise Committee	
CCF ID:	04013028	Status: Inactive
Date Established	6/8/18	
Date Waiver Requested	2/19/20	
Account Type	Ballot Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	David Helfman	Start Date: 6/8/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Adam Mendelson	6/12/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/22/20	\$140	\$140
			\$	\$
				Total: \$140

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
Affidavit	\$0	\$2013	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

We misunderstood the need to file a final report. This was an administrative oversight by our committee and as soon as we were notified, we took immediate action to submit the filing.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request/ no priors

Administrator's Decision

February 19, 2020

Jared DeMarinis, Director
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
Maryland State Board of Elections
P.O. Box 6486
Annapolis, MD 21401

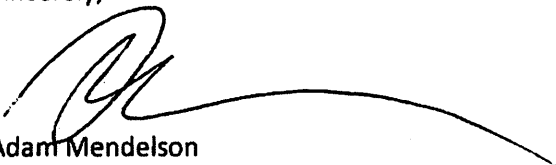
Re: Maryland Promise Committee, CCDID 04013028 - **Late Fee Waiver Request**

Dear Mr. DeMarinis:

Please consider this letter requesting a waiver of late filing fees related to the 2020 annual report. We are requesting a waiver as all previous filings were submitted in a timely manner and this was the committee's first time filing late. The filing was submitted late as we did not realize the obligation to file until we were notified by the State Board of Elections. During the year we depleted the committee funds and closed the bank account in preparation of closure of the Maryland Promise Committee with the State Board of Elections. As a result, we misunderstood the need to file a final report. This was an administrative oversight by our committee and as soon as we were notified, we took immediate action to submit the filing.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jackie Blue at (443) 433-3679 or via email at jblue@mseane.org. Additionally, please communicate your decision directly to Ms. Blue.

Sincerely,



Adam Mendelson
Chairperson

Cc: David Helfman
Sarah Wilkerson
Jackie Blue

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Mayer, Morgan for Board of Education	
CCF ID:	01012570	Status: Inactive
Date Established	2/26/18	
Date Waiver Requested	3/3/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Will Mayer	Start Date: 2/26/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Morgan Mayer	2/26/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/22/20	\$140	\$140
			\$	\$
				Total:\$140

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
1/15/20	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I thought I had closed out my account with the 2019 report.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request.

Administrator's Decision

CCFID
01012570

Jared DeMarinis, Director
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
State Board of Elections

RECEIVED
MAR 03 2020
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Dear Mr. DeMarinis,

I am writing to ask for reconsideration of the late fees incurred after submission of my 2020 Annual Report. I understand the late fee policy, and the late submission was an unintentional mistake. There were unconventional circumstances that led to the late submission, therefore I am humbly asking for reconsideration.

My official candidacy ended in June 2018, after the primary election. After that, I continued to submit campaign finance reports when I received the post card in the mail because I was unsure of how long they would need to be submitted. While submitting one of the finance reports in 2019, the online system gave me the option to mark the report as my final, closeout report. I checked that box upon submission and I did not think I had to do anything further. I received no further notices in the mail.

In the fall and early winter of 2019, I went through a move and due to circumstances outside of my control I did not receive my mail for roughly 90 days. When I was finally able to set up my mail forwarding to my new place of residence, I then received the notice that my annual report was past due and I would be incurring late fees. This was very confusing to me, as I was under the impression that I had filed a closeout report and no further action was needed. I called the State Board of Elections Office and they were extremely helpful. With their assistance, I was able to file my annual report and correctly close out my campaign.

I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this caused your office. This is the first late report I filed throughout my candidacy, and I corrected the mistake as soon as I knew it had happened. Again, I am kindly asking for reconsideration of the late fee charges due to extraordinary circumstances outside of my control and the misunderstanding with the online system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Morgan M. Mayer

RECEIVED

MAR 9 3 2000

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Florida Department of
Statewide Elections
1901 North
Dade County
Tallahassee, Florida 32309-0001
Phone: 904-438-2300
Fax: 904-438-2301

Dear Mr. [Name]:

[Faint, illegible text]

[Faint, illegible text]

[Faint, illegible text]

[Faint, illegible text]

[Faint, illegible text]

[Faint, illegible text]

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Newsuan, Theresa (Dolores Reyes) Register of the Wills, Committee to Elect	
CCF ID:	01012643	Status: Inactive
Date Established	2/27/18	
Date Waiver Requested	3/09/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Joan Pleiman	Start Date: 2/27/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Theresa Newsuan	2/27/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		2/5/20	\$735	\$735
			\$	\$
				Total: \$735

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
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

The treasurer is the caregiver for her father and uncle and was not attentive to email notices.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision

March 6, 2020

4105 Dewmaar Court
Kensington, Maryland
20895
301-933-5731

RECEIVED

MAR 09 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

151 West Street Suite 200
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Ms. Lamone

I am writing to request a waiver or a decrease in the amount of a late fee penalty (\$735.00) for the campaign of Newsuan, Theresa (Dolores Reyes) Register Of The Wills, ,Committee to Elect.

The campaign did not raised \$1000.00 but for some reason I entered some contributions and expenditures. I had trouble trying to close the campaign report and left it open planning to go back to it later. I did not realize not closing it meant that it was still a viable campaign since Dolores was not going to file for that office again.

After the election and holidays were over I began helping take care of my 100 year old father and his identical twin brother in Baltimore. They have been my primary focus and so I have not been attentive to my emails. When I did see the email from Campaign Finance I was surprised and not certain what to do so I filed an affidavit but it was filed to late. After receiving the late fee bill I contacted Victoria Molina and she connected me with Lisa Hanzook. Lisa was patient, helpful and so nice. With her help, together we went through the campaign report to see what needed to be done to get it completed and were able to file a final report.

I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Joan Pleiman
Campaign Treasurer

RECEIVED

MAR 0 2 1978

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MAR 0 2 1978

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1500 BANKERS BUILDING
ANN ARBOR MI 48106

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ANN ARBOR MI 48106

(The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to the quality of the scan. It appears to be a multi-paragraph letter or report.)

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ANN ARBOR MI 48106

(Faint signature or stamp area)

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Nicholson, Penelope For Somerset County School Board	
CCF ID:	01012431	Status: Inactive
Date Established	2/20/18	
Date Waiver Requested	3/04/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	John Nicholson	Start Date: 2/20/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Penelope Nicholson	2/20/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		3/9/20	\$1000	\$1000
			\$	\$
				Total: \$1000

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
1/15/20	\$0	\$618	\$0	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

The treasurer who is also the chairman spouse has developed dementia, because she was caring for the report was filed late.

Division Comments

Grant per the above conditions.

Administrator's Decision

--

The past 6 months my world has been turned upside down. I discovered during testing that my husband has been in uncontrolled Atrial Fibrillation since June 2019 in spite of his pacemaker and as a complication of this he has developed dementia. He has not responded to medications or to electrically shocking his heart.

This has been heart breaking for me as in June he was an active business man, still doing some minor construction work and on the Boards of several community organizations.

Now, he just plays games on the computer and apparently it was during this time that he deleted our tax and my campaign files. Apparently, he also discarded many pieces of mail including the green reminder card that I did not realize had been sent until I got the blue card. I attempted to file on 02/13/2020 believing I had closed out in my file January 2019. Since then, because I dealt with one local vendor for my campaign materials, I was able to collect all my receipts.

Because of my husband illness, I have to quit my part-time nursing job and we are financially strapped. We are on a fixed income. I am trying to carry out my elected responsibility, by having a neighbor stay with my husband on those days or evenings.

I have never been a person to purposely neglect my responsibility, but it would be a tremendous hardship to pay the fine of \$1000.00.

I never dreamed this would happen to my husband, I am the one who has had two brain stem strokes, but God must have known I had future burden ahead of me. I am working with Lisa to bring my account to a close as quickly as possible.

Thank- you for your patience and consideration

Respectfully,

Penelope Nicholson

03/04/2020

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Novinger, Frank Friends of	
CCF ID:	01012777	Status: Active
Date Established	2/26/18	
Date Waiver Requested	2/12/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Karin Novinger	Start Date: 2/26/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Frank Novinger	2/26/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		2/10/20	\$985	\$985
			\$	\$
				Total:\$985

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
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I received a notification on 1/06/20 that my annual report was past due, I have no record of receiving a notice for 2020 annual report.

Division Comments

Grant 1st request

Administrator's Decision

RECEIVED

FEB 12 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

TO: STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
FR: FRANK NOVINGER: JUDGE OF
ORPANS COURT OF WASH. CO.
DATE - 1/10/20

I received a notification on 1/6/20 that my 2020 ANNUAL report is PAST due. My records indicate I submitted a FINANCIAL disclosure STATEMENT on 1/10/20.

I have no record of receiving a notice of a 2020 Annual report which was due on 1/15/20. This appears to be a misunderstanding of which report was due.

