

## **Announcements & Important Meetings**

### New Employee

We welcome Devki Dave to our Campaign Finance Division. Devki is an experienced trilingual Maryland State government professional with over 7 years of business and management-based experience previously with the Maryland Department of Labor. She is a highly organized, critical thinker who demonstrates leadership and embraces strong teamwork.

### State Employees' Appreciation Day

We made it a week, instead of a day (May 5)! Although there are not enough ways to thank the employees of SBE and recognize their work over the last year, we tried. We had a virtual staff meeting where employees should thank others, provided Cinco de Mayo themed food for those in the office one day, and had a virtual meeting where we shared interesting and silly information about ourselves. These virtual meetings enabled us to see people we haven't seen in a while and reconnect with each other.

### Election Directors' Meetings

We hosted an election directors' meeting on May 20th. Topics discussed included voter registration, the inventory process, and the project to replace the electronic pollbooks for the 2022 elections. A summary of the meeting is provided with the County Bulletin when it is complete.

### SBE's Biennial Meeting and Maryland Association of Election Officials' (MAEO) Annual Conference

MAEO is hosting its annual conference in Ocean City the week of August 23. SBE will host its mandatory, biennial meeting on August 25, with virtual access available for individuals who prefer not to attend in person. Meeting details are being developed and will be distributed once finalized.

## **Election Reform and Management**

### Student and Military Voters: Information and New Process

[Senate Bill 283](#) and [House Bill 156](#) of the 2021 Legislative Session (effective June 1, 2021) requires certain information on our website for college students and the acceptance of the electronic signatures affixed by the U.S. Department of Defense's Common Access Card for certain transactions. [Our updated website](#) includes the required information for college students, and proposed changes to regulations will be presented at this meeting to incorporate the Common Access Card requirements of these bills. The Voter Registration Division is updating procedures for the local boards to allow for electronic signatures on certain documents if the electronic signature is affixed by the Common Access Card.

### SBE has joined Instagram

We have recently joined Instagram as @md\_sbe. This new social media account will allow us to further expand our voter education outreach, along with our communications and customer service efforts. You can find us on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and now Instagram.

### Mail-In Voting: Usability Review

[Chapter 56 \(Senate Bill 683\)](#) and [House Bill 1048](#) (effective June 1, 2021) requires that we have a usability expert review and provide recommendations on mail-in voting information available to voters. We are working with the University of Baltimore (UB) on an agreement for usability experts at UB to perform this work and expect that the majority of the work will be performed during the summer.

These laws also create a permanent absentee voting list for voters and allow these voters to select how they wish election officials to communicate with them (*i.e.*, mail, text, or email). To implement these

changes, we are updating the impacted systems - MDVOTERS, the statewide voter registration, candidacy, and election management system - and the online systems voters can use to request mail-in ballots.

### High Speed Envelope Sorter Solution

Last month, we issued a Request for Information to learn about available high speed envelope sorting solutions. Several of the large local boards are interested in solutions to expedite the processing and sorting of returned envelopes with voted mail-in ballots. The deadline for vendors to submit information was May 21, and three vendors provided information about their products. We will share this information with interested local boards and determine our next steps.

## **Voter Registration**

### MDVOTERS

Training classes are being held or planned in the near future for election judge training assignments and proper address entry and general information for districts and precincts to assist with the redistricting process.

### MDVOTERS Audits

At least 44 audits are performed monthly, and audits cover the following transactions:

- New registrations
- Changes to voter records
- Timely processing of reports
- Cancellations
- Party changes
- Absentee application
- Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)

Each month, the local boards audit another local board's transactions. SBE reviews the monthly data audits performed by the local boards, and these reviews require accessing 144 files.

### Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Transactions

During April, MVA collected the following voter registration transactions:

New Registration - 11,020	Residential Address Changes - 20,183
Last name changes - 2,771	Political Party Changes - 4,638

### MVA Notice of Surrendered Licenses from Other States

With assistance from MVA, SBE will be receiving information on Maryland drivers who have surrendered their Maryland licenses to another state's driver license agency. We anticipate receiving the data during June or July. When we receive this data, a notification will be generated to the voter in accordance with federal National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) guidelines.

### Non-Citizen Registration and Voting

Between February 1, 2021 and April 30, 2021, 96 voter records were cancelled due to a status of non-citizen. None of these individuals have voting history.

Jared DeMarinis and Mary Cramer Wagner continue to work with the Office of the State Prosecutor regarding the best method to report to the Board the findings of their investigations.

## **Candidacy and Campaign Finance (CCF) Division**

### Candidacy

Individuals must file certain paperwork, pay a filing fee, and appear in person to become a candidate for the 2022 election. The filings are currently scheduled by appointment, and as of May 25, 28 candidates have filed at SBE.

### Campaign Finance

The next disclosure report due is for persons doing business with State government entities and persons employing lobbyists. They are required to file a *Disclosure of Contributions* every six months (November 30 and May 31) with the transaction period ending the last day of the month prior to the due date. Currently, over 425 statements have been received for the Spring 2021 filing. There are over 850 entities registered in the system. Since May 31 is a legal holiday, the statement is due on June 1. Failure to file will result in late fees. Late filing fees are calculated in the same method as campaign finance report late filings with the maximum penalty of \$1,000.

In April, MD Campaign Reporting Information System (MD CRIS) website was visited by over 230,000 individuals for an average of over 7,700 per day. Additionally, it had over 1.6 million hits. Each viewer looked at an average of nearly 6 page views per day. The Business Contribution Disclosure System (BCDS) website had over 810,000 hits, over 42,000 visitors with an average of over 18 page views per day.

## **Project Management Office (PMO)**

### Inventory Management

The FY21 Inventory Audit started on February 1 and will conclude on June 30, 2021. The current statewide inventory audit completion is 86.32%.

### FY2022 Electronic Pollbook Project

The PMO continued working on tasks related to the project, including:

- The procurement of a new electronic pollbook system is in the evaluation phase with the on-site evaluation of the vendors' equipment. This phase is expected to be completed in mid-June.
- Shared project information to the local boards via monthly project status meetings and the biweekly *County Bulletins*.
- Updated and addressed questions concerning the pollbook's Contingency Plan.
- Planning for the post-evaluation (*e.g.*, request for Board of Public Works approval) and the implementation phases of the project.

### Other

The Central Warehouse team continued to work on a number of activities and events at the facility that included:

- Receiving equipment and supplies from local boards requesting storage or that will be going through the disposal process.
- Logistics planning and scheduling of the statewide pickup and delivery of equipment involved in the potential voting system upgrade.

**State of Maryland**   
**State Board of Elections – April 22, 2021 Meeting**

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Attendees (via conference call):

Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chair  
William G. Voelp, Member  
Malcolm L. Funn, Member  
Severn Miller, Member  
T. Sky Woodward, Member  
Linda Lamone, Administrator  
Andrea Trento, Assistant Attorney General  
Nikki Charlson, Deputy Administrator  
Donna Duncan, Assistant Deputy, Election Policy  
Jared DeMarinis, Director, Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
Keith Ross, Assistant Deputy, Project Management  
Tracey Hartman, Director of Special Projects  
Fred Brechbiel, Chief Information Officer  
Nikia Wilbon-Turner, Director of Software Development  
Shafiq Satterfield, Director of IT Project Management  
Mary Cramer Wagner, Director of Voter Registration  
Art Treichel, Chief Information Security Officer

Also Present: Linda Dorsey-Walker, Baltimore County resident

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

Mr. Hogan called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm and declared that a quorum was present.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Hogan nominated Mr. Voelp as chairman, and Mr. Funn seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Hogan congratulated Mr. Voelp and turned the meeting over to the newly-elected chairman to preside over the remainder of the meeting. Mr. Voelp thanked the other members for electing him as chairman.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Hogan made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2021 open meeting, the February 11, 2021 closed meeting, and the March 26, 2021 closed meeting. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Charlson stated that only highlights of the Administrator's Report would be presented verbally, but that the full report is available on the SBE website.

**Announcements & Important Meetings**

Election Directors' Meetings

Ms. Charlson reported that SBE hosted election directors' meetings on March 18 and April 15. A summary of the March 18 meeting was provided with the meeting materials, and a summary of the April 15 meeting will be provided when it is complete.

### FY2022 Budget & FY2021 Deficiency Requests

Ms. Charlson reported that the General Assembly recently approved our FY2022 budget and deficiency fund request for FY2021. The approved FY2022 budget includes two additional positions, one in IT and one in election policy, as well as additional funding for voter outreach and election judges training

### HR 1 & S 1 - Federal Election Legislation

On March 3, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1. This legislation has widespread impact on election administration with provisions ranging from voter registration to mail-in voting to election administration to campaign finance to redistricting. In mid-March, similar legislation - S. 1 - was introduced in the US Senate. The Senate's Committee on Rules and Administration is expected to mark up the bill in May.

### Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) - Annual Conference

MAEO is hosting its annual conference in Ocean City the week of August 23. We will provide more information as the agenda and registration information is developed. Discussions on whether to host SBE's biennial meeting during this conference are on-going.

## **Election Reform and Management**

### Manual Audit

Ms. Hartman reported that the manual audit from the 2020 General Election was completed on February 26, 2021 with the manual audit of Washington County. In 21 of the 24 local jurisdictions, there were zero differences between the results of the manual audit and the voting system. In the remaining three local jurisdictions, two discrepancies were determined to be human error, and the other discrepancy was a one vote discrepancy and well below the 0.5% threshold to trigger more auditing. As required by Election Law Article, §11-309(d)(4), a report of the manual audit was posted on our [Ballot Audit Plan webpage](#). Information about the independent software audit is also posted there.

### U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Data Report

Ms. Hartman reported that after each general election, the EAC asks states to complete an extensive data survey. The survey - called the Election Administration and Voting Survey - requests data on voter registration, voter turnout, mail-in voting by military and overseas voters and domestic, civilian voters, provisional voting, voting locations, pollworkers, and voting systems.

The initial submission for the EAC's 2020 Election Administration and Voting Survey was due and SBE submitted timely on February 1, 2021. The EAC returned the data report two weeks later with suggested corrections, and a final certified report was submitted and accepted by the EAC on March 6, 2021. Ms. Hartman thanked Susan Tang who assisted in completion of this report.

## **Voter Registration**

### MDVOTERS

Ms. Wilbon-Turner reported that MDVOTERS 7.5 version will be released on April 26 and includes the full integration of the Agency Election Management System (AEMS). Some of the functionality includes the generation of web accessible HTML candidate lists and election results pages, ballot generation and ballot style reporting, write-in vote result processing, candidate nomination certificates, candidate commissions of election, canvass sheets for certifying elections and electoral college documentation in addition to providing an interface to the voting system and other modules within MDVOTERS.

Ms. Lamone thanked Natasha Walker, Director of Election Management Systems at SBE, for leading this project from start to finish over the last three years, in addition to her regular duties.

#### Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Transactions

Ms. Wagner explained that under federal and State law, MVA is required to offer voter registration during certain MVA transactions. Since MVA is the primary source of new voter registration and updated voter registration information, we provide monthly data on voter registration activity generated by MVA transactions. Ms. Wagner stated that the voter registration transactions are listed in the full report provided to the members.

#### Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)

Ms. Wagner reported that ERIC is a non-profit organization, formed in 2012, with the sole mission of assisting states to improve the accuracy of voter registration rolls. Currently, 30 states and the District of Columbia form ERIC's membership.

Each member submits to ERIC its voter registration and motor vehicle licensee data for comparison and review. Various reports are generated and returned to the states for action. These reports include voters who have moved within their state, voters who moved out of state, duplicate registrations in the same state, and death records from the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Maryland receives these reports every other month, and each local board of elections process these reports within 2 weeks of receipt. Beginning May 2021, Maryland will receive SSA death and in-state duplicate records on a monthly basis.