I hope this matter can be settled amicably.

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	O'Connor, Carrie Lee Friends of	
CCF ID:	01012337	Status: Inactive
Date Established	2/5/18	
Date Waiver Requested	2/25/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Jeff Frederick	Start Date: 2/5/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Carrie O'Connor	2/5/18
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/20/20	\$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
N/A			

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/15/20	\$0	\$115	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

As the treasurer I run the day to day operations of the family business. Because of 2 tragic events I was late filing the report. My brother was hit by a car on Christmas Eve and a young woman who worked for us for 30 years died unexpectedly.

Division Comments

Grant

Administrator's Decision

02/25/2020

State Board of Elections
P.O. Box 6486
Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

Re: CCF ID: 01012337 Late Fee


Dear Board of Elections:

Please accept this as an appeal to the Late Fee Bill – 2020 Annual in the amount of \$100.00. I am the treasurer for Friends of Carrie Lee OConnor and failed to submit the annual report by the filing deadline. The intention was to close this account which has since been completed. There are no funds left to distribute.

I run the day to day operations for our family auto dealership located in Easton. On Christmas Eve, my brother Craig was hit by a vehicle. He is responsible for running day to day operations for our family owned dealership in Laurel. As this was an unplanned event, it was necessary for me to take over Craig's duties not knowing his outcome. Since that day, I have been running between our Easton and Laurel locations trying to keep business going as usual. 3 weeks after Craig's accident, a young lady in our Laurel office passed away somewhat expectantly. She worked for us for 30 years. As you can image, these events are challenging for a family operated business.

These happenings caused me to get behind in many of the necessary items for which I am responsible, one of which was to close the account and file the report. I am ultimately responsible but hope you will consider the recent issues that caused my lateness.

I have enclosed confirmation of the 2 events described above.

Sincerely,

Jeff Frederick
240-417-4439

10/10/2020

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Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Parrott, Neil For Delegate	
CCF ID:	01005263	Status: Active
Date Established	6/29/09	
Date Waiver Requested	April 6, 2020	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	David Neil	Start Date: 9/26/15
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	April Parrott	10/28/14
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/16/20	\$20	\$20
			\$	\$
				Total:\$20

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
1/15/20	\$2,872	\$16,411	\$-3,822	\$6,902
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

As a result, this is a request to have the late fee waived for the 1/15/2020 Annual Campaign Statement. We had trouble at the last minute finding out how to submit the form, and we ended up filing about 2 minutes late. We will work on it earlier next time to not get so close to the deadline, and I really appreciate your request for the waiver.

Division Comments

Grant

Administrator's Decision



Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Fwd: FW: FW: Maryland Campaign Reporting Information System - 01/15/2020 Annual Campaign Statement Filed

2 messages

Jared DeMarinis -SBE- <Jared.DeMarinis@maryland.gov>
To: Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>
Waiver request.

Mon, Apr 6, 2020 at 5:24 PM

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

From: **Delegate Parrott** <Neil@neilparrott.org>
Date: Mon, Apr 6, 2020 at 2:53 PM
Subject: FW: FW: Maryland Campaign Reporting Information System - 01/15/2020 Annual Campaign Statement Filed
To: Jared DeMarinis -SBE- <jared.demarinis@maryland.gov>
CC: <[REDACTED]>

Good afternoon, Jared,

Thank you for the call back. I think I filled in the late fee waiver request, but with the Coronavirus situation we weren't able to verify that.

As a result, this is a request to have the late fee waived for the 1/15/2020 Annual Campaign Statement. We had trouble at the last minute finding out how to submit the form, and we ended up filing about 2 minutes late. We will work on it earlier next time to not get so close to the deadline, and I really appreciate your request for the waiver.

Sincerely,

Neil

Delegate Neil C. Parrott, P.E.*www.NeilParrottfordeldelegate.com**P.O. Box 32**Funkstown, MD 21734-0032**E-mail: neil@neilparrott.org**Phone: (301)660-4263**Fax: (240)329-4658**Authority: Neil Parrott for Delegate. Dave Neel, Treasurer*

Subject: [Illegible]

[Illegible]

[Illegible]

[Illegible]

[Illegible]

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Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Porter, Jonathan Friends of	
CCF ID:	01011911	Status: Active
Date Established	9/14/17	
Date Waiver Requested	4/6/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Brenden Carlson	Start Date: 9/14/17
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	John Porter	9/14/17
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		4/30/20	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
			\$	\$
				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
N/A			

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

After an unsuccessful campaign we disable everything but failed to update information in MDCRIS. We didn't receive the notice to say a report was due.

Division Comments

Grant

Administrator's Decision

Late Fee Waiver Request Form

Maryland State Board of Elections – Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
P.O. Box 6486 • Annapolis, MD 21401-0486
410-269-2880 • 800-222-8683

Campaign Account Name: Friends of Jonathan Porter

Account Number: 01011911 Date of Request: 4/6/2020

Name of the Requestor(s)*: Jonathan Porter

The Requestor is the: Chairman Treasurer Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Fund Report(s): 2020 ANNUAL

Total Amount of late fees: \$ 1000.00

The basis for the request: Following an unsuccessful, first-time campaign
the campaign website was disabled and with it, the email account. I
neglected to update the contact information in MCRIS, and therefore did
not receive the reminders regarding filing the annual report. Returning
to work occupied my mind and it did not occur to me to check the reports
until recently. No contributions or expenditures have been made to or
from the campaign account, and no activity has been conducted by the
campaign. I realize that it was my responsibility to file the report,
but I simply forgot to. It will not happen again. If it is at all possible,
especially during this trying time, to waive or at least reduce the penalty,
it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration.


(Signature)

4/6/2020
(Date)

Instructions	For Board Use Only
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please print clearly or type.- If you assert as the basis for the request that you were personally unable to file the report, please explain why the other responsible parties could not file the report.- Please limit your request to this document only.- <i>*Requests may only be made by the committee chairman, treasurer or candidate.</i>	<p>Date Rcvd: _____ Date Heard: _____</p> <p>Verification: _____</p> <p>Bd. Decision. _____</p>

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Bair, Margaret Peggy Citizens for	
CCF ID:	0101309	Status: Inactive
Date Established	2/07/18	
Date Waiver Requested	3/17/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Barbara Norman	Start Date: 2/07/18
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Margaret Bair	4/23/19
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		2/07/20	\$835	\$835
			\$	\$
				Total: \$835

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
5/22/18	\$160	Waived	N/A

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/15/20	\$0	\$239	\$-28	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I thought the committee has been closed out with the 2019 report.

Division Comments

Deny

Administrator's Decision

Barbara M. Norman
Treasurer
Citizens for Margaret Peggy Bair
628 Klees Mill Road
Westminster, MD 21157

March 17, 2020

Linda H. Lamone, Esquire
State Administrator of Elections
PO Box 6486
151 West Street, Suite 200
Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

RE: Bair, Margaret Peggy Bair Citizens For; CCF ID: 01012309

Dear Ms. Lamone:

I am writing as a follow up to your letter of March 2, 2020, in which my request for waiver of late fees was denied. As in indicated previously, I believed that the report I filed on January 15, 2019 was a close out of Ms. Bair's account. Upon receiving the late fee notice in January, 2020, I immediately contacted the Election Board and completed the report to close out Ms. Bair account.

As stated in your letter, the fee must be paid from the campaign account. At the completion of Ms. Bair's campaign, which was self-funded, approximately \$164 remained in the account. I closed out the bank account and donated this amount to the Domestic Violence Program of Family and Children's Services. Therefore, payment of the late fee would be my or Ms. Bair's personal responsibility.

On Ms. Bair's and my behalf, I am asking you to reconsider your decision. To pay \$835 from either of our personal funds would be a financial hardship. I work part time and assist my children with medical and child-care expenses as I can, and I feel the responsibility for the late fee falls on me as Treasurer. I sincerely regret not following up immediately upon receiving the notice.

Thank you for your re-consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Barbara M. Norman

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Ciliberti, Barrie Citizens for	
CCF ID:	01010031	Status: Active
Date Established	2/24/14	
Date Waiver Requested	3/10/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Robert Friscia	Start Date: 7/22/19
Responsible Treasurer	Lois Gibson	2/26/18
Current Chairman	Barrie Ciliberti	
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
Annual Audit		7/29/19	\$70	\$70
Post General Audit		7/29/19	\$70	\$70
Pre-General 2 Audit		7/29/19	\$70	\$70
Pre-General 1 Audit		7/29/19	\$70	\$70
Pre- Primary 2 Audit		7/29/19	\$70	\$70
Pre-Primary 1 Audit		7/29/19	\$70	\$70
				Total: \$420

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 Annual	\$100	Paid	No
11/18/14	\$250	Waived	No

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/15/20	\$2,875	\$1,121	\$5,278	\$10,000
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I was unable to complete the audit in a timely manner because I wasn't recognized as treasurer until 7/22/19. I didn't receive the bank account access until July 23,19.

Division Comments

Deny

Administrator's Decision

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you as the Treasurer of Citizens for Ciliberti to ask for the penalties, totaling \$470, for the audits of the following reports to be waived:

- 2018 Annual
- 2018 Pre-Primary 1
- 2018 Pre-Primary 2
- 2018 Pre-General 1
- 2018 Pre-General 2
- 2018 Post General
- 2019 Annual

As you are aware, the report amendments were due on July 22, 2019, however as I was only recognized as the Campaign Treasurer on July 22, 2019, I did not receive official bank account access until July 23, 2019. Due to this I was unable to update the audited reports by July 22, 2019.

Seeing these were abnormal circumstances; I am asking you to waive the fines for the late submission of the audited campaign finance reports.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Frisca, CPA

Robert Friscia, CPA

Treasurer, Citizens for Ciliberti

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MAR 10 2020
STATE OF NEW YORK
CITIZENS

Reconsideration

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Hoffmann, Susan Friends of	
CCF ID:	01009418	Status: Inactive
Date Established	9/18/13	
Date Waiver Requested	3/12/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	David Celeste	Start Date: 8/24/13
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	N/A	
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
2018 Pre=Primary 1 Audit		N/A	\$500	\$500
2018 Annual Audit		N/A	\$500	\$500
				Total: \$1000

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
5/22/18	\$40	Paid	No
5/07/14	\$60	Paid	No
12/18/15	\$60	Paid	Yes

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
Affidavit	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I received no request to file the amendments, I was not aware that they were due, or fines were being assessed until early Jan 2020.

Division Comments

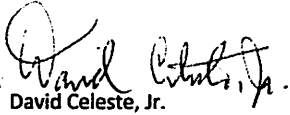
Deny reports have not been filed.

Administrator's Decision

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While I have every intention of complying with the BOE regarding their reporting requirements, I am puzzled by why my last full Campaign Finance Report filed on or about 6/1/18 with a zero balance was not accepted as a final report. I believe that the 6/1/18 report should have been accepted as a final report so that no future reports would be required. However, apparently the BOE has a different point of view regarding the reports filed. Per Ms. Hanzook, apparently the BOE is looking for amendments to prior filings instead of the final report that I submitted in 2018. These amendments would include the information I filed in my 'final' report. So, I looked at this recently and, quite frankly, I need help in providing the information to you that I have already provided but in the format required by the BOE. Since I will not be able to complete this task by the COB on 1/15/2020 when the next report is due, I instead submitted timely (1/15/2020 around 1:30 pm) an Affidavit of Limited Contributions and Expenditures that will comply with the BOE's timely reporting requirements while I work further with BOE staff to submit the amendments in the required format.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to review this waiver request. I would also be forever grateful for any advice/assistance you could render so that I can close out this campaign.


David Celeste, Jr.

Treasurer

Friends of Susan Hoffmann

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	Purnell, (Tamara) for 7th District	
CCF ID:	01011292	Status: Inactive
Date Established	1/18/16	
Date Waiver Requested	3/9/20	
Account Type	Candidate Account	

Officers

Current Treasurer	Shelley Carpenter	Start Date: 1/18/16
Responsible Treasurer		
Current Chairman	Tamara Purnell	1/18/16
Responsible Chairman		

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
7/22/19 Audit		N/A	\$500	\$500
			\$	\$
				Total: \$500

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
2017 Annual	\$500	Waived	Yes
10/28/16	\$140	Payment	Yes
8/30/16	\$130	Payment	Yes

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/15/20	\$0	\$252	\$0	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

I am requesting a waiver because we ran a grassroots campaign on a shoestring budget. We thought the account was closed when the bank account closed.

Division Comments

Deny report has not been filed.

Administrator's Decision

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MAR 09 2020

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

State of Maryland

Late Fee Waiver Request Form

Instructions: Please print clearly or type. If you assert as the basis for the request that you were personally unable to file the report, please explain why the other responsible parties could not file the report. Please limit your request to this document only. *Requests may only be made by the committee chairman, treasurer or candidate.

Campaign Account Name: Purnell for the 7th district Account Number: _____

Date of Request: 3.2.2020 Total Amount of late fees: \$ 500.00

Name of the Requestor(s)*: Tamara m. Purnell

The Requestor is the: Chairman Treasurer Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): _____

The basis for the request: I'm requesting that the late fee be waived. We ran a grassroot campaign and ran our campaign on a shoe string budget. It was our understanding that the account was closed due to the fact that the bank account was closed in 2018.

Last month when we in fact closed tried to close the account, the software was adding money. My treasurer has stated that when doing the most recent admendment everything has zeroed out. We can not afford \$5000 since the acct is closed. Tamara Purnell 3.2.2020

(Signature)

(Date)

For Board Use Only	
Date Rcvd: _____	Date Heard: _____
Verification: _____	
Bd. Decision. _____	

Maryland State Board of Elections
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
P.O. Box 6486 • 151 West Street, Suite 200 • Annapolis, MD 21401-0486
410-269-2880 • 800-222-8683 • MD Relay 800-735-2258 • www.elections.state.md.us

RECEIVED

MAR 02 2000

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

State of Maryland

Form for Waiver Request Form

The undersigned hereby certifies that the information furnished on this form is true and correct to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief and that the declarant is not a candidate for any office in the State of Maryland and is not a member of the State Board of Elections.

Candidate's Name: _____

Name of the Respondent(s): _____

Total Amount of Late Fee: \$ _____

Treasurer

Candidate

Other

Other

Why a Waiver is Being Requested: _____

The undersigned hereby certifies that the information furnished on this form is true and correct to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief and that the declarant is not a candidate for any office in the State of Maryland and is not a member of the State Board of Elections.

For Home Use Only
Print Name _____
Print Address _____
Print City/State/Zip _____
Print Telephone _____

Department of General Services
 Division of General Services
 1100 North E Street, Room 200
 Annapolis, MD 21401-2486
 410-326-7000 • 800-488-6888 • MD Relay 800-338-6888 • www.dgs.state.md.us

Waiver Request Information Page

General

Account Name	West, Westley Friends of		
CCF ID:	01012130	Status:	Inactive
Date Established	12/29/17		
Date Waiver Requested	2/28/20		
Account Type	Candidate Account		

Officers

Current Treasurer	Jessica James	Start Date:	12/29/17
Responsible Treasurer			
Current Chairman	Westley West		12/29/17
Responsible Chairman			

Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20 Annual		2/03/20	\$635	\$635
Pre-Primary 2 Audit		2/03/20	\$500	\$500
Spring Report Audit		2/03/20	\$500	\$500
				Total: \$1635

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
2019 Annual	\$500	outstanding	Yes
Post General	\$500	outstanding	Yes
Pre-General	\$500	outstanding	Yes

Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/15/20	\$0	\$75	\$0	\$90
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Reason for Waiver

My family are hard workers, but this expense would be undue hardship upon our situation.

Division Comments

Deny committee has a history of non-compliance.

Administrator's Decision

State of Maryland

Late Fee Waiver Request Form

Instructions: Please print clearly or type. If you assert as the basis for the request that you were personally unable to file the report, please explain why the other responsible parties could not file the report. Please limit your request to this document only. *Requests may only be made by the committee chairman, treasurer or candidate.

Campaign Account Name: Friends of Westley West Account Number: 01012130

Date of Request: Feb 28, 2020 Total Amount of late fees: \$ 1,635.00

Name of the Requestor(s)*: Westley West

The Requestor is the: Chairman Treasurer Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): July 22, 2019
January 15, 2020

The basis for the request: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this hardship letter to request that my fees be waived in light of my financial
circumstances. My family and I are hard workers, but this expense would be an undue
hardship upon our situation. Please also consider that I was under the impression that
these reports had already been filed and closed after speaking with Jessica James who
was our committees treasurer. She had advised that these reports have been file and
the committee had been closed. Since that time I have lost full complete
communication with the treasurer as she has been unresponsive. I had know
knowledged that these reports were overdue. Please consider my explanation and my
request

Westley West
(Signature)

FEB, 28, 2020
(Date)

For Board Use Only	
Date Rcvd: _____	Date Heard: _____
Verification: _____	
Bd. Decision. _____	

Maryland State Board of Elections
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance
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410-269-2880 • 800-222-8883 • MD Relay 800-735-2258 • www.elections.state.md.us



Vote Centers & Ballot Drop Off Locations – 2020 Presidential Primary Election

Vote Center: If you cannot vote or return the ballot you received in the mail, or you did not receive a ballot in the mail, you may go to a vote center and vote.