To learn more about ERIC, Ms. Wagner encouraged those interested to visit [www.ericstates.org](http://www.ericstates.org).

In response to a question from Mr. Voelp, Ms. Wilbon-Turner reported that SBE has begun to receive data on surrendered driver's licenses and we are currently parsing through the data. Ms. Wagner stated that she will include that data in her report next month.

#### MDVOTERS Audits

Ms. Wagner reported that Janet Smith is a voter registration auditor for SBE. These audits include, but are not limited to:

- New registrations;
- Changes to voter records;
- Timely processing of reports;
- Cancellations;
- Party changes;
- Absentee application

Once audits are reported to the local board of elections for correction, Ms. Smith audits those records to make sure the corrections have been made.

#### MDVOTERS Access Security

Ms. Wagner explained that in order to access the statewide voter registration database (MDVOTERS), users must have a two factor authentication token. The MDVOTERS user accounts are audited frequently, and unused accounts are removed. Any token that has not been

immediately reassigned must be returned to SBE.

### Non-Citizen Registration and Voting

Ms. Wagner reported that non-citizens registered to vote are identified and forwarded to the Office of the State Prosecutor (OSP.) OSP and SBE are working to improve the process and review and identify records identified from March 20, 2020 to March 31, 2021. During that time, 224 individuals had records canceled for non-citizen status and five of these individuals had voting history. Overall, during that same period 219,578 individual voter registration records were cancelled due to other actions - moved out of state, death, voter request and routine voter list maintenance actions.

Mr. Voelp thanked Ms. Wagner for this information and requested that the Board be updated as to the case status of the non-citizens reported to OSP.

### **Candidacy and Campaign Finance (CCF) Division**

#### Candidacy

Mr. DeMarinis reported that February 23, 2021 was the first day candidates can file candidacy paperwork for the 2022 Gubernatorial Election cycle. Approximately 20 candidates have filed to date.

#### Campaign Finance

Mr. DeMarinis reported that the prohibition on fundraising during the legislative session has ended.

The next disclosure report due is for persons doing business with State government entities and persons employing lobbyists. Under Title 14 of the Election Law Article, these individuals are required to file a Disclosure of Contributions. Reports are due every six months (November 30 and May 31) with the transaction period ending the last day of the month prior to the due date.

#### Enforcement

Mr. DeMarinis reported that the CCF Division received payment for the following civil penalties:

1. Ironworkers Political Action League PAC paid \$250.00 on February 26, 2021 for the failure to record all contributions and expenditures.
2. Friends of Dr. Kathleen White committee paid \$600.00 on March 3, 2021 for the failure to record all contributions and expenditures.
3. Craig Carozza-Caviness for county council committee paid \$450.00 on March 3, 2021 for the failure to record all contributions and expenditures.
4. Citizens for Jeffrey Kenney committee paid \$200.00 on April 09, 2021 for the failure to record all contributions and expenditures and for filing affidavits instead of a Campaign Finance Report.
5. Citizens for Patrick Gutierrez committee paid \$500.00 on April 12, 2021 for the failure to record all contributions and expenditures.

#### Financial Disclosure Statements

Mr. DeMarinis reminded the Board members that they are required to file a financial disclosure statement with the Ethics Commission. The deadline is April 30, 2021.

#### MD CRIS Contract - Options Approval

Mr. DeMarinis explained that there are two contracts that support Maryland Campaign Reporting

Information System (MD CRIS), a browser-based campaign committee information and finance reporting system with a module for business contributions to election campaigns. One contract (MDCRIS AP) supports and provides system maintenance and development, business process support and documentation, database management, cybersecurity support to audit the application software and for web security, and incident reporting for the application. The other contract (MD CRIS DC) provides web hosting and security monitoring for MDCRIS, includes data center hardware and software, and provides security monitoring to protect against denial of service (DOS) or breach of personal identifying information (PII). The vendor for both contracts is Netorian, LLC.

At its March 10 meeting, the Board of Public Works (BPW) approved exercising option periods for both MD CRIS contracts. The option period is for 2 years (April 1, 2021- March 31, 2023). After the current term, the contracts have one two-year option left for renewal.

## **Voting Systems Division**

### Voting System Upgrade

Mr. Satterfield reported that SBE has begun initial testing of the voting system software suite and firmware upgrades. The voting system upgrade contains significant benefits to the voting equipment and back-end processes associated with election-related activities. On April 19, 2021, SBE began the State certification process for the voting system software suite. The certification process has a 60-day window. The certification timeline will include a public demonstration period for the voting system, which is tentatively scheduled to take place during the month of May.

### Transportation Contract

Ms. Charlson reported that at its March 10 meeting, the Board of Public Works (BPW) approved exercising the final option period for our contract with Interstate Moving Solutions. Under this contract, Interstate delivers election equipment and supplies to early voting and election day locations and returns the same equipment and supplies to the local boards' warehouses, schedules, manages, and tracks deliveries, and follows SBE's strict security procedures for moving this equipment and supplies. The option period is for 2 years (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023) and covers transporting election equipment and supplies for the 2022 elections.

## **Project Management Office (PMO)**

### Inventory Management

Mr. Ross reported that the FY21 Inventory Audit, which is required by state law and is an inventory of physical equipment used by SBE, is 70.26% complete.

### Electronic Pollbook Replacement Project

Mr. Ross reported that we are in the third of four major steps in the evaluation phase of the pollbook replacement project, which is the receiving of equipment from vendors so on-site evaluations can be performed. This step will be completed by the evaluation team and is expected to be completed min-June. The project team continues to maintain the project communication with the local boards via monthly project status meetings

### Other

Mr. Ross reported that SBE has a warehouse in Glen Burnie that, which also has training facilities, and two SBE employees. These individuals continued:

- Disposing of equipment and supplies through the State's auction and recycling options
- Returning of local board equipment temporarily stored at the warehouse for the 2020



### General Election

- Receiving local boards' equipment and supplies for temporary storage
- Coordinating the use of the warehouse facility for the on-site training of the newly added pollbook contract project team members. The coordination included making sure that everyone was adhering to the COVID-19 distancing and face coverings guidelines.

### Information Systems & Technology and Security

Mr. Brechbiel reported that Ms. Wilbon-Turner and Mr. Satterfield have been given expanded responsibilities towards making the IT Services & Technology Division (IS&T) an even more cohesive unit in support of election activities.

#### Software Development

Ms. Wilbon-Turner is expanding her technical management role to include MDVOTERS, Voter Services and now the Pollbook/EPIC team. She will apply her proven technical leadership capabilities to the other software development teams within the IS&T Division to establish a consistent set of methodologies, tools and processes. Mr. Brechbiel expressed his confidence in Ms. Wilbon-Turner's ability to make a positive difference in this new role.

#### IT Project Management

Mr. Satterfield will add to his current duties to establish and build this new division within IT Systems and Technology. His goal is to work with all teams within IS&T to create and implement a consistent set of IT project management processes and methodologies to enhance visibility and consistency into the way IT project management is conducted at SBE.

### Legislation

Ms. Duncan reported that the Department of Legislative Services issued a summary of legislation following the end of the 90 day session, which was included in the meeting materials. She stated that the election section of the *90 Day Report - A Review of the 2021 Legislative Session* was included in the report. Ms. Duncan stated that we are currently identifying the requirements of each new law. She thanked Ms. DeMarinis and Ms. Wagner for their hard work on behalf SBE during the legislative session. Ms. DeMarinis and Ms. Wagner highlighted a few bills that passed including expanded early voting hours, a change in how the number of early voting centers is calculated, and changes to public campaign financing. Ms. Charlson stated that many of the laws passed require regulations, which will be presented to the members in the next few months.

In response to a question from Ms. Woodward, Mr. DeMarinis stated that he did not anticipate or was aware of any litigation that might arise from any of the passed legislation.

In response to a question from Mr. Funn regarding the cost split of new early voting centers, Ms. Charlson stated that the answer depends on what the purpose of the cost. Costs related to voting equipment would be a shared cost between SBE and the local boards, but costs related to facility rentals or additional election judges would be fully the responsibility of the local board.

### SECURITY BRIEFING

Mr. Treichel reported that SBE has been working diligently with its vendors and public partners to advance SBE's cybersecurity governance, infrastructure, and operations programs. He explained that today's cyber adversaries are better-funded, more organized than ever, and using increasingly more sophisticated methods attacks, with a mission to disrupt US government and private industry. SBE has been responding to these threats through the implementation of our five-part cybersecurity program.

The cornerstone of these programs is a risk-based information security program that is based on the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cyber Security Frameworks, which includes standards for governance, architecture, threat and vulnerability management, and incident detection and response. This framework is mandated for federal agencies and is in use in a majority of US organizations. As part of this program, improvements are made based upon in-depth and ongoing assessments and penetration testing.

The second part of the cybersecurity program is secure cyber architecture, which implements a zero trust approach that secures not only the perimeter of the framework but helps to contain bad actors even if there is intrusion. The secure cyber architecture also includes a redundant architecture that allows for a fail over if critical systems fail.

The third part of the cybersecurity program is threat and vulnerability detection management. In this segment, SBE works internally and with federal partners to find, track, and mitigate any vulnerabilities in our infrastructure before a bad actor does.

The fourth part of the cybersecurity program is detection and analysis of potential cyber attacks. This includes a security operations center (SOC), which monitors data center activity, applications, web servers, and devices in real time 24/7 to detect and alert any malicious activity. Additionally, the Center for Internet Security provides us with threat detection and alerts. We also work with our partners at DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA), FBI, and the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) to monitor for wider-spread attacks that may be happening nationally or globally. We also monitor social media for threats such as impersonation of election officials, misinformation, and fraud. Social media monitoring is not a permanent part of our monitoring efforts.

The final part of the cybersecurity program is the rapid response and remediation of attempts to attack. This includes procedures for a wide range of incident scenarios and regular table top exercises to rehearse and test those procedures, incidence response services at the SOC and datacenter, a continuity of operations (COOP) backup site in the event of a failover, and working closely with our partner organizations including CISA, MCAC, the FBI, and the local boards of elections.

Ms. Charlson explained that Mr. Treichel's security update stems from a Board motion approved several years ago to provide the members with quarterly security updates.

#### **ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Trento gave an update on the following cases:

1. *Fusaro v. Davitt et al.*, No. 20-1879 (U.S.C.A. for the 4th Cir.). Mr. Trento explained that this is a challenge, brought by a Virginia resident, of the laws that govern access to Maryland's list of registered voters. 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. The issue of voter access did not reach the District Court due to unrelated but similar litigation happening around the same time, which concluded that the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) already required that records related to list maintenance be available for public inspection. The Court did reach the issue of limiting access to the voter list only for purposes related to electoral processes and upheld that aspect of the law.

Plaintiff has appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and briefing is now complete. Oral argument has not yet been scheduled.