Ballot Drop-off Location: If you want to drop off your voted ballot instead of mailing it, there are locations in each county where you can drop off your ballot. Take the sealed reply envelope with your voted ballot inside to a drop off location in the county where you live. The drop off locations will be available from Thursday, May 21st through Tuesday, June 2nd. Your ballot must be dropped off by 8 pm on Tuesday, June 2nd. Make sure your oath is signed or your ballot will not count.

The locations marked with an asterisk (*) are drop off locations **only**.

Allegany County (1 location)

Allegany County Office Complex
701 Kelly Road
Cumberland, MD 21502

Anne Arundel County (5 locations)

Odenton Regional Library
1325 Annapolis Road
Odenton, MD 21113

Glen Burnie Regional Library
1010 Eastway
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Severna Park Community Library
45 West McKinsey Road
Severna Park, MD 21146

Roger “Pip” Moyer Recreation Center
273 Hilltop Lane
Annapolis, MD 21403

*Anne Arundel County Board of Elections
6740 Baymeadow Drive
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Baltimore City (5 locations)

Mount Pleasant Church & Ministries
6000 Radecke Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21206

Edmondson High School
501 N. Athol Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21229

University of Maryland at Baltimore
Community Engagement Center
1 North Poppleton Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dr. Carter G. Woodson School #160
2501 Seabury Road
Baltimore, MD 21225

*Baltimore City Board of Elections
Benton Office Building
417 E. Lafayette Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Baltimore County (5 locations)

Arbutus Community Center
865 Sulphur Spring Road
Baltimore, MD 21227

Honeygo Run Community Center
9033 Honeygo Boulevard
Perry Hall, MD 21128

Sollers Point Multi-Purpose Center
323 Sollers Point Road
Dundalk, MD 21222

Martin’s West

6817 Dogwood Road
Windsor Mill, MD 21244

*Baltimore County Board of Elections
11112 Gilroy Road
Hunt Valley, MD 21031

Calvert County (1 location)

Community Resources Building
30 Duke Street
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Caroline County (2 locations)

The James S Fretterd Community Center
107 S. Fourth Street
Denton, MD 21629

*Caroline County Health & Public Services Building
403 S. Seventh Street
Denton, MD 21629

Carroll County (3 locations)

Westminster Senior Activities Center
125 Stoner Avenue
Westminster, MD 21157

South Carroll Swim Club
1900 W. Liberty Road
Westminster, MD 21157

*Carroll County Board of Elections
Robert Moton Building
300 S. Center Street
Westminster, MD 21157

Cecil County (2 locations)

Cecil County Administration Building
200 Chesapeake Boulevard
Elkton, MD 21921

*Rising Sun Town Hall
1 E. Main Street
Rising Sun, MD 21911

Charles County (2 locations)

Sacred Heart Friendship Hall
201 St. Mary’s Avenue
La Plata, MD 20646

*Charles County Board of Elections
201 East Charles Street
La Plata, MD 20646

Dorchester County (1 location)

Dorchester County Office Building
501 Court Lane
Cambridge, MD 21613

Frederick County (3 locations)

William R Talley Recreation Center
 121 N. Bentz Street
 Frederick, MD 21701

Urbana Regional Library
 9020 Amelung Street
 Frederick, MD 21704

*Frederick County Board of Elections
 340A Montevue Lane
 Frederick, MD 21702

Garrett County (1 location)

Oakland Community Center (The Armory)
 14 N. 8th Street
 Oakland, MD 21550

Harford County (2 locations)

McFaul Activity Center
 525 W. MacPhail Road
 Bel Air, MD 21014

*Harford County Board of Elections
 133 Industry Lane
 Forest Hill, MD 21050

Howard County (3 locations)

The Bain Center
 5470 Ruth Keeton Way
 Columbia, MD 21044

Meadowbrook Athletic Complex
 5001 Meadowbrook Lane
 Ellicott City, MD 21043

*Howard County Board of Elections
 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 200
 Columbia, MD 21046

Kent County (2 locations)

Kent County Public Library
 408 High Street
 Chestertown, MD 21620

*Kent County Board of Elections
 135 Dixon Drive
 Chestertown, MD 21620

Montgomery County (5 locations)

Germantown Community Recreation Center
 18905 Kingsview Road
 Germantown, MD 20874

Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center
 14906 Old Columbia Pike
 Burtonsville, MD 20866

Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza
 One Veterans Place
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Activity Center at Bohrer Park Social Hall
 506 S. Frederick Avenue
 Gaithersburg, MD 20877

*Montgomery County Board of Elections
 18753 N. Frederick Avenue
 Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Prince George's County (5 locations)

College Park Community Center
 5051 Pierce Avenue
 College Park, MD 20740

Bowie Gymnasium
 4100 Northview Drive
 Bowie, MD 20716

Kentland Community Center
 2413 Pinebrook Avenue
 Landover, MD 20785

Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Complex
 7007 Bock Road
 Fort Washington, MD 20744

*Prince George's County Board of Elections
 1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A
 Largo, MD 20774

Queen Anne's County (2 locations)

Kent Island Fire Department
 1610 Main Street
 Chester, MD 21619

*Queen Anne's Office Building
 110 Vincit Street
 Centreville, MD 21617

Saint Mary's County (2 locations)

Hollywood Firehouse Main Building
 24801 Three Notch Road
 Hollywood, MD 20636

*Saint Mary's County Board of Elections
 41650 Tudor Hall Road
 Leonardtown, MD 20650

Somerset County (2 locations)

Washington High School
 10902 Old Princess Road
 Princess Anne, MD 21853

*Somerset County Board of Elections
 11916 Somerset Avenue, #102
 Princess Anne, MD 21853

Talbot County (2 locations)

Easton Fire Hall
 315 Leonard Rieck Drive
 AKA: 315 Aurora Park Drive
 Easton, MD 21601

*Talbot County Board of Elections
 215 Bay Street
 Easton, MD 21601

Washington County (2 locations)

Washington County Board of Elections
 Early Voting Center
 17718 Virginia Avenue
 Hagerstown, MD 21740

*Washington County Board of Elections
 Office
 35 W. Washington Street
 Hagerstown, MD 21740

Wicomico County (2 locations)

Wicomico County Youth and Civic Center
 500 Glen Avenue
 Salisbury, MD 21801

*Wicomico County Board of Elections
 345 Snow Hill Road
 Salisbury, MD 21804

Worcester County (2 locations)

Berlin Intermediate School
 309 Franklin Avenue
 Berlin, MD 21811

*Worcester County Board of Elections
 201 Belt Street, Suite C
 Snow Hill, MD 21863



SBE Policy 2020-01: Temporary Electronic Petition Signature Acceptance

Adopted: April 22, 2020
Annapolis, Maryland

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the Governor issued a proclamation declaring a State of Emergency in an effort to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the State;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Governor issued a proclamation renewing the declaration of a State of Emergency and declaring the existence of catastrophic health emergency that interferes with the electoral process and stated that steps should be taken to prevent or reduce harmful consequences to the electoral process;

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, the Governor issued a Stay-at-Home-Order except to conduct essential activities and prohibiting any gathering of more than 10 people;

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2020, the Governor issued a proclamation renewing the declaration of a State of Emergency and catastrophic health emergency, and specified that the Stay-at-Home-Order did not prohibit persons from traveling between their homes and polling places or ballot return locations for certain purposes relating to the April 28, 2020 special general election to fill the vacancy in the Seventh Congressional District and the June 2, 2020 presidential primary election;

WHEREAS, the Governor's April 10, 2020 proclamation, did not specify that persons living in Maryland may travel outside their homes for the purpose of circulating or signing petitions to place a candidate or question on the ballot at the November 3, 2020 presidential general election, or for a political party to gain recognition by the State;

WHEREAS, the collection of signatures for a petition is often conducted during gatherings, events, or festivals that are prohibited under the order of the Governor;

WHEREAS, the State Board of Elections recognizes that the current, extreme conditions inhibit the collection of signatures required for a petition to gain access to or place a question on the ballot;

WHEREAS, Maryland law allows a government agency "to determine whether, and to the extent to which, it will send and accept electronic records and electronic signatures to and from other persons and otherwise . . . rely upon electronic records and electronic signatures," Md. Code, Comm. Law § 21-117(a);

WHEREAS, the State Board of Elections has not, to date, permitted the submission of petitions bearing electronic signatures; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Elections believes that allowing the submission of petitions bearing electronic signatures during the period in which Maryland citizens may seek to file petitions to place a candidate or question on the ballot at the November 3, 2020 presidential general election, or for a political party to gain recognition by the State in time to qualify to nominate candidates to appear on the ballot at the November 3, 2020 presidential general election, will further the State's goals of minimizing the threat posed by COVID-19 while preserving the Constitutional rights of Marylanders to petition for access to or to place a question on the ballot;

THEREFORE, the State Board of Elections states as follows:

1. Definitions.

- a. "Circulator" shall have the meaning set forth in Md. Code, Elec. Law § 6-101(d)
- b. "Electronic signature" shall have the meaning set forth in Md. Code, Elec. Law § 1-101(y)
- c. "Petition" shall have the meaning set forth in Md. Code, Elec. Law § 6-101(i)

2. Policy.

- a. Any petition authorized by law to place the name of an individual or question on the ballot or to create a new political party pursuant to Title 6 of the Election Law Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland may contain the electronic signatures of individuals signing the petition, and/or circulators circulating any of the signature pages filed with the petition.
- b. For an electronic signature to be valid under this policy, in addition to meeting the requirements of Elec. Law § 1-101(y), the signature must reflect an affirmative action by the signer to type or electronically sign or affix the signer's name on to the signature page.
- c. The signature must be typed, signed or affixed onto a form prescribed by the State Board of Elections.
- d. All current statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to petition signatures (including the signatures of circulators in the circulator's affidavit) remain in effect.
- e. This policy does not change the requirement that a circulator must personally observe each signer as the page for which that circulator will swear an affidavit is being signed. Remote observations (such as via Skype or FaceTime) do not meet this requirement.

3. Applicability.

- a. This policy shall be in effect from April 22, 2020 until the deadline for submitting any petition to place the name of an individual or question on the November 3, 2020 presidential general election ballot, or to create a new political party in time for that party to qualify to nominate candidates to appear on the ballot at the November 3, 2020 presidential general election.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

April 22, 2020

1. *Fusaro v. Davitt et al.*, No: 1:17-cv-03582 (U.S. District Court, D. Md.). No changes from the last update. Plaintiff Dennis Fusaro brought a complaint in federal court alleging that Maryland violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments by limiting access to the voter list to Maryland voters and only for purposes related to the electoral process. On September 4, 2018, the State defendants' motion to dismiss the complaint was granted, and the plaintiff appealed. On July 12, 2019, the Fourth Circuit vacated the dismissal order, and remanded the case for further proceedings. The parties have since conducted discovery and briefed dispositive summary judgment motions, and are awaiting a ruling from the Court.

2. *Johnson v. Prince George's County Board of Elections*, No. CAL16-42799 (Cir. Ct. Prince Georges Cnty.). No change from the last update. This case involves a challenge under the U.S. Constitution and Maryland Constitution and Declaration of Rights to the SBE's alleged failure to provide information and access to voter registration and voting resources to eligible voters detained by the Prince Georges County Department of Correction during the 2016 election. The case had been originally filed in the Circuit Court for Prince Georges County but was removed on the basis of the federal claims asserted by the Plaintiffs. On February 27, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland granted SBE's motion to dismiss the Plaintiffs' federal claims, declined to exercise jurisdiction over the state claims, and remanded the case to the Circuit Court for further proceedings. The parties are awaiting further direction from the court.

3. *Judicial Watch v. Lamone*, No. 1:17-cv-02006-ELH (U.S. District Court, D. Md.). This case involves the denial of access to Maryland's voter registration database. Under Maryland law, access to the voter registration list is limited to Maryland registered voters and only for non-commercial, election-related uses. Judicial Watch—an elections watchdog group located in Tennessee—requested Maryland's voter registration “database” and was denied because it was not a Maryland registered voter. Judicial Watch filed suit, arguing that the database was required to be disclosed under the federal National Voter Registration Act. On April 24, 2019, Judicial Watch filed a reply in support of its motion for summary judgment. On May 8, 2019, the defendants filed a reply in support of their cross-motion for summary judgment. An August 8, 2019, the District Court awarded summary judgment to the plaintiffs, but requested further briefing on the issue of whether the State Board of Elections should be compelled to produce the

dates of birth of voters along with the other voter information available on Maryland's voter registration lists. On April 17, 2020, the District Court ruled that dates of birth must be included in the list provided to plaintiffs. The District Court has ordered the parties to file a joint status report by May 15, 2020.

4. *The Washington Post, et al. v. McManus, et al.*, No. 1:18-cv-02527 (U.S. District Court, D. Md.), *on appeal at* No. 19-1132 (U.S.C.A., 4th Cir.). No changes from the last update. This case presents a First Amendment challenge by a coalition of newspaper publishers that maintain an online presence to certain provisions of the recently-passed Online Electioneering Transparency and Accountability Act (the "Act"). On January 4, 2019, the district court granted the plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction on the ground that the plaintiffs' "as applied" constitutional challenge to the statute was likely to succeed. On February 2, 2019, the defendants appealed that ruling to the Fourth Circuit. Oral argument was held on October 30, 2019, and on December 6, 2019, the Court issued an opinion affirming the entry of the preliminary injunction. The parties have agreed to a resolution of the case, which has been submitted for approval to the Board of Public Works.

5. *National Federation of the Blind, Inc., et al. v. Lamone et al.*, No. 1:19-CV-02228-ELH (U.S. District Court, D. Md.). On August 1, 2019, the National Federation of the Blind ("NFB"), NFB's Maryland chapter, and three individual plaintiffs filed a lawsuit against the State Administrator and the individual members of the State Board of Elections alleging that SBE's BMD policy has, in practice, violated the rights of voters with disabilities "to an equal opportunity vote in person by a secret ballot," in violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Plaintiffs seek an order requiring the State Board "in all future elections to offer BMDs to every in-person voter as the default method of voting, with paper ballots offered only to those voters who affirmatively opt out of using the BMD or in cases where there are long lines of people waiting to vote." On September 3, 2019, defendants filed a motion to dismiss the complaint, and on September 20, 2019, plaintiffs filed a motion for a preliminary injunction, seeking relief in time for the November 2020 election. On February 10, 2020, the court denied the defendants' motion to dismiss, and denied the plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction. On February 24, 2020, the Court entered a scheduling order governing the discovery period for the case, and setting a July 31, 2020 deadline for the filing of dispositive motions. The parties have exchanged initial disclosures and are in discovery. However, due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19 and the changes to the elections, the parties have agreed to extend certain disclosure and discovery deadlines.

6. *Hewes v. Alabama Sec’y of State et al.*, No. 1:19-cv-09158-JMF (U.S. District Court, S.D.N.Y.). No changes from the last update. On October 3, 2019, plaintiff Henry F. Hewes, a putative candidate for the Democratic nomination for President for the 2020 election, sued the unnamed Secretaries of State of 43 states, (including Maryland), alleging that state-imposed limitations on ballot access for federal presidential candidates violate the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Plaintiff seeks an order compelling the defendants to place the name of the plaintiff and any other candidate who has registered with the Federal Election Commission on the primary ballots of the states named as defendants. The Defendants jointly filed a motion to dismiss asserting common arguments for dismissal on December 19, 2019. On January 23, 2020, the plaintiff filed an amended complaint, and the defendants thereafter renewed their joint motion to dismiss.

7. *Public Interest Legal Foundation, Inc. v. Lamone*, No. 1:19-cv-03564-ELH (D. Md.). On March 19, plaintiff Public Interest Legal Foundation, Inc., filed a lawsuit against the State Administrator, the members of the State Board, and Erin Dennis, seeking access to Maryland’s list of registered voters pursuant to the public inspection provisions of the National Voter Registration Act. Plaintiff alleges that the District Court’s published decision in *Judicial Watch, supra*, entitles them to access, and that the issue left outstanding by the court in that case does not implicate their request since they are not seeking individuals’ dates of birth as part of the information provided for each voter on the list. Plaintiffs filed a motion for summary judgment simultaneously with their complaint. On January 17, 2020, defendants answered the Complaint. On January 24, 2020, defendants moved for a stay of the proceedings pending the resolution of the *Judicial Watch* matter and any appeals therefrom, due to the similarity of the issues between the cases. The parties are awaiting ruling from the Court on that motion.

8. *In the Matter of Seth Wilson*, No. C-02-CV-20-000664 (Cir. Ct. A.A. Cty.). On February 26, 2020, Seth Wilson, First Vice Chairman of the Washington County Republican Party, filed a petition for judicial review of the content and layout of the ballot, pursuant to section 9-209 of the Election Law Article of the Maryland Code. Upon filing, the petition was rejected as defective by the clerk of the Court and deemed “not a valid pleading or paper.” On February 28, 2020, the State Board filed a motion to dismiss the petition and stated that it would commence the printing of ballots after 5:00 pm on Monday, March 2, 2020. This filing, too, was rejected on the ground that there was no valid petition to move against. On March 9, 2020, petitioner filed a memorandum in support of his petition, which the Court accepted as a valid petition, alleging that the ballots certified by the State Board for voters in Hagerstown, Maryland,

were contrary to law, because (among other things) the non-partisan contests for Mayor and City Council members of Hagerstown, Maryland, were included on the Republican Primary ballots and/or not properly identified on that ballot as non-partisan contests, and because the party affiliations of candidates in those contests were not listed. The parties have since reached agreement regarding a notice that will be provided to voters in board of elections mailings and at polling places that the contests for Mayor and City Council of Hagerstown are non-partisan contests, and that the candidates for these contests are the same on every ballot and are listed without their individual party affiliations.