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 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 to federal court 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. Mr. Trento noted that legislation passed this year to formalize the process by which individuals who are in detention but are still eligible to vote are required by the Department of Corrections and SBE to be given information and access to voter registration materials and the ability to vote, which may make the outstanding aspects of this case moot.
3. *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 ballot marking device (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, and the parties proceeded to discovery. On October 6, 2020, the parties filed a joint motion to extend the discovery deadline to December 9, 2020, which was granted by the Court. On November 12, 2020, the parties filed a joint motion to stay the case for 60 days to allow for a focused period of settlement discussions, which was also granted by the Court. The stay has since been extended several times and is now set to expire April 26, 2021.
4. *Chong Su Yi v. Hogan*, Nos. 464985, 466396, 480720, 480721, 480722, 480723 (Cir. Ct. Montgomery Cty.). On September 8, 2019, plaintiff Chong Su Yi filed two complaints in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County challenging the results of Maryland's 2018 elections, and naming Governor Larry Hogan as defendant (Nos. 464985, 466396). Specifically, Mr. Yi argued that the results of that election 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. Mr. Yi amended his complaints, and in January 2019 both of his amended complaints were dismissed by the Circuit Court. On January 21, 2020, Mr. Yi appealed from the dismissal in

No. 466396. (Mr. Yi had also previously filed interlocutory appeals from non-final orders, but these were dismissed by the Court of Special Appeals.) On November 4, 2020, the Court of Special Appeals dismissed Mr. Yi's appeal for failure to file a civil information report, but on November 30, 2020 granted Mr. Yi's motion for reconsideration and reinstated the appeal. On April 16, 2021, Mr. Yi filed an informal appellant's brief with the Court of Special Appeals. On April 22, 2021, that brief was rejected for failure to include a certificate of service, and Mr. Yi was directed to refile his brief with the appropriate certificates within 30 days.

Meanwhile, on March 6, 2020, Mr. Yi filed four complaints in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Nos. 480720, 480721, 480722, 480723) asserting substantially identical claims to those asserted in his prior two complaints. Beginning on May 15, 2020, Mr. Yi filed amended complaints in these actions, this time adding the State of Maryland as a Defendant in addition to Governor Hogan. Defendants filed motions to dismiss and/or for summary judgment as to these complaints, and on August 25, 2020 those motions were granted. After moving for reconsideration unsuccessfully, on October 9, 2020, plaintiff filed notices of appeal to the Court of Special Appeals in each of these matters. Plaintiff also sought waivers of the filing fees associated these appeals, which were denied. On January 6, 2021, the Court of Special Appeals dismissed the appeals for failure to pay the filing fee. On February 4, 2021, plaintiff filed a petition for writ of certiorari in the Court of Appeals, and also requested waiver of the filing fees. The Court of Appeals granted Mr. Yi's request for waiver of filing fees and was scheduled to consider Mr. Yi's petition at conference on March 25, 2021. The petition for certiorari is still pending.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

#### **SPEAKERS**

*Linda Dorsey-Walker, Baltimore County Resident*

Ms. Dorsey-Walker reported that she has attended all meetings of the State Board over the last year, and frequently reports information from the meetings to the community. She stated that there was a need for the members of the State Board of establish sanctions against any local board of election's director under certain conditions, as well as two proactive protective measures to prevent the need for such sanctions. Ms. Dorsey-Walker alleged that during the last election cycle, an election director did not discuss with the County Executive the option for each local board to have one additional early voting center, and that the County Executive was not aware of this option until Ms. Dorsey-Walker informed the County Executive about this option. Ms. Dorsey-Walker suggested that, in order to prevent this from happening in the future, there should be written proof that the election director has informed the County Executive of this option, and that the County Executive has either accepted or declined the additional early voting center. Mr. Miller thanked Ms. Dorsey-Walker bringing her concerns to the Board, and Mr. Voelp stated that the Board will take the information under advisement.

#### **DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**

There were no campaign disclosures.

#### **SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 27 at 2 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION – LEGAL ADVICE & SECURITY**

Mr. Voelp requested a motion to close the board meeting under General Provisions Article, §3-305(b) (7) and (8), which permits closing a meeting to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and with staff about pending or potential litigation, and (10) and (15), which permits closing a meeting to discuss public security, network architecture, and security of election network without introducing risk to the process.

Mr. Hogan made a motion to convene in closed session under General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(7), (8), (10), and (15), and Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The motion having passed, the Board met in closed session in accordance with exemptions defined in (b)(7), (8), (10), and (15) of Section 3-305 of the Open Meetings Act to receive advice from counsel and consult with staff about pending or potential litigation and discuss public security, network architecture, and security of election network without introducing risk to the process.

The closed session began at 3:20 pm. Mr. Voelp, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Funn, Mr. Miller, and Ms. Woodward attended the closed meeting. In addition to the board members, Ms. Lamone, Ms. Charlson, Mr. Trento, Ms. Duncan, and Mr. Treichel attended the closed meeting.

Mr. Trento provided legal advice on potential or pending litigation, and Mr. Treichel answered questions concerning information security.

No action was taken.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to adjourn the closed meeting, and Mr. Hogan seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The closed meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The open meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.



## SBE Policy 2021-01: Extension of Temporary Electronic Petition Signature Acceptance

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Adopted: January 12, 2021  
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, and has renewed that proclamation at regular intervals;

WHEREAS, during this State of Emergency, the Governor and local authorities have imposed restrictions on certain business operations and public gatherings of persons as a result of COVID-19;

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, on April 22, 2020, the State Board of Elections, pursuant to its authority under Md. Code, Comm. Law § 21-117(a), authorized the use of electronic signatures to facilitate signature-gathering during this state of emergency;

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2020, the State Board of Elections, pursuant to its authority under Md. Code, Comm. Law § 21-117(a), authorized the extended use of electronic signatures to facilitate signature-gathering during this state of emergency;

WHEREAS, petition efforts for the formation of new political parties, for the nomination of unaffiliated candidates, and relating to a question arising under Article XI-A, Article XI-F, or Article XVI of the Maryland Constitution, or §9-205 of the Local Government Article may begin in collecting signatures for placement of a candidate or ballot question on the November 8, 2022 gubernatorial general election ballot;

WHEREAS, in light of the restraints imposed by State and county officials, the State Board of Elections believes that an extension of the acceptance of the electronic signature for filing a petition is appropriate;

WHEREAS, the State Board of Elections believes that allowing the submission of petitions bearing electronic signatures during this period 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 candidate or question on the ballot;

THEREFORE, the State Board of Elections states as follows:

1. Findings.
  - a. The State Board of Elections finds that extension of the acceptance of electronic signatures for a petition will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety.
  - b. To the contrary, the extension of the temporary acceptance of electronic signatures for petition promotes the public health, welfare, or safety by providing sponsors to collect signature with limited or no in-person interactions.

2. Policy.

- a. The policy and requirements stated in SBE 2020-01 on April 22, 2020 remain the same.

3. Applicability.


- a. This policy shall be in effect from January 13, 2021 until May 27, 2021 for submitting any petition with an electronic signature to place the name of an individual or question on the November 8, 2022 gubernatorial 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 8, 2022 gubernatorial general election.

# Steps to fill out BTEC's Charter Amendment electronic signature petition

First, click on link or copy and paste link into web browser:

<https://www.md-petition.com/invite/BTEC.php>

Charter Amendment - Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition



Steps


1. Enter/Confirm Information.
2. Sign Petition.
3. Sign as Circulator.

Please click below to get started!

**Amendment Summary**

**Charter Amendment - Baltimore Regional Transportation Authority Mandate Fund**

- This amendment to the Baltimore City Charter will establish the Baltimore Regional Transportation Authority Mandate Fund (TAMF);
- The TAMF shall be used to promote, negotiate, conclude, and maintain a Compact in which the City of Baltimore and other jurisdictions in the Baltimore region agree to seek enabling legislation for a Baltimore Regional Transportation Authority (BRTA);
- Upon securing enabling legislation, the BRTA will be empowered to plan, design, build, operate, maintain, and finance a regional transportation system.
- Revenue sources for the TAMF established by this Section may include:
  - (1) An annual mandatory appropriation to the TAMF in the Ordinance of Estimates in an amount not less than \$1,000,000;
  - (2) Grants and donations;
  - (3) Mandatory and voluntary payments made pursuant to ordinances;
  - (4) Tax increment financing revenue and any other source established by ordinance;
- The TAMF shall be overseen, governed, and administered by an eleven-member TAMF Commission with diversity in its membership and appointed by the Mayor and Baltimore City Council;

 SIGN Charter Amendment - Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition

Click the green area at the bottom of the page where the green arrow is located and that states 'SIGN Charter Amendment – Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition' to begin filling out the electronic petition.










NOTE: ONLY BALTIMORE CITY REGISTERED VOTERS CAN FILL OUT THIS PETITION FORM.




## Charter Amendment - Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition

Please enter your Name and ZIP Code as it appears on your Maryland Voter Registration

First Name, Last Name, ZIP Code, House Number, are used for the petition. Date of Birth and Phone Number are used to sign as Circulator.

First Name	<input type="text" value="Amy"/>	
Last Name	<input type="text" value="Brown"/>	
Date of Birth	<input type="text" value="01/01/1900"/>	
Phone Number	<input type="text" value="888-400-0000"/>	
Phone Format	443-123-4567	
House Number	<input type="text" value="1900"/>	
House Format	321	
ZIP Code	<input type="text" value="21206"/>	
ZIP Code Format	55555	

 Next

Clear

On this screen, fill out your identifying information as found on your voter registration card.

Note the format for date: 01/01/1900

Phone Number format – use dashes: 888-400-0000

House Number: enter ADDRESS NUMBER ONLY – not the street name

Format for zip code: 21206

Navigate from field to field by clicking the green arrow on the right side of the screen. If you are using a mobile device, you may select the next field with your finger.

Once you have completed all fields, click the green area at the bottom of the page where the green arrow is located and that states 'NEXT'. After you click next, the application will verify your voter registration information with the State Board of Elections database.

Disclaimer: the information contained in this form was created so that petition signers understand how to enter information correctly into the form. To my knowledge, there is no person with this identifying information.

Charter Amendment - Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition

Is this information correct?

Please Confirm



First Name [REDACTED]  
Middle Name [REDACTED]  
Last Name [REDACTED]  
Date of Birth [REDACTED]  
Full Address [REDACTED]  
Phone [REDACTED]  
City BALTIMORE  
County Baltimore City  
Zip [REDACTED]



NO

On this screen, you will confirm that the correct information was pulled from the State Board of Elections database.

If the information is correct, click the green area at the top or bottom of the page where the green arrow is located and that states 'Yes'. You will be directed to the page to sign the petition electronically (go to page 4).

If the information is not correct, click the red area at the bottom of the page that states 'No'. You will be directed to a screen that asks 'Are you a Registered Maryland Voter?'

If yes, click the green area with the arrow that states 'YES – CLICK HERE TO BEGIN', and re-enter your voter registration information. Note: check your voter registration card for exactly how your name is formatted in the State Board of Elections database.

If no, you will be directed to a screen that states 'You must be a registered voter in the State of Maryland to sign this petition'. Note: for this petition, you need to be specifically a registered voter in Baltimore City. If you are eligible, click the green area that states 'You Can Register Online Here' which will redirect you to the State Board of Elections website to register to vote:

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>

Additional note: The Online Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request service is now closed for the 2020 Primary Election. The tentative date for Online Voter Registration to reopen will be Monday, June 15th at 12 noon.

After you register with the State Board of Elections, return to this website: <https://www.md-petition.com/invite/BTEC.php>

Charter Amendment

**State of Maryland**

We, the undersigned voters of \_\_\_\_\_ County or  (check for Baltimore) petition to have this amendment of the Charter submitted to a vote of the residents of the County or Baltimore City, for approval at the next general election.

If the full text of the proposal does not appear on the back of this signature page, a full summary of the substantive provisions of the proposal must appear on the back, and the full text of the proposal must be immediately available from the petition circulator.

**Sign** the petition. Sign and print your name on the voter registration list, name of registration AND at least one name AND the initial of any other name. Print or type all information other than your signature. Post Office Box addresses are not accepted as valid. By signing this petition, you certify that the aforementioned charter proposal should be placed on the ballot for the next general election and that, to the best of your knowledge, you are registered to vote in Maryland and are eligible to have your signature counted for this petition.

SBE 6-201-5C (Rev 3-2012)

**Please Note:** The information you provide on this petition is public information and may be used to change your voter registration address.

Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Month	Date	Year
				Birth Date:		
				Month	Date	Year
Signature:				Date of Signature:		

Feedback

Type Your Signature to Sign  
Charter Amendment - Baltimore  
Transit Equity Coalition

PDF Summary PDF Complete  
Signature 1 of 2.

Please Sign Here

Amy Brown

Please Type Your Name Exactly as Above

Amy Brown

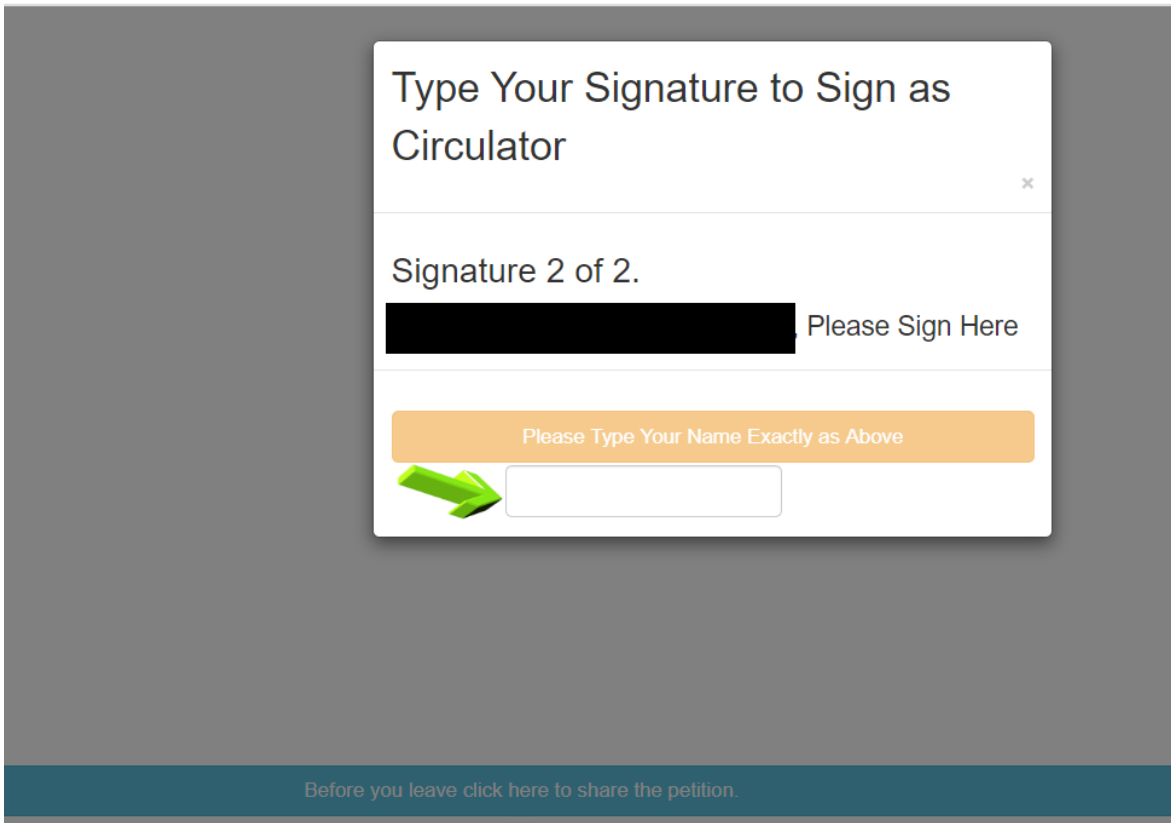
On this page, you will sign the petition form in the box to the right of the green arrow.

**Sign the petition EXACTLY as it appears on this screen.** The exact way to enter your name / signature will be located where the black box is currently located on this screenshot.

To read the summary of the Charter Amendment ballot petition, click on PDF Summary which will navigate you to this page: <https://www.md-petition.com/files/BTEC2.pdf> This is the language which will appear on the ballot in November.

To read the full language of the Charter Amendment ballot petition, click on PDF Complete which will navigate you to this page: <https://www.md-petition.com/files/BTEC1.pdf>

After you enter your name / sign the petition form EXACTLY, select the 'Enter' key on the keyboard or you automatically may be navigated to the next screen.



On this page, you will sign the petition form in the box to the right of the green arrow again – for a second time.

**Sign the petition EXACTLY as it appears on this screen.** The exact way to enter your name / signature will be located where the black box is currently located on this screenshot.

After you enter your name / sign the petition form EXACTLY, select the 'Enter' key on the keyboard or you automatically may be navigated to the next screen, as illustrated below. Click on the blue 'OK' button.



# Charter Amendment - Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition

## Petition Signed

What you like to do next?

View and/or Print

More Petitions

Reset / Restart

Before you leave click here to share the petition.



© 2020 Patrick McGuire - BTEC



After clicking on the blue 'OK' button on the previous screen, you will be directed to this page.

You have four options on this screen:

You can 'View and/or Print' the form (in full) you just signed.

You can sign 'More Petitions'.

You can 'Reset / Restart' the form.

You can share the petition - <https://www.md-petition.com/invite/BTEC.php> - by clicking on the blue area that states 'Before you leave click here to share the petition'. And on the next page, click 'Copy Link' on the 'Charter Amendment – Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition' line on the right side of the screen or click the f Share button to share on Facebook.

If you have any additional questions, email [BTEC@moretransitequity.com](mailto:BTEC@moretransitequity.com)

**Thank you very much for signing BTEC's Charter Amendment petition form. Vote in November.**

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

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

William G. Voelp, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Severn Miller  
T. Sky Woodward



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator

Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

**Memorandum**

**TO:** State Board Members

**FROM:** Jared DeMarinis, Director  
Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division

**DATE:** May 27, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Confidentiality Request

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COMAR 33.04.02.02 identifies individuals who may request to have their residence addresses and telephone numbers designated as confidential as provided by regulation. The categories of individuals who may request confidentiality are law enforcement personnel, persons being threatened, victim of or witness to felony and others due to safety or serious invasion of privacy.

Please find attached a list of persons who requested their home address and telephone number be kept confidential on their public candidate information and/or their voter registration records. The Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division reviews all applications, documents submitted and verifies the employment of law enforcement personnel.

The State Board of Elections grants final approval of their request for confidentiality.

Please contact me directly at 410-269-2853 if you have any questions.



State of Maryland  
Confidentiality Request Form

**Instructions:** Please complete this form if you would like your residence address and telephone number to be designated as confidential and protected from public disclosure. Mail the completed form and documents to the local board of elections for the county in which you reside and to the State Board of Elections if your request relates to a Certificate of Candidacy filed with the State Board.

I, Kathryn Celia Davis, (Date of birth: 12/05/1978) request that my residence address and telephone number as contained in my Voter Registration Record, Candidacy Record, and any Campaign Records be designated as confidential and precluded from disclosure under State Government Article, Title 10, Subtitle 6, Part III, Annotated Code of Maryland. I am entitled to confidentiality due to the fact that I am an individual who falls under the category checked below.

Please check the applicable category and include a copy of the requested proof with this completed form.

Law Enforcement Personnel *Subject to proof of employment (for example, letter from your employer), you may be entitled to confidentiality if you are a current or former:*

- Police officer;
- Correctional employee with frequent inmate contact;
- Member of the State or federal judiciary; or
- Prosecutor or an investigator employed by a prosecutor.

Person Being Threatened *Subject to proof of a threat to your personal safety (for example, restraining order, police report, statement from a social service agency, or other documents satisfactory to the local board), you be made be entitled to confidentiality if you are:*

- An abused spouse or other domestic partner;
- A "stalked" individual;
- An individual whose safety has been threatened by an unidentified person; or
- An individual for whom disclosure of your residence address or telephone number is likely to lead to an unwarranted and serious invasion of privacy.

Judge *Subject to appropriate documentation satisfactory to the local board.*

- Judicial

Victim of or Witness to Felony *Subject to appropriate documentation satisfactory to the local board, you may be entitled to confidentiality if you are a victim of or a witness to a felony or a delinquent act that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony.*

My request for confidentiality is based on my running for public office or serving as an officer of a political campaign or both.

The following information is relevant to my request: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that, notwithstanding approval of the request for confidentiality, that the information will be made available to the jury commissioner, to other public officials as required by law, and as otherwise may be required by subpoena or other court order. Further, I waive any right of action against the State, the county, the State Board of Elections, the local board of elections, or their employees for failing to keep the information confidential. I affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the above information and any supporting documentation is true and correct.

Signature: Kathryn C. Davis

Date: 3/31/2021



State of Maryland  
Confidentiality Request Form

**Instructions:** Please complete this form if you would like your residence address and telephone number to be designated as confidential and protected from public disclosure. Mail the completed form and documents to the local board of elections for the county in which you reside and to the State Board of Elections if your request relates to a Certificate of Candidacy filed with the State Board.

I, Patrick David Davis, (Date of birth: 11/19/1979) request that my residence address and telephone number as contained in my Voter Registration Record, Candidacy Record, and any Campaign Records be designated as confidential and precluded from disclosure under State Government Article, Title 10, Subtitle 6, Part III, Annotated Code of Maryland. I am entitled to confidentiality due to the fact that I am an individual who falls under the category checked below.

Please check the applicable category and include a copy of the requested proof with this completed form.

Law Enforcement Personnel

*Subject to proof of employment (for example, letter from your employer), you may be entitled to confidentiality if you are a current or former:*

- Police officer;
- Correctional employee with frequent inmate contact;
- Member of the State or federal judiciary; or
- Prosecutor or an investigator employed by a prosecutor.

Person Being Threatened

*Subject to proof of a threat to your personal safety (for example, restraining order, police report, statement from a social service agency, or other documents satisfactory to the local board), you be made be entitled to confidentiality if you are:*

- An abused spouse or other domestic partner;
- A "stalked" individual;
- An individual whose safety has been threatened by an unidentified person; or
- An individual for whom disclosure of your residence address or telephone number is likely to lead to an unwarranted and serious invasion of privacy.

Judge

*Subject to appropriate documentation satisfactory to the local board.*

- Judicial

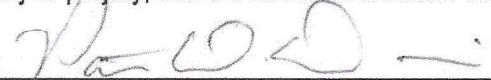
Victim of or Witness to Felony

*Subject to appropriate documentation satisfactory to the local board, you may be entitled to confidentiality if you are a victim of or a witness to a felony or a delinquent act that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony.*

My request for confidentiality is based on my running for public office or serving as an officer of a political campaign or both.

The following information is relevant to my request: My spouse is a federal judge.

I acknowledge that, notwithstanding approval of the request for confidentiality, that the information will be made available to the jury commissioner, to other public officials as required by law, and as otherwise may be required by subpoena or other court order. Further, I waive any right of action against the State, the county, the State Board of Elections, the local board of elections, or their employees for failing to keep the information confidential. I affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the above information and any supporting documentation is true and correct.

Signature: 

Date: 3/31/2021



## Written Testimony to Maryland State Board of Elections

Subject: Accepting Electronic Signatures for Petitions

Board Meeting: May 27, 2021

Submitted Jointly by the Libertarian Party of Maryland and the Green Party of Maryland

Dear Chairman, Members of the Maryland State Board of Elections:

### Introduction

Petitions may be submitted to achieve a number of purposes under Maryland election law, including placing the name of an individual or a question on the ballot, the creation of a new political party, and the appointment of a new charter board under XI-A §1A of the Maryland Constitution. Such petitions can apply either locally or statewide. Note that in this context the petitions being discussed do not apply to municipal petitions. We are focusing our testimony principally on the process of petitioning and petition submission for the purpose of forming a new political party, which often includes reestablishing recognized status when an existing political party fails to meet the requirements for maintaining recognized status and must petition as if a new political party.