9. *Chong Su Yi v. Hogan*, Nos. 480720, 480721, 480722, 480723 (Cir. Ct. Montgomery Cty.). On around March 6, 2020, plaintiff Chong Su Yi filed four apparently identical complaints in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County challenging the results of Maryland’s 2018 elections, and naming Governor Larry Hogan as defendant. Specifically, Mr. Chong appears to be arguing that the results are invalid because of the use of religious facilities as polling places, that the State’s use of “scanners” to tabulate ballots is unconstitutional and/or not permitted by federal law, and that the State’s identification of candidates’ party affiliations on the general election ballot is not permitted by State law. The complaints are substantially identical to complaints Mr. Chong filed in 2019, which the court dismissed with prejudice earlier this year. Defendant’s responses to the complaints are currently due May 3, 2020.



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April 21, 2020

The Honorable Michael R. Cogan
Chairman
Maryland State Board of Elections
151 West Street, Suite 200
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Cogan,

My name is Kahan S. Dhillon, Jr., and I am currently the only independent non-party affiliated candidate in the race for Mayor of Baltimore City in 2020, having submitted my Declaration of Intent on January 24, 2020. I write to you today as the City, State, and Nation for which I have great love and affection face an unprecedented, unstable, and unnerving time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic has significantly altered how Marylanders and residents of Baltimore City experience day-to-day life and instilled a deep sense of uncertainty about whether we will be able to return to normalcy at any point in the near future. Indeed, the lack of sufficient testing and tracing capacity at either the state or national level—and the strong possibility no such capacity will emerge in the coming months—almost guarantees that various restrictions currently in place in Maryland, such as bans on large gatherings and requirements for physical distancing, will remain in place in some form for the foreseeable future.

Those restrictions, while reasonable and necessary to ensure the health and safety of the residents of Maryland and Baltimore City, will have a profound impact on the ability of independent, non-party candidates (“petition candidates”) such as myself to appear on the general election ballot in November and give the voters of Baltimore City options other than those from the two major political parties. Specifically, the restrictions will make it nearly impossible to meet the Maryland Election Law requirement that petition candidates for mayor obtain the signatures of 1% of the total number of registered voters eligible to cast a ballot in the November mayoral election, and that the individuals collecting those signatures personally observe the signing of the petition, all by August 3, 2020. As applied during this pandemic, and in light of Governor Hogan’s various orders, the law will place a severe burden on Baltimore City voters’ choice of candidates. Unless the signature requirement is waived, it likely will not pass constitutional muster. Accordingly, I respectfully request the State Board of Elections take steps to waive the requirement as it pertains to the November 2020 general election.



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I. Maryland Election Law and the Governor's Declaration of a State of Emergency and Existence of Catastrophic Health Emergency

The Maryland Election Law permits candidates not affiliated with a political party, such as myself, to appear on a general election ballot if they meet certain criteria. See Md. Election Law Code Ann. § 5-703. One of those criteria is obtaining the signatures of "1% of the total number of registered voters who are eligible to vote for the office for which the nomination by petition is sought." *Id.* at § 5-703(e)(1). Article 11-A, § 7 of the Constitution of Maryland states that petitions, such as those for appearing on a general election ballot for elective office, require an affidavit for each paper of signatures filed with such a petition "of the person procuring those signatures that the signatures were affixed in his presence" This provision has been implemented by the General Assembly at section 6-204(a) of the Maryland Election Law, which states that "[e]ach signature page shall contain an affidavit made and executed by the individual in whose presence all of the signatures on that page were affixed and who observed each of those signatures being affixed." State Board of Elections regulations require that the affidavits to be signed by such individuals, known as circulators, state that "[t]he circulator personally observed each signer as the page was signed." COMAR § 33.06.03.08(B)(3).

As you know, beginning on March 5, 2020, Governor Hogan proclaimed a state of emergency and the existence of a catastrophic health emergency due to the threat posed by COVID-19. That proclamation was renewed on March 17, 2020, when Governor Hogan also declared that the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency "interferes with the electoral process," and accordingly postponed the primary elections until June 2, 2020, and directed the State Board of Elections, in consultation with the State Board of Health, to develop a Comprehensive Plan for the Primary Election that would "minimize injury and damage from the COVID-19 public health catastrophe, and save lives." On April 10, 2020, Governor Hogan once again renewed the state of emergency and existence of a catastrophic health emergency and authorized the State Board of Elections to conduct the June 2, 2020 primary election entirely by mail-in ballot.

Throughout the month of March, Governor Hogan issued multiple orders prohibiting large gatherings and events, most recently on March 30, 2020, when he issued Order No. 20-03-30-01, which required Marylanders to stay at home unless they were conducting or participating in essential activities. ("Stay at Home Order"). Those knowingly and willfully violating the Stay at Home Order would be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, would be subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both. The orders banned gatherings of more than 10 people, and shuttered those places where such gatherings would likely occur, such as shopping centers, and other recreational establishments.



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II. The Signature Requirement, if Applied During the Pandemic, Would Impose a Severe Burden on Voters' Choice of Candidates

The U.S. Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals of Maryland have both recognized that “the rights of voters and the rights of candidates do not lend themselves to neat separation; laws that affect candidates always have at least some theoretical, correlative effect on voters.” *Burruss v. Bd. of Cty. Commissioners of Frederick Cty.*, 427 Md. 231, 256 (2012) (quoting *Bullock v. Carter*, 405 U.S. 134, 142-43 (1972)). While the Maryland Election Law signature requirement, on its face, appears to affect only the non-party candidates themselves, the true impact falls on the voters of Baltimore City, as it curtails their electoral choices.

Certain burdens on candidates' access to the ballot, and the concomitant limitation on voters' choice of candidates, of course, may be appropriate. But “[i]n approaching candidate restrictions, it is essential to examine in a realistic light the extent and nature of their impact on voters.” *Id.* at 257. The more severe the burden, the more exacting courts will be in requiring the state to justify the interest it has in imposing the burden on ballot access. *Id.* at 258 (quoting *Burdick v. Takushi*, 504 U.S. 428, 434 (1992), stating that courts should weigh “the character and magnitude of the asserted injury” to the protected constitutional rights against the interests put forth by the State, taking into consideration “the extent to which those interests make it necessary to burden the plaintiff's rights.”). In addressing the effect on voters of potential candidates being precluded from running for office, the Court of Appeals has held that such effect “is neither incidental nor remote” and “voters are substantially limited in their choice of candidates.” *Maryland Green Party v. Maryland Bd. of Elections*, 377 Md. 127, 163 (2003).

In normal times, imposing a signature requirement for candidates not affiliated with a majority political party and who are not vetted through a rigorous primary campaign can be a valid basis for a state to ensure that such candidates have sufficient public support to warrant their inclusion on the general election ballot. See *Jenness v. Fortson*, 403 U.S. 431, 442, 91 S.Ct. 1970, 29 L.Ed.2d 554 (1971) (“There is surely an important state interest in requiring some preliminary showing of a significant modicum of support before printing the name of a . . . candidate on the ballot—the interest, if no other, in avoiding confusion, deception, and even frustration of the democratic process at the general election.”).

But these are not normal times. The confluence of the signature requirement for petition candidates, the Stay at Home Order, and likelihood that restrictions on public gatherings will continue well into the



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summer¹ make it impossible for an independent, non-party candidate such as myself to appear on the ballot in November, thereby depriving Baltimore City voters of the option of voting for someone not beholden to one of the two major political parties, which will hold their primaries (mainly) by mail in June. As the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court stated last week in holding that Massachusetts's signature requirement imposed a severe burden on candidates' access to the ballot, the pandemic has created a situation in which "candidates could not safely and reasonably gather voter signatures in the usual ways, namely, going to places where large numbers of potential registered voters are likely to be, such as town centers, malls, grocery stores, or political meetings." *Goldstein v. Secretary of the Commonwealth*, No. SJC-12931, 2020 WL 1903931, at *5 (Mass. Apr. 17, 2020). In Maryland, voters congregating in such places not only jeopardizes public health, but exposes them to possible criminal liability.

Indeed, even if the Stay-at-Home Order were lifted before August 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have advised that social distancing—*i.e.*, maintaining a minimum of 6-feet of distance from others—will need to remain in effect to slow the spread of the virus. In addition, the expected lack of sufficient testing likely will depress the willingness of Baltimore City residents to congregate in public places or open their doors to canvassing strangers. As such, my ability to gather signatures will continue to be stymied, as my staff will not be able to safely approach Baltimore City residents to obtain and observe the signatures. Moreover, the possibly widespread prevalence of asymptomatic infections means that my campaign staff and I might be unwittingly spreading the virus throughout the city as we seek to meet the requirements of the Maryland Election Law.