During the covid-19 pandemic, emergency powers were exercised by the State of Maryland which dramatically limited social gatherings and this had a consequent impact on the 2020 elections. Like many, if not most other states, Maryland was required to adapt some of its election procedures and processes to accommodate these emergency restrictions, including the petitioning process and the standard by which political parties could be formed. Some of these changes were very popular among voters and we believe it is important for the Maryland State Board of Elections (hereinafter the “State Board”) and the State of Maryland to learn productive lessons from the pandemic to improve outcomes for all of Maryland’s eligible voters.

We will focus on one very minor change, which can nonetheless improve outcomes for Maryland voters and ease slightly the administrative burdens of local boards of elections. On April 22, 2020, the State Board adopted a policy allowing petition signatures to be affixed to petitions electronically, pursuant to its authority Md. Code Ann. Comm. Law §21-117(a). This was necessary to allow registered voters the opportunity to sign a petition placed on a website so that they could give voice to their support for the petition remotely, without the need to violate social distancing requirements. The State Board had (and continues to have) the authority to allow electronic signatures for petitions prior to the pandemic and it is consistent with its authority to: (1) prescribe the form and content of petitions; (2) specify procedures for the verifying and counting of signatures; and (3) provide any other procedural or technical requirements that the State Board considers appropriate through regulations, pursuant to Md. Code Ann. Elections §6-103(a).

We are recommending that the State Board amend its regulations to allow the use of electronic signatures for all future petitions, subject to any necessary procedural safeguards. We will first make our argument why this is the better outcome for Maryland voters, then describe

how electronic signatures were collected, validated and submitted during 2020, to better inform your decision.

### Electronic Signatures on Petitions Improve the Purpose of Petitions

Electronic signatures result in a higher validation rate, which demonstrates that the traditional printed form for petitions that are signed during an interpersonal exchange are not fully representing the will of those Maryland registered voters whose signatures are not counted due to process errors. Electronic signatures better ensure that a Maryland registered voter is having their intention to support the petition recognized by the State Board. The requirement for third parties to petition is a barrier to entry to participation in the electoral process, and a higher validity rate lowers the burden of that barrier to entry. However, the purpose of petitioning is not to maintain a barrier to entry, but to establish that a minimum level of support by Maryland voters exists to support the proposition of the petition. Any procedural system which better achieves that purpose should be encouraged as more reflective of the will of those voters who elect to sign the petition.

There are two relevant signatures on a petition: the signature of the individual Maryland registered voter and the signature of the circulator of the petition, the latter being under affidavit. Each of these signatures is submitted with accompanying information mandated by the statute and the State Board's regulations.

The purpose of any petition is to demonstrate the will of the required number of individual Maryland registered voters who support the proposition that is the subject matter of the petition. For the formation of a political party, it is described on the State Board's petition form as: "We, the undersigned voters of Maryland, support the organization of a political party to be known as \_\_\_\_\_ Party," where the blank is the name of the political party, followed by identifying the name and address of the State Chairman of the party.

To sign the petition as an individual supporting the petition, the person must be a Maryland registered voter. Their signature can represent political support for the party, but it can and often does support merely the proposition that the voter supports that party being organized so that they or other Maryland voters are given another choice in political parties (including their nominated candidates). All Maryland registered voters are therefore given the personal right to sign such a petition and the processes and rules governing the petition process should be designed to facilitate that right, subject to rules necessary to validate the voter's identity and rules governing the process of petitioning, to ensure fairness and accuracy.

A Maryland registered voter may sign their name in any fashion they wish under Maryland law, and quite often individuals' signatures are as much an artistic 'scribble' than a cursive form that discloses the name being signed to an average reader. An electronic signature asks the voter to affix a signature that exactly matches their name in the registration database, which removes any ambiguity as to the validity of the voter when matching the signature with the printed name. The Maryland registered voter has the choice to make such a change to their signature and under the electronic signature system employed in 2020, they were allowed to do so.

In addition to their signature, a Maryland registered voter submits their first, middle and last name, their full Maryland residence address (street number, street name, apt. no., city or town and zip code), their date of birth, and the date that their signature is affixed to the petition. By notice on the petition form adopted by the State Board, the individual voter signing the petition is advised that the information they provide is public information and may be used to change their registration address.

The purpose of the personal information and the signature is to validate the voter by cross-referencing it with the registration database maintained by the State Board. As will be described below, because the information is automatically populated into the appropriate fields when a person is signing the petition electronically, the voter's information is very likely to match exactly the information for which it is being checked during the validation process. When Maryland registered voters fill out that information by printing it and then signing the petition, numerous opportunities for errors arise. The voter can simply be sloppy in thinking about their information, they can write in an illegible fashion as they fill out the form, they can write only a portion of their address, and they often do not want to provide a date of birth (especially as the incidents and public concerns about identity theft have increased and privacy of information is viewed as more important). Electronic signatures eliminate these errors, better reflecting the will of the voter who has chosen to support the proposition by signing the petition.

Because petitions can be posted on a website or other social media, making electronic signatures permanently accepted for petitioning allows those voters who have transportation or other difficulties getting to a location to have improved access to the petition. The State does not facilitate access of all Maryland registered voters to hear about the opportunity to sign the petition, but rather the sponsoring organization and their circulators must go to them. In traditional petitioning, paid or volunteer circulators go to various locations and ask strangers to sign the petition (if they meet the qualifications). Those circulators are therefore reaching a narrow subset of voters who are asked to sign the petition. With electronic signature petitioning, a wider subset of voters can be reached as the address and request to sign the petition can be more broadly shared via social media.

As long as a Maryland registered voter is 18 years of age or older, they can act as a 'self-circulator', whereby they sign the petition form not only in support of the proposition, but as the circulator by signing the circulator affidavit at the bottom of the form. The circulator is also required to provide their name, residence address, and telephone number, as well as their signature and the date of the signature. Under electronic signature systems, all this information can be populated accurately and the signature can be accepted just as any other written signature.

Because the electronic signature forms are printed using computer fonts, the information provided to the State Board in the petitions is very clear to the reader. This should dramatically lessen the burden on local boards of elections when validating the petitions. This should save both time and costs in processing the petitions, though you are in the best position to measure such potential savings.

In the modern age, it is antiquated to require printed and written signatures on a petition. The use of electronic signatures is a technological solution that more and more voters, especially

younger, are comfortable using to express their will in signing the petition. Electronic signatures offer an alternative, but need not completely replace traditional interpersonal outreach while petitioning. Some voters will prefer the traditional approach, others the electronic approach. The Board should facilitate those preferences because in maximizing voter options, the purpose of petitioning (expressing the will of a minimum number of Maryland registered voters), is more accurately demonstrated.

### How the Electronic Signature System Works

In April of 2020, after the State Board of Elections passed Policy 2020-01 a system was developed to collect electronic signatures. This system was used by the Green Party, the Libertarian Party and several other petition campaigns.

This system allows people to use a web or mobile browser to provide the name and address information that exists on their voter record, populates that into a digital version of the paper petition form and then requires them to type their full name both as the signer and the petitioner.

Administrators for each petition have the ability to review each signature, and print them out one by one for submission to the Boards of Election.

The system we have been using has several safeguards in place in order to prevent duplicate petitions, a large amount of signatures coming from one IP address and a series of other anomalies.

The system seeks to make a direct match to the information in the voter file and If there is not a match the submission is rejected and the potential signer is notified that the signature could not be processed.

The process stores email (optional) and phone number (required as element of the petition circulators signature) and keeps those elements secured and separate from any voter registration information. The privacy notice on the site informs users that this information is optional and is only used to follow up regarding their submitted signature.

Configurations can be made to restrict the petitions that are accepted to a Geographic area or an election district. For example, if a candidate were seeking to run as an unaffiliated candidate for Baltimore City Council district 3, the collection system can be configured to check the voter file and only allow signatures from people registered in that council district.

From an administrative perspective this means that every petition submitted to the State Board matches the name and address of a voter in the voter database, that verification previously done by the state and local boards has already happened in order to collect the signature.

Screenshots of this system have been provided to the state board and are available here as an attachment.

Respectfully submitted,

/s

Eric J. Blitz, Chairman, Libertarian Party of Maryland  
Andy Ellis, Secretary, Baltimore City Green Party

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

William G. Voelp, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Severn Miller  
T. Sky Woodward



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

**Memorandum**

**TO:** State Board Members  
**FROM:** Jared DeMarinis, Director  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
**DATE:** May 27, 2021  
**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 seven waiver request, for the month of May. No Board action is required on the denials. Late fees collected year to date for Late Fee Waivers are \$97,321.00.

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

1. Addison, Jackie Citizens to Elect
2. Anne Arundel County Licensed Beverage Association PAC
3. Bartlett, Bobby Friends of
4. Branch, Alexis for Action
5. Future of Baltimore Super PAC
6. Cannon, John Friends of
7. Clay, Regina Friends of
8. Common Sense Talbot PAC
9. Constitutional Conservatives for Maryland PAC
10. Elder, Joyce Citizens for
11. Harrison, Virginia Friends Of
12. Keegan-Ayer, M.C (Mary) Friends of
13. MARYLAND STRONG PAC
14. McCready, Terry Citizens for
15. Montgomery County Green Central Committee
16. Otonna, Collins, Real Change Coalition for
17. Price, Laura for County Council
18. Prince George's Property Owners Association Inc PAC
19. Rzepka, Donna Citizens for
20. Sampson, Otis, for School Board District 1
21. Thomas, Brenda Friends for
22. Williams, Sonya M. Friends of

## Deny

1. Dorchester County Democratic Central Committee
2. Dhillon Jr., Kahan S. Friends of
3. Bet on Maryland's Future Committee
4. Impallaria, Richard Friends Of
5. Jenson, Michael Citizens for
6. Truth in Politics PAC,
7. Vismale, Maria Friends for

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Addison, Jackie Citizens to Elect	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013346	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/16/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/12/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Tanesha Estep	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/16/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Joe Richards	4/28/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/4/21	\$935.00	\$935.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$935.00

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
8/25/20	\$280	Waived	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/20/21	\$2581	\$0	\$202	\$2378
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

We filed the 2022 instead of 2021.

### Division Comments

Confirmed/waiver granted

### Administrator's Decision



Maryland State Board of Elections  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
P O BOX 6486  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-0486

Joe Richards, Chairman  
Citizens to Elect Jackie Addison  
3520 Parklawn Ave  
Baltimore, Maryland 21213

Friday, February 12, 2021

RE: Penalty for Non – Filing 2021 Annual Report

Dear State Board of Elections Members,

Our campaign requests a waiver of this penalty/fee for our 2021 Annual filing error. We contend that absent the date (2022 Annual Report -error) our report was filed timely as required.

Upon taking a closer look at our filed report, we acknowledge the dating error in the filing period. However, the program has an algorithm that prevents the user from imputing any transactional (contribution/expenditures) data that is not found to be within the filing period. In as much, this algorithm should also apply to any data processing activity or forward moving progressions that is not within a prescribed filing period as well. Especially if such data processing activity is a year or more outside the prescribed filing period.

I thank you for your time and upon your receipt of this appeal, our 2022 Annual Filing Report will be amended to show as our 2021 Annual Filing Report.

Joe Richards,  
Chairman

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Anne Arundel County Licensed Beverage Association PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	03007705	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	3/10/82	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/29/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	James Kiriazoglou	<b>Start Date:</b> 3/2/21
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Cliff Phelps	3/10/82
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/2/21	\$350.00	\$350.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$350.00

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

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
7/15/11	\$20	paid	no

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/20/21	\$5775	\$4000	\$7430	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

Report was late because the treasurer passed

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

March 24, 2021

Mr. James DeMarinis, Director  
Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
State Board of Elections  
P.O. Box 6486  
Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2021

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

RE: CCF ID: 03007705

Dear Mr. Demarinis,

On March 2, 2021 your office sent a letter stating that you received and approved our appointment of James Kiriazoglou for treasurer of the Anne Arundel County Licenced beverage Association PAC due to the previous treasurer Walter Rzepkowski passing away on January 14, 2021.

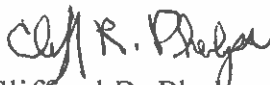
On March 16, 2021 your office mailed a billing for late fees for the filing of the report for CCF ID no. 03007705. The PAC report was due January 20, 2021. Your office received the report on February 2, 2021. The reason for the delay was the death of Water Rzepkowski.

We are requesting that you waive the late fee due to these circumstances.

I have attached a copy of the billing and a copy of your letter of receipt for the transfer of treasurer.

Please advise us on how to proceed.

Sincerely,

  
Clifford R. Phelps  
Chairman

410-255-0151

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Future of Baltimore Super PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	13013460	<b>Status: Inactive</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	02/28/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>		
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	PETER JXANTHAKOS	<b>Start Date: 2/28/20</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	CARLOS ZAMORA	2/28/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
11/17/20		1/20/21	\$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
10/23/20	\$1000	Paid	Yes
8/25/20	\$1000	Paid	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

Per OSP close account.
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### Division Comments

Grant and close account
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### Administrator's Decision

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Bartlett, Bobby Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01011570	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	2/6//17	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/17/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Mariane Bartlett	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/15/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Robert Bartlett	1/15/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/23/21	\$60.00	\$60.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$60.00

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

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/20/18	\$10	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

Sometime in January, a driver, possibly drunk, knocked over the community mailbox that serves my home therefore, daily mail service was disrupted until the mailbox could be repaired, which did not happen for a few weeks, during which time residents had to go to the post office to collect their mail periodically

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision



Victorica Smith -SBE- &lt;victorica.smith@maryland.gov&gt;

---

**Fwd: Late Fees and 2021 Annual Report**

1 message

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**info sbe -SBE-** <info.sbe@maryland.gov>  
To: Victorica Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Wed, Mar 17, 2021 at 8:50 AM

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

From: **Bobby Bartlett** <bobby@bobbybartlett.com>  
Date: Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 3:54 PM  
Subject: Late Fees and 2021 Annual Report  
To: <info.sbe@maryland.gov>  
Cc: Mariane Bartlett <bartlett.mariane@gmail.com>

To whom it may concern,

Hello my name is Robert Bartlett, chair of Friends of Bobby Bartlett, CCF ID 01011570. I am writing regarding late fees that the committee accumulated related to the 2021 Annual Report, which was due on January 20, 2021. Unfortunately I was not aware that we had earned a late fee until well after the fact, so that's why I'm not addressing this until March 16.

Sometime in January, a driver, possibly drunk, knocked over the community mailbox that serves my home (committee treasurer Mariane Bartlett is, of course, my wife so this affected her as well). As a consequence, daily mail service was disrupted until the mailbox could be repaired, which did not happen for a few weeks, during which time residents had to go to the post office to collect their mail periodically. It was under these circumstances that we missed the green postcard that came a few days before the deadline reminding us of the report. When we got the mail on January 23, including the notification, we filed the Annual Report immediately.

I hope that this disruption to mail service leading to a missed deadline notification merits waiving the \$60, 3-day late fee, and I humbly beg your pardon.

Regards,

Robert Bartlett  
Friends of Bobby Bartlett  
240-529-4420

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Branch, Alexis for Action	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013312	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	12/23/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/19/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Paul Branch	<b>Start Date:</b> 12/23/19
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Alexis Branch	12/23/19
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/22/21	\$40.00	\$40.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$40.00

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

I was having tech issues which were not resolved until 1/22/21.

### Division Comments

Grant

### 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: Action for Alexis Branch Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Request: 3/19/2021 Total Amount of late fees: \$ 40.00

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Alexis N. Branch

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): Report Due date: 1/20/2021

The basis for the request: I was having tech issues ~~with~~ B was unable to access my account to submit ~~my~~ my report. I did contact Board of Elections but the matter was not resolved until ~~1/22/2021~~ 1/22/2021 at that point I was able to log in & submit my report. I completed a late fee waiver form on 1/22/2020 & never heard anything back. I was asked to complete another one after questioning the notification of a late fee notice. I do have proof via email of trying to resolve the login & clear ~~my~~ my 3/19/2021

communications (Signature)

the board of elections

(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](http://www.elections.state.md.us)



## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Cannon, John Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01006380	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	7/02/10	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/23/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Allen Ennis	<b>Start Date:</b> 7/2/10
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	John Cannon	7/2/10
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/7/21	\$585.00	\$585.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$585.00

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
1/20/21	\$0	\$00	\$10,094	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

Committee filed 2022 report instead of 2021

### Division Comments

Confirmed/ Granted

### Administrator's Decision

**TO: STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**FROM: ALLEN DAVID ENNIS, TREASURER**  
**CANNON, JOHN FRIENDS OF 01006380**  
**RE: LATE FEE WAIVER**  
**DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2021**

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 26 2021**

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

1. Due to problems with mail service - I received the notification (green post card) a day after the report due date.
2. I called Elections office next morning and was told this notification was also emailed on December 29th. I looked back at my emails for the 29th - and found nothing from sbe, no email notification. (I also check my spam every day)
3. That same day Friday Jan 22nd I filed the report to get in compliance. And, also same day, I emailed your office (see attached) - explaining why I was late and my request for waiver of late fee.
4. I received a letter from Elections date Feb 2, 2021 - stating that I had not filed still getting late fees.
5. When I filed on Jan 22nd - I input all the proper info and selected the correct report (Jan 20th). And, I DID select the same (correct report) when I went to the last screen - File Report.  
I had to go back into transactions - to double check something; apparently when I went into the File section - I didn't click on Jan 13th and - inadvertently filed a 1/12/22 report.
6. So...I finally filed the correct report 1/13 on Feb 11, 2021. (all the transaction input was on the 1/13 report - since I entered this back on January 22nd.

**As a side note:**

As soon as this matter gets addressed, with whatever results are I'm going to resign my position to Candidate, John Cannon. I own and operate a business here in Salisbury, MD - and I work with technology & web based systems every day. Like many candidate Treasurers, this is not my full time job.

It's only my humble opinion - this system design - leaves a lot to be desired, it could be made much easier to use for us "amateurs". He will be better served having someone else (younger and smarter than me) to file this report.

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Clay, Regina Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013537	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	11/18/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/17/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Robin Willis	<b>Start Date:</b> 11/18/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Regina Clay	11/18/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/25/21	\$100.00	\$100.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$100.00

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

I was unable to access your system.

### Division Comments

Grant, 1<sup>st</sup> request no history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision



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

**Fwd: Late fees CCF ID 01013537**

1 message

**ccf sbe -SBE-** <ccf.sbe@maryland.gov>

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

Thu, Mar 18, 2021 at 9:09 AM

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

From: **Rob Willis** <r.awillis13@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Mar 17, 2021 at 11:43 AM

Subject: Late fees CCF ID 01013537

To: <ccf.sbe@maryland.gov>

RE: CCF ID 01013537

I received an email showing the late fee for the 2021 annual report.

The reason the report was because I could not access your system it appeared to be down from Jan. 18-16, 2021. Below is proof of the multi attempts to obtain access to CRIS.

I'm requesting that you consider waiving late due to the problem gaining access to your CRIS system.

Thank you ,  
Robin Albert Willis, Treasurer

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

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

To: Rob Willis <r.awillis13@gmail.com>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Wed, 20 Jan 2021 14:29:04 -0500

Subject: Re: Log In problem

Robin,

Were you able to sign in?

On Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 10:10 AM Rob Willis <r.awillis13@gmail.com> wrote:

The campaign is Friends of Regina Clay

Username: r.awillis13@gmail.com

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Common Sense Talbot PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	03013135	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	10/10/18	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	4/24/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Pac Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Julia Fickes	<b>Start Date:</b> 10/10/18
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	William Cockayne	10/10/18
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/24/21	\$80.00	\$80.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$80.00

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

### Prior Waiver and Fees

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

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I am writing this letter to ask that the late fee penalty of \$80.00 be forgiven since the pre-report notice was not received by me until January 22, 2021, two days after the report was due.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

March 24, 2021

Maryland State Board of Elections

P.O. Box 6486

Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Chuck Callahan for County Council late fee penalty

To Whom It May Concern;

I am writing this letter to ask that the late fee penalty of \$80.00 be forgiven due to the fact that the pre-report notice was not received by me until January 22, 2021, two days after the report was due. I did not receive the notice in my e-mail either, which is unusual. I have included a copy of the notice received with my notation of the date received on the notice.

I am sure you are aware of the difficulty the U.S. Postal Service was experiencing with the timely delivery of mail, particularly during the months of December 2020 and January 2021. The notice is what I have relied on in the past to file on time.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,

Julia L. Fickes

Treasurer

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Constitutional Conservatives for Maryland PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	03008529	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	4/1/11	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/2/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Pac Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Jacqueline Wellfonder	<b>Start Date: 10/7/14</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	N/A	
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		3/01/21	\$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
2019	\$500	waived	N/A
2018	\$500	waived	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

We filed the 2022 instead of 2021

### Division Comments

Confirmed the 2022 was filed 5-days pass January 20 the fee is reduce to \$100.00

### Administrator's Decision

Reduce fee to \$100.00

# 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: Constitutional Conservatives  
OF Maryland Account Number: 03008529

Date of Request: 3-2-21 Total Amount of late fees: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Jackie Wellfonder

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): Annual 2021  
Campaign Finance  
Report

The basis for the request: I filed twice in early 2021  
and assumed I was fine until I got the email  
from Ms. Andrea Moore. Apparently I inadvertently  
filed for 2022 instead of 2021. I apologize  
for the error but since it's clear from  
my attempt that I thought I was filing  
on time, I would greatly appreciate the  
late fee being waived. I appreciate your  
consideration in this matter.

Jackie Wellfonder  
(Signature)

3-2-21  
(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](http://www.elections.state.md.us)



## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Elder, Joyce Citizens for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01010028	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	2/7/14	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/8/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Rena Bataille	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/8/21
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Joyce Elder	2/8/21
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/8/21	\$635.00	\$635.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$635.00

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
1/20/21	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

Covid-19 and late mail deliver.

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request good history of compliance.

### 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: Citizens for Joyce Elder

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Request: 2/1/2021

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Joyce Elder

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Fund Report(s): 2021 Annual

Total Amount of late fees: \$ 635.00

The basis for the request: COVID + late mail delivery (Approx. 3 weeks)

RECEIVED

FEB 08 2021

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Joyce Elder  
(Signature)

2/1/2021  
(Date)

<p><b>Instructions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please print clearly or type.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Please limit your request to this document only.</li> <li>- <i>*Requests may only be made by the committee chairman, treasurer or candidate.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>For Board Use Only</b></p> <p>Date Rcvd: _____ Date Heard: _____</p> <p>Verification: _____</p> <p>Bd. Decision: _____</p>
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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Harrison, Virginia Friends Of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01005166	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	7/03/08	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/8/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Bernard Jones	<b>Start Date:</b> 7/03/08
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Virginia Harrison	10/03/12
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/05/21	\$485.00	\$485.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$485.00

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
5/27/14	\$40	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

We file the 2022 report on the 1/18/21 instead of the 2021.