My campaign staff and volunteers with whom I have spoken have expressed to me their overwhelming concern for their own health, the health of their families, and the health of the residents of Baltimore City if they are asked to canvass door-to-door or in public places. If someone from my staff or a volunteer somehow contracted the virus in the course of their canvassing work, I could be held responsible. If Baltimore City residents somehow contracted the virus from my team, I would feel responsible. The thought of putting my team or the voters of Baltimore City at risk deeply distresses me. I committed to run to help, not hurt others.

¹ See Ed Yong, "Our Pandemic Summer," *The Atlantic* (Apr. 15, 2020), available at <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/04/pandemic-summer-coronavirus-reopening-back-normal/609940/>.



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III. Conclusion

Maintaining the signature requirement for petition candidates—of which, to my knowledge, I am the only one—while COVID-19 remains a significant threat to public health and safety works a heavy and ultimately unconstitutional burden on my access to the ballot, which, in turn, substantially limits the choices of the voters of Baltimore City. I implore you and the other members of the State Board of Elections to act to avoid this outcome.

Thank you for your consideration.

With Regards,

Kahan S. Dhillon, Jr.

Mayor of Baltimore City – Candidate



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CARL JACKSON
Legislative District 8
Baltimore County

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 303
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3766 · 301-858-3766
800-492-7122 Ext. 3766
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Carl.Jackson@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

The Honorable Lawrence Hogan, Jr.
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

April 20, 2020

Dear Governor Hogan,

Let me begin by commending you and your staff on doing everything within your power to address this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic that has devastated communities across the world. Your leadership on implementing best practices early is commendable and deeply appreciated.

With the primary election on June 2nd quickly approaching, I understand that many adjustments to the normal voting process have been implemented that are necessary for the health and well-being of voters, including a heavy reliance on mail-in ballots.

I am concerned, however, with the Board of Election's decision to waive the requirement to report results by precinct. This policy can be found in Section 5 of the Board of Elections Comprehensive Plan. The Board's decision to waive this provision means that while we may know who receives the most votes for a given district, we will not have the data available to review where those votes came from nor provide adequate checks and balances in the event of a contested election.

A fundamental facet of democracy is the individual's right to cast their vote and maintain confidence that it has been fairly counted. The facilitation of this process through local polling precincts provides citizens with this assurance. Though this election will be conducted primarily by mail, I strongly believe that citizens are still entitled to these protections and I fear that the waiving of this important provision could add to an already perceived anxiety with the mail-in balloting process. In order to uphold our democratic values, it is imperative we ensure that each vote is duly counted and traceable to the correct polling precinct.

Each individual ballot sent to a voter is accompanied by an envelope including their name, address, and unique identification barcode. Therefore, it is certainly feasible to distinguish which precinct individuals would have voted in and assign their vote accordingly.

During the 2018 primary election in Baltimore County, we had a County wide race that ended on election night with only a 9-vote difference, resulting in a recount. If on June 2nd a similar situation

arises and the Board of Elections' new policy does not change, a recount would not be possible at the precinct level.

I am in complete agreement with you that some concessions to public safety must be made in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, waiving this requirement to report by precinct fails to protect civic health, and could generate turmoil in our primary election and result in a loss of confidence in the democratic process.

An accurate vote count is at the heart of the integrity of our elections. I humbly ask you to urge the Board of Elections to reconsider waiving the precinct reporting requirement. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carl Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Delegate Carl Jackson

CC: Chairman Michael Cogan
Director Linda Lamon



Baltimore City Green Party

Rooted In Justice

April 21, 2020

Baltimore City Green Party

Chair Owen S. Andrews, Treasurer Vince Tola

baltimoregreens@gmail.com, (410) 989-6923

To: Maryland State Board of Elections c/o Donna Duncan

Petitioning is an essential part of Maryland's democracy. It allows third parties, independent candidates, and local charter amendments to come before voters. Social distancing and stay at home orders due to COVID-19 have disrupted the timelines and made impossible the methods of organizations petitioning to be on the November 2020 ballot, including the 2020 Baltimore City elections. We, the undersigned organizations, call on the Maryland State Board of Elections and related decision makers, including Governor Hogan, to:

- 1) Cut the required total signatures from 10,000 to 2,000 for parties to be on the ballot and from 10,000 to 500 for charter amendments; and
- 2) Create infrastructure to allow voters to sign and submit petitions online.

This is especially important in Baltimore City, as this is the cycle when we elect our local leaders and providing voters a choice at the ballot box is an essential part of a functioning democracy.

Just reducing the amount of signatures without providing for online signature collection still forces people to collect petitions during a pandemic. Just moving to online signatures provides an equity and accessibility problem as many Marylanders who rely on public schools and libraries to access computers and printers are unable to do so during the state of emergency.

Other states, including New York and Virginia, have already made reductions in signature requirements to 30% of the normal amount. However, these states already have much lower thresholds. We therefore consider a reduction to 20% (2,000 signatures) for new parties and 5% (500) for charter amendments an appropriate remedy for Maryland.

In addition to lowering the total, Maryland must also allow for online signature gathering. New Jersey is an example of a state that has taken this step. This will allow organizations to collect signatures safely during the stay at home order, protecting the safety of Marylanders and Maryland's democracy.

A remedy to this immediate problem requires the governor to consider democracy and equity when crafting a solution. Taking these two steps will demonstrate that Maryland is willing to equitably innovate during a crisis to protect our democracy.

This letter initiated by the Baltimore City Green Party.

Sincerely,

Baltimore City Green Party

Baltimore Peace Action

Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition

Common Cause Maryland

Food & Water Action

Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition

Our Revolution Baltimore City/County

VMH Productions

Amber Ivey, independent congressional candidate, MD-09

Vanessa Marie Hoffman, Democratic congressional candidate, MD-05

James F. Shalleck
President
Nahid Khozeimeh
Vice President
David A. Naimon
Secretary
Diane Nash Dillon
Member
Elisse W. Barnes
Member
Jacqueline L. Phillips
Substitute Member
Alan Banov
Substitute Member



**Montgomery County
Board of Elections**
Post Office Box 4333
Rockville, Maryland 20849-4333

April 22, 2020

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Election Director
Alysoun McLaughlin
Deputy Election Director
Janet A. Ross
*Information Technology
Manager*
Jessica Newby
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Nikki Charlson
Deputy State Administrator
State Board of Elections
151 West Street, Suite 200
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Additional drop boxes

Dear Chairman Cogan, Vice Chairman Hogan, Boardmembers Funn, Howells
and Voelp, Ms. Lamone & Ms. Charlson:

On behalf of the Montgomery County Board of Elections, I would like to

18753 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 210 • Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879
240-777-8500 • MD Relay 1-800-735-2258 • FAX 240-777-8505
elections@montgomerycountymd.gov • www.777vote.org

Maryland State Board of Elections
April 22, 2020
Page 2

extend our deepest appreciation to the State Board and its staff for the hard work that has been put into developing a plan for the implementation of the 2020 Primary Election.

On Monday, April 20, 2020, our Board received the attached letter from the nine (9) member County Council. As you will see, one of the suggestions by the County Council is for the Board to "consider placing drop off boxes in areas which may be geographically further from the four (4) voting centers." On behalf of the Board, I am writing to seek direction from the State Board regarding whether the Montgomery County Board of Elections is permitted to consider adding additional drop boxes under the State's plan which was ultimately approved by Governor Hogan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

 bmr

James Shalleck
President

JS:bjap

Attachment



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

April 20, 2020

James Shalleck, President,
Montgomery County Board of Elections
18753 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 210,
Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Dear President Shalleck,

The County Council would like to commend you and the entire Board of Elections on your continued commitment to ensuring that our most cherished of democratic traditions remains operational during this difficult time. We stand ready to provide whatever support is required to ensure that our elections can continue to be conducted safely and openly.

The State Board of Elections' 2020 Primary Election Plan, which was certified by Governor Hogan on April 10th, calls for mail-in voting and permits each County Board of Elections to establish voting centers to allow for limited in-person voting for Maryland residents who either have special needs, or are unable to have a ballot delivered to a fixed address. It also calls for drop-off boxes for voters to submit their ballots on Election Day.

We thank the Board for taking the initiative to select sites in Silver Spring, Germantown, Gaithersburg, and Burtonsville at its most recent meeting, and we request that the Board, if it is able, consider placing drop-off boxes in areas which may be geographically further from the four voting centers. The Council would like to additionally discuss the possibility of additional voting centers, in light of the Governor's Certification Proclamation containing no explicit cap on the number which a County Board of Elections may establish.