### Division Comments

Confirmed/ Grant

### 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: Harrison, Virginia Friends      Account Number: 01005166

Date of Request: 2/5/2021      Total Amount of late fees: \$ 20.00\_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Bernard L. Jones, Sr. \_\_\_\_\_

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

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

The basis for the request: In error, I checked the incorrect report No. (1/19/22) and I should've checked 1/20/21 annual report. Thank you for considering my waiver of fees request.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bernard L. Jones Sr.  
(Signature)

8 Feb 2021  
(Date)

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

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Keegan-Ayer, M.C (Mary) Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01009891	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	2/14/14	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/26/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Donald Butt	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/14/14
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Mary Keegan	2/14/14
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/8/21	\$635.00	\$635.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$635.00

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
6/15/18	\$20	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I filed the 2022 instead of 2021.

### Division Comments

Confirmed/ Grant

### 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 M.C. Keegan-Ayer \_\_\_ Account Number: 01009891 \_\_\_

Date of Request: 2/26/21 Total Amount of late fees: \$ 635.00

RECEIVED

MAR 03 2021

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: M.C. Keegan-Ayer

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Requestor is the:     Chairman                       Treasurer                       Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): 2021 Annual

The basis for the request: \_\_\_

I am respectfully requesting that the late fees be waived for the filing of the 2021 Annual Report for this campaign committee.

I filed the affidavit for the campaign on January 19, 2021, as the campaign has neither raised nor spent \$1,000.00 or more during the past year. When filing this report, I simply clicked the "file affidavit" button on the first page, when it took me to the next page, I just clicked on the "file affidavit" button again, not realizing there was a button at the top of the page which had a drop down menu to specify which report was being filed. Apparently, when I did not click on that drop down button, the automatic default in the software filed for the year farthest in the future programmed into the system. Thus, instead of filing the 2021 Annual Report, which I intended to do, the system filed an affidavit for the 2022 Annual Report. Without realizing what had happened, I logged out of the system and went about my business. I checked my email later that night and saw that I had an email from SBE stating that my affidavit filing had been received. I didn't read the email carefully, presuming the system had filed correctly for the next required deadline, (which would have been for the 2021 Annual Report) and not some future year leaving the current deadline blank.

The affidavit was filed with time to spare as it was filed before noon the day before the January 20th deadline. The email I received from the SBE is time stamped 11:45 a.m. January 19, 2021. Had I realized the system had jumped to a future year instead of filing for the current year, I would have corrected the error as there was still plenty of time before the deadline. Since I was only filing an affidavit, there would have been no need for additional time to compile the report. Therefore, I am requesting that the late fee be waived as the report was filed on time, but was attributed to the wrong year. In my opinion, this error was due to a flaw in the software for the filing system, which caused the filing to be credited to a future year as opposed to the year for which it was intended.

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	MARYLAND STRONG PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	13013096	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	8/17/18	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/11/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Pac Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Daniel Digiacomio	<b>Start Date:</b> 8/17/8
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Dustin Freas	8/17/18
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/15/20		1/27/21	\$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
1/15/20	\$0	\$285	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

The committee received no notice of a missed or delinquent report and no notice of such was indicated in the MD CRIS system.

### Division Comments

Grant, 1<sup>st</sup> request no history of issues.

### Administrator's Decision

March 11, 2021

Maryland State Board of Elections  
151 West St, Ste 200  
Annapolis, MD 24101

Dear Maryland State Board of Elections,

I am writing you today to request a consideration for a waiver that has been automatically assessed to the Maryland Strong committee.

The Maryland Strong committee has been in compliance with filing its reports in a timely manner since its inception in August of 2018. Unfortunately, the 2020 Annual report was not filed timely. The committee received no notice of a missed or delinquent report and no notice of such was indicated in the MD CRIS system. The activity subsequently disclosed upon discovery of the missing report at the time the committee was preparing to file its 2021 Annual report was only administrative in nature and did not apply to any election related activity.

I respectfully request that the board will consider waiving this penalty.

Thank you for your consideration.

Melodie Johnson  
Compliance Officer



## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	McCready, Terry Citizens for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013440	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/24/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/19/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	N/A	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/24/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>	Ron Hartman	
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Terry McCready	1/24/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		3/6/21	\$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
11/17/20	\$1000.00	n/a	yes
10/23/20	\$1000.00	n/a	yes
8/25/20	\$1000.00	n/a	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I thought my treasure had closed out my account, he died in June of 2020, and I have been dealing with cancer with my daughter. I am on a fixed income and this would be a hardship.

### Division Comments

Grant, and close account.

### Administrator's Decision

MAR 16 2021

Late Fee Waiver Request Form

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Campaign Account Name: Citizens for Terry McCreedy

Account Number: 01013470 Date of Request: 2/19/21

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Terry J. McCreedy

The Requestor is the: [X] Chairman [ ] Treasurer [ ] Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Fund Report(s): 11/17/2020 - \$1,000.00
01/21/2021 - \$735.00

Total Amount of late fees: \$ 1,735.00

\* The basis for the request: Due to the pandemic, I was unable to campaign for the "Position of Mayor". I did not have any fundraisers and had no accumulating funds towards my campaign. During this time, my daughter was also suffering from her third bout with cancer, requiring a lot of my time. My treasurer was handling all my required filings due to this. He informed me that all appropriate papers had been filed, however never put final on the designated forms. Unfortunately, in June he passed away! I am 77y.o on a fixed income; any relief you may render would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!!

\* Terry McCreedy (Signature)

2/19/21 (Date)

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

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Montgomery County Green Central Committee	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	05008085	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	2/19/04	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/1/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Party CC Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Julia Rice	<b>Start Date: 2/5/18</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Nancy Wallace	6/1/15
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
8/25/20		9/5/20	\$280.00	\$280.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$280.00

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
3/23/12	\$40	paid	N/A
10/28/11	\$20	paid	N/A
9/2/11	\$60	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
8/25/20	\$90	\$143	\$339	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

Our Treasurer's Internet went out the day the report was due 8/25, she got Verizon to fix it which took several days, and in-person visits during COVID-19, and filed the report on 9/5, a

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

## Waiver request

Our Treasurer's Internet went out the day the report was due 8/25, she got Verizon to fix it which took several days, and in-person visits during covid, and filed the report on 9/5, and we do not think we should pay \$280 for an Internet outage that was Verizon's fault. Appropriate paperwork for the waiver request was filed with you also.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wallace

Co-Chair Montgomery County Green Party

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Otonna, Collins, Real Change Coalition for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01011173	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	8/28/15	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/26/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Raynald Joseph	<b>Start Date: 10/19/19</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Collins Otonna	8/28/15
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/25/21	\$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
8/25/20	\$20	paid	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I obviously never did see the filling reminders. Throughout our entire 2020 race for Mayor, Republican we did not raise a dime. There was a COVID-19 lock down

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request.

### Administrator's Decision



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

## Fwd: Late filing penalties, board of election

2 messages

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

Fri, Feb 26, 2021 at 5:41 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Collins Otonna <collins.otonna@gmail.com>  
**Date:** February 26, 2021 at 2:16:54 PM EST  
**To:** Ebony.Parran@maryland.gov  
**Subject:** **Late filing penalties, board of election**

Dear Mr Parran,

I have to thank you for your very cordial and clearly accessible self, how that you are open to looking at an explanation for why our 21st of January filing was several weeks late.

To be truthful I don't clearly know but I remember that in that period I had stepped on my iPhone, shattering the screen and that is my primary source of checking my mail

I obviously never did see the filling reminders.

Throughout our entire 2020 race for Mayor, Republican we did not raise a dime.

There was a COVID-19 lock down

I only showed at one debate and won then the lock was on so for unknowns like us the televised and open debates were everything but that was taken away.

Any way, I feel tempted to close out but there is political gel now and things could form any which way, so my great visions for a Maryland future refuses to vacate.

We must make Maryland great again.

So Ms Parran, I will be ie my committee of real change coalition unable to pay any substantial fines for our filling delay error

Please any help you can give us will be eternally appreciated .

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Price, Laura for County Council	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01006042	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	6/15/10	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	1/31/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Jean Everngam	<b>Start Date:</b> 6/5/10
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Laura Price	6/5/10
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/22/21	\$40.00	\$40.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$40.00

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
1/16/13	\$250	paid	N/A
1/18/12	\$250	paid	N/A
10/22/10	\$210	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I thought I had closed out having to do any more financial reporting or affidavits. I have submitted the paper with FINAL affidavit marked. I went online and did the filing on 1/22/21.

### Division Comments

Grant, this will close out the committee.

### 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:** Laura Price for County Council **Account Number:** 01006042

**Date of Request:** 02/04/2021 **Total Amount of late fees:** \$                     

**Name of the Requestor(s)\*:** Laura E Price

**The Requestor is the:**     **Chairman**                       **Treasurer**                       **Candidate**

**Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s):** 01/19/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**The basis for the request:** \_\_\_\_\_

- I have had my campaign bank account closed for nearly two years. I thought I had closed out having to do any more financial reporting or affidavits. I have submitted the paper with FINAL affidavit marked. I went online and did the filing on 1/22/21, but the account needs to be closed out. I also submitted my treasurers signature on 1/22/21

- I have no outstanding debt or obligation, no funds on hand and own no property or equipment that needs to be disposed of.

- Please waive any fees that accumulated during those 2 days. I have no campaign bank account and zero dollars.

- Thank you,  
Laura E Price  
Chairperson  
410-725-1474

*Laura E Price*

2/4/21

(Signature)

(Date)

<b>For Board Use Only</b>	
Date Rcvd: _____	Date Heard: _____
Verification: _____	
Bd. Decision. _____	

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Prince George's Property Owners Association Inc PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	03008454	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	4/16/10	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	1/27/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	David Dorsch	<b>Start Date: 1/26/18</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Lisa Miller	4/16/10
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/22/21	\$40.00	\$40.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$40.00

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
10/26/18	\$160.00	Waived	yes
1/17/18	\$500	Waived	yes
1/18/12	\$10	paid	no

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

Filed the 2022 report instead of 2021

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2021

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

PGPOA

P.O. Box 1652

College Park, MD 20741

Maryland State Board of Elections

January 22, 2021

P.O. Box 6486

Annapolis, MD 21401

We have received notice of a fine because our required report was not filed on time. A report was filed on the CRIS website as requested on Jan. 14, 2021. I am enclosing a copy of the filed report. We just got a notice from MSBE that the report was improperly filed. I am not sure how that happened as it looked like I entered the proper information the site asked for. I am told the report actually filed was for 2022 and that is the reason we are being fined. At worst this was a typo error on someone's part. We ask the fine be canceled. I am also enclosing a copy of the report filed today since this error was brought to my attention.



David Dorsch

Treasurer, PGPOA

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Rzepka, Donna Citizens for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013532	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	10/19/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	1/22/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Edward Berlett	<b>Start Date:</b> 10/19/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Donna Rzepka	10/19/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/22/21	\$40.00	\$40.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$40.00

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

I submitted the 2022 report instead of the 2021

### Division Comments

Confirmed 2022 report file on 1/19/21, waiver granted.

### 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: CITIZENS FOR DONNA R25P<sup>KA</sup> Account Number: 01013532

Date of Request: 1/22/21 Total Amount of late fees: \$ ?

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: EDWARD BERLETT

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): 1/20/21

The basis for the request: I FILED THE REPORT ON TIME  
BUT IT WAS FOR THE WRONG YEAR.  
AT THE TIME I FILED BOTH YEARS  
APPEARED IN THE DROPDOWN MENU. I  
MUST HAVE INADVERTENTLY CLICKED ON  
THE WRONG YEAR. I HAVE NOW SUBMITTED  
THE AFFIDAVIT FOR THE CORRECT YEAR.