We also request that the Board engage in comprehensive multicultural outreach as we want to ensure that every eligible voter has the chance to participate in this election. Finally, we request further information regarding the State Board of Elections' decision to not compile precinct-level reporting- it's rationale and the potential impact this move may have on the operations of the Montgomery County Board of Elections.

To that end, we will reach out to schedule an update from the Board on operational procedures for the 2020 Primary Election, and also discuss what support is needed from this Council to ensure that the Board's multicultural outreach efforts reach as many communities as possible, particularly those for whom Spanish is the language spoken at home.

We look forward to working with the Board to ensure that all eligible voters are able to exercise their democratic rights during these uncertain and difficult times.

Sincerely,


Sidney Katz, Council President 


Tom Hucker, Council Vice President 


Nancy Navarro 

Craig Rice 

Hans Riemer 

Gabe Albornoz 

Will Jawando 

Evan Glass 

Andrew Friedson 



Maryland Green Party

Partido Verde De Maryland

Date: 16 April 2020

Public Comment-Maryland State Board of Elections April 22nd 2020 Meeting

To: State Board of Elections
From: Andy Ellis, Co-Chair, Maryland Green Party

Chair Cogan, Vice-Chair Hogan, Members of the Board:

On behalf of the Maryland Green Party, I am writing to ask that during the April 22nd meeting there is an agenda item that addresses the petition processes that the state board administers in relation to the election. These processes include new party applications, unaffiliated candidates, and local ballot initiatives.

These petition-based processes have ground to a halt as a result of COVID-19 and the State of Emergency Governor Hogan declared on March 5th. COVID-19 itself would have made it difficult; Hogan's order makes it impossible. These processes will certainly be halted until the stay at home order is lifted, and will be significantly hampered by social distancing guidelines and limitations on mass gatherings for the foreseeable future. Beyond that, members of the public will likely be reticent to engage the in-person petition process, even after all official guidelines are lifted.

During the April 2nd board meeting, it was stated that the issue of petitions would be further addressed later, but the recommendation would likely be to change the method of signature collection, but not the number of signatures that would be required. **The Maryland Green Party is requesting both a significant reduction in the amount of signatures required and an allowance for electronic signatures on petitions.**

The Maryland Green Party has successfully petitioned to be on the ballot for every election since 2000 and by all indications would have been successful again this year. In the fall of 2019 we hired a part-time Ballot Access Coordinator who is tasked with gathering signatures and coordinating volunteers throughout the state. Through this staff member, the Maryland Green Party has communicated to the Board of Elections staff our desire to turn in 13,000-15,000 signatures in May or June.



Maryland Green Party

Partido Verde De Maryland

Our plans sought to collect a total of 8000 signatures during the months of March, April, and May. We had recruited over 25 volunteers each committed to collecting 100 signatures a week. Our plan included petitioning all over the state at farmers markets, festivals, community meetings, political gatherings, early voting centers, election day polling places, door to door, and on college and university campuses. These are the methods of gathering signatures that we know work, as they have for over 20 years. Nearly all of these options are prohibited gatherings during the State of Emergency. For the events that continue, social distancing guidelines prohibit signature gathering.

While we have shifted to electronic distribution of petitions, there is simply no replacement for the person-to-person processes that are a tried and true method of collecting petitions in Maryland. There is also no replacement for the time we have already lost and will lose going forward. Once electronic signature gathering is adopted, we have no way of knowing how registered voters will react to electronic signatures, and we will lose the ability to ensure they fill out the form accurately. The latter has already been something we have experienced as we have asked people to download the petition, fill it out, and send it to us. While we support electronic signature gathering, that alone is not a sufficient replacement for in-person signature gathering and it certainly can not make up for lost time.

In states like New Jersey that have allowed electronic signatures, the amount of signatures needed is only 1,000 signatures, 10 per cent the 10,000 required by the state of Maryland, largely because the executive order is about candidates and not parties.

While we understand that each state requires petitions for different purposes, we think it is worth looking to the states that have or are considering reducing the number of signatures. This includes Virginia, New York, and Massachusetts (under consideration) which have reduced requirements for certain petitions to 30% of the regular amount.

While a reduction to 30% would be sufficient for the time lost to the Green Party, it does not cover all aspects of the petition process for new parties. Furthermore, for many election cycles Greens have been involved in charter amendment campaigns. These campaigns often have a shorter timeline, and by nature occur in a more constrained geographic area. While political parties can spread out across the state and attend multiple petitioning events at one time, it will be much more difficult for charter campaigns to get those signatures.

We propose that the new party signature requirement be lowered to 20% or 2000 valid signatures and that charter petitions requiring 10,000 signatures be lowered to 5% or 500 signatures.



Maryland Green Party

Partido Verde De Maryland

We appreciate that in light of the COVID-19 State of Emergency, the state and local boards have an unprecedented array of issues to address for each of the three elections happening this year. We know that this is one of many and hope that this is a solution which can maintain the process and avoid potential litigation, while accounting for the unique circumstances we all face this year.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions at 240-285-0843.

Sincerely,

Steven Andrew Ellis
Co-Chair, Maryland Green Party

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
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2020 Presidential Primary Election
Voter Guide
Vote Safe, Vote By Mail

A 2020 Presidential Primary Election will be held Tuesday, June 2nd, 2020. The Maryland State Board of Elections is committed to educating voters on the changes made to election procedures due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. These changes are made to ensure voters can exercise their fundamental right to vote while also safeguarding the public's health during this pandemic.

This election will be conducted by mail, with at least one in-person voting location in every county and Baltimore City available for those who are unable to vote by mail.

Here are commonly asked questions about this election and guidance for residents on how to vote safely and conveniently. For further questions, please visit www.elections.maryland.gov or contact the State Board at 1-800-222-8683.

1. What is the date for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election?

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

2. What is the safest way to vote?

To reduce the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus, voters are strongly encouraged to vote by mail. The State Board of Elections will mail ballots to all eligible voters. No postage is needed to return your ballot - you will get a postage paid return envelope with your ballot.

3. Do voters need to request a ballot?

No. The State Board of Elections will mail ballots to all eligible active voters.

4. When will ballots be mailed?

Ballots will be mailed in early to mid May.

5. If a voter has requested a ballot, does the voter need to request another ballot?

No. All eligible voters will receive a ballot for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

6. What is the deadline by which voters must mail in their voted ballots?

Voted ballots must be postmarked on or before June 2, 2020.

7. What if a voter can't vote by mail?

If a voter cannot vote by mail, there will be at least one voting location in each county and Baltimore City. The voting locations will be open on June 2nd from 7 am to 8 pm. The State Board will announce the precise locations soon, and voters unable to vote by mail are encouraged to check www.elections.maryland.gov for those locations.

8. If a voter has already requested an absentee ballot, does the voter need to do anything?
No. The voter will receive a ballot in early to mid May.

9. How do voters know if they are registered to vote?

If you aren't sure if you are registered, or at what address, check your voter registration status by visiting www.elections.maryland.gov and clicking "[Look up your Voter Info.](#)" If you do not have internet access, call 1-800-222-8683 and ask a State Board of Elections representative to check your registration.

10. What kind of identification is required to cast a ballot by mail?

If you are a registered voter and voted before, no identification is required to receive or submit a ballot by mail. A very small number of newly registered voters may need to provide ID with their voted ballots. If you have to provide ID, there will be instructions with your ballot.

11. Can voters register to vote online?

It is possible to register to vote in Maryland elections online. Visit www.elections.maryland.gov and click "[Register to Vote](#)" to learn more. The deadline to register to vote is Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

12. Is identification required to register to vote?

No, but you must provide some information so election officials can verify your identity.

If you use the State Board's online system to register, you must enter your Maryland driver's license number or Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) issued state ID number, the date MVA issued your license or ID card, and the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. If you reside outside of the United States or are a member of the military or spouse or dependent of a member of the military, you must enter the last 4 digits of your US social security number. If you provide a license or State ID number, your signature on file with the MVA will become your official voter registration signature. If you provide a social security number, it will be used as your official voter registration signature.

If you use the paper application to register, you must also provide your Maryland driver's license number or MVA-issued state ID number if you have one. If you don't have one, you must provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. If you don't have either number, check box 6c. If you check box 6c, you might be required to show ID before voting for the first time.

13. How will voters know that their ballots will be counted?

You can check that your ballot was counted by visiting www.elections.maryland.gov and clicking "[Look up your Voter Info.](#)" If you do not have internet access, call 1-800-222-8683 and ask a State Board of Elections representative to check the status of your voted ballot. The information will be posted about 10 days after the election.

14. How do voters update their address?

Give the local board of elections where you currently live your new address information. You can use the [voter registration application](#) to make the change, or you can submit in writing your new address. Voters must update their address with their local board of elections. For instructions on updating your address, please visit the State Board of Elections website at www.elections.maryland.gov/voting/address.html. The deadline to update your information is Wednesday, May 27th.