Edward Berlett

(Signature)

1/22/2021

(Date)

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

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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Sampson, Otis, for School Board District 1	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01010565	<b>Status:</b> Inactive
<b>Date Established</b>	2/25/14	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	1/25/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Deborah Sampson	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/25/14
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Otis Sampson	2/25/14
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/22/21	\$40.00	\$40.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$40.00

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
6/13/14	\$60	paid	no

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I did not receive the post card until the 21<sup>st</sup> and had difficulty login to the system.

### Division Comments

Grant

### Administrator's Decision

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2021

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: Sampson, Otis for School Board District 1 Account Number: 01010565

Date of Request: 22 Jan 21 Total Amount of late fees: \$ 40.00

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Otis Sampson

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): Pre Report 2021 Annual Report

The basis for the request: I did not receive the postcard notifying me of the reporting requirement until the 21st and had difficulty logging in to file the report. I was able to log in on the 22nd and file the report.

Otis Sampson  
(Signature)

1/22/21  
(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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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Thomas, Brenda Friends for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01012189	<b>Status: Active</b>
<b>Date Established</b>	1/12/18	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/9/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Sharvonte Tibbs	<b>Start Date: 1/12/18</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Brenda Thomas	1/12/18
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/9/21	\$685.00	\$685.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$ 685.00

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

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/20/18	\$70.00	paid	N/A
4/17/18	\$30.00	paid	N/A

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/20/21	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I thought I had already closed my account. I had removed the email address, closed the bank account, closed mailbox, and thought I had got help on closing out account with the campaign office but must not have complete the transaction as instructed because the account was still open.

### Division Comments

Grant 1<sup>st</sup> request, this will close account.

### 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: Thomas, Brenda Friends for Account Number: 01012189

Date of Request: 2/9/21 Total Amount of late fees: \$ \$685

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Brenda Thomas

The Requestor is the:  Chairman  Treasurer  Candidate

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Finance Report(s): 1/20/21

The basis for the request: I thought I had already closed my account. I had removed the email address, closed the bank account, closed mailbox and thought I had got help on closing of account with the campaign office but must complete the transaction as instructed because the account was still open. Requesting a waiver of fees because of these trying times and COVID-19 and lack of fund which this would cause a great hardship on me.

Brenda Thomas

(Signature)

2/9/21

(Date)

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

Maryland State Board of Elections  
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## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Williams, Sonya M. Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01010881	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	2/24/14	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/24/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Carlos Cofield	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/24/14
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Enor Williams	2/24/14
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		3/14/21	\$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
5/22/18	\$20	paid	yes
1/18/17	\$20	paid	n/a

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/20/21	\$0	\$26	\$289	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

Mr. Cofield the treasurer contract COVID-19 and was unable to complete the filing to meet the deadline.

### Division Comments

Reduced to \$500.00

### Administrator's Decision



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

---

**Re: January 2021 Filing - Friends of Sonya M. Williams**

2 messages

**Jared DeMarinis -SBE- <Jared.DeMarinis@maryland.gov>**

To: "Enor Williams, Jr." <enorwilliams@hotmail.com>

Cc: "carlos.cofield@yahoo.com" <carlos.cofield@yahoo.com>, Victorica Smith <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Wed, Mar 24, 2021 at 9:36 AM

Thank you for the email. I will process the request for waiver of the penalties. Currently, the board has cancelled the March meeting. Your request will be decided at the April meeting.

Jared DeMarinis

Director - Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance

Maryland State Board of Elections

151 West Street, Suite 200

Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

Phone: 410-269-2853

On Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 2:14 PM Enor Williams, Jr. <enorwilliams@hotmail.com> wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. DeMarinis,

My name is Enor Williams, Jr., I am the Chair of the Friends of Sonya M. Williams campaign account. I am writing because our Treasurer, Carlos Cofield, and I finally filed the January 2021 filing this week. We acknowledge the filing is late and is therefore, subject to penalties. However, we wanted to share that we had experienced some extenuating circumstances that prevented us from meeting the original due date.

The primary circumstance is pandemic driven - Mr. Cofield contracted COVID-19. After experiencing symptoms that left him very uncomfortable, he ventured to Patient First where he was tested and ultimately received the positive diagnosis for COVID-19. He received the diagnosis on January 7, 2021, this can be confirmed because Mr. Cofield is listed in the Maryland Department of Health's system of contracted individuals.

Additionally, Mr. Cofield and his family have been caring for his elderly mother. Fortunately, Mr. Cofield has recovered and is feeling much better consequently, he was finally comfortable enough and able to complete the filing this week.

I am writing to seek some leniency on the late penalty fees. Unfortunately, we experienced some circumstances that were beyond our control. Any consideration in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Please advise.

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Bet on Maryland's Future Committee	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	04013161	<b>Status:</b> Inactive
<b>Date Established</b>	1/31/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/16/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Ballot Issue Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Bradley Myers	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/31/19
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Liz Byers	6/23/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
11/17/20		1/8/21	\$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
10/2320	\$1000	Waived	Yes
10/9/208/25/20	\$1000	Waived	Yes
	\$1000	Waived	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

Bet on Maryland's Future Committee (CCF-ID: 04013161) never raised any money or spent any money, but we missed 4 filing deadlines

### Division Comments

Deny committee has a history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision

January 22, 2021

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

RE: Bet on Maryland's Future Committee (CCF-ID: 04013161) – Request For Waiver and Close Account

Dear Mr. DeMarinis,

We are in the process of formally closing the Bet on Maryland's Future Committee (CCF-ID: 04013161) with the State Board of Elections.

Bet on Maryland's Future Committee (CCF-ID: 04013161) never raised any money or spent any money, but we missed 4 filing deadlines: 2020 Pre-General 1 due on 8/25/2020; 2020 Ballot Issue Report due on 10/9/2020; 2020 Pre-General 2 due on 10/23/2020; and 2020 Post General report due on 11/17/2020.

We have taken steps to remedy the missed filing deadlines oversight. Each of the 4 delinquent campaign finance reports were filed via the State's Campaign Reporting Information System website on January 8th, 2021.

Additionally, we have paid the fees associated with the first 3 delinquent reports levied by the State Prosecutor's office. We have been notified by them that our case is closed in their office (see attached). We have also filed the paperwork to formally close the Committee with the State Board of Elections. Attached is the affidavit to close the Committee.

We respectfully ask that you consider our request to waive the fine associated with the 2020 Post General report. We would also like to take any final steps necessary to formally close the Bet on Maryland's Future Committee (CCF-ID: 04013161) account.

Cordially,

Bradley Myers, Treasurer

Elizabeth Byers, Chairperson

Attachments

Cc: Ebony R. Sherbert-Parran, Maryland State Board of Elections  
Cc: Victoria Smith, Maryland State Board of Elections  
Cc: Donna Duncan, Maryland State Board of Elections

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Dorchester County Democratic Central Committee	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	05007535	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/01/01	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/16/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Party CC Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Dormaim Green	<b>Start Date:</b> 7/17/13
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Sarah Gavian	6/8/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/16/21	\$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
8/28/18	\$500	Waived	Yes
6/15/18	\$500	Waived	Yes
5/22/18	\$500	Waived	Yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

Treasurer resigned on just a few days before this report was due. Because we were unsure how to handle the resignation of an elected member. I failed to do the other steps to validate the submission, which is what triggered your Board's notification.

### Division Comments

Deny committee has a history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision



February 16, 2021  
PO Box 1449  
Cambridge, MD 21613

To the State Board of Elections,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your *Fee Running Notice* of February 2, 2021 which informed me, as Chair and Dormaim Green, as Treasurer of the apparent failure of the Dorchester County Democratic Central Committee to submit the 2021 Annual Report due on January 20, 2021. The letter lays out the structure of the fines to be assessed on the Committee until such time as the report is submitted, up to a maximum of \$1000.

By this letter, I request a waiver of those fees.

As I explained to Ms. Ebony Parran on February 16:

1. Ms. Green, as Treasurer, resigned on just a few days before this report was due. Because we were unsure how to handle the resignation of an elected member, I had not yet notified the State Party, nor have we appointed an alternate Treasurer in the MDCRIS system.
2. I personally prepared and uploaded the spreadsheet for our expenses on January 21, and receipt of that file is acknowledged in the system. Having never handled any MDCRIS report previously, I failed to do the other steps to validate the submission, which is what triggered your Board's notification.
3. I only received the Fee Running Notice on two days ago (February 15) because I have moved out of town to avoid the high COVID rates afflicting Dorchester County. I have had all mail forwarded to me, but as is currently characteristic of the post office, it arrives with great delay.
4. I immediately contacted your office on February 16 to learn why my submission was incomplete. Ms Parran walked me through the steps needed to verify submission and submit the report; minutes later I received electronic notification that the submission had been accepted but required signature verification. Having again tried, and failed, to accomplish that, I replied to the [info.sbe@maryland.gov](mailto:info.sbe@maryland.gov) email asking for further instruction.

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Dhillon Jr., Kahan S. Friends of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013374	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/22/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	1/31/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Stephan Hanley	<b>Start Date:</b> 5/20/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Kahan Dhillon	1/22/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
11/17/20		1/5/21	\$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
10/23/20	\$1000		yes
4/28/20	\$60	Waived	

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
11/17/20	\$0	\$660	\$5589	\$0
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

I am writing to request formal waiver of the \$1,000 in late charges my Campaign has been charged. This is due to the fact as we discussed my new Treasurer who joined the Campaign toward the latter part of the Campaign had to correct reports prepared by my previous Treasurer, had get acquainted with the CRIS system which he had never utilized, and the fact he contracted COVID-19 which delayed his ability to deal with the reports in as timely a manner as he planned

### Division Comments

Deny

### Administrator's Decision



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

### Fwd: Late Fee Removal Request

1 message

**Ebony Parran -SBE-** <ebony.parran@maryland.gov>

To: Victoria Smith -SBE- <victorica.smith@maryland.gov>

Sun, Jan 31, 2021 at 6:23 PM

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Kahan S. Dhillon, Jr." <ksdjr@dhillonforbaltimore.com>  
**Date:** January 31, 2021 at 5:03:39 PM EST  
**To:** Ebony Parran@maryland.gov  
**Subject:** Late Fee Removal Request

Ebony,  
It was good finally connecting earlier this week. Pursuant to our conversation as you suggested I am writing to request formal waiver of the \$1,000 in late charges my Campaign has been charged. This is due to the fact as we discussed my new Treasurer who joined the Campaign toward the latter part of the Campaign had to correct reports prepared by my previous Treasurer, had get acquainted with the CRIS system which he had never utilized, and the fact he contracted COVID-19 which delayed his ability to deal with the reports in as timely a manner as he planned. Thx as always for your assistance and consideration of this request.

With Regards,  
**Kahan S. Dhillon, Jr.**  
Mayor of Baltimore City - Candidate



*In Baltimore it is time to stop accepting less. And Expect MORE!*

To donate to our Historic campaign please visit the link below.

Every dollar makes a difference.

[www.DhillonForBaltimore.com/donate](http://www.DhillonForBaltimore.com/donate)



## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Impallaria, Richard Friends Of	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01001935	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	7/1/02	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/25/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Rick Impallaria	<b>Start Date:</b> 10/26/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Rick Impallaria	3/19/14
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		2/12/21	\$835.00	\$835.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$835.00

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
1/15/20	\$100	paid	n/a

### Recent Financial Activity History

Report	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash Balance	Outstanding/ Loans/ Obligations
1/20/21	\$5050	\$0	\$21867	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$

### Reason for Waiver

We filled out the report and was completed on time. Once again, we received a notice as before that the request be e-signed.

### Division Comments

Deny after researching through the vendor the report was never filed.

### Administrator's Decision

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

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2021

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Re: Late Fee Bill – 2021 Annual  
CCF ID: 01001935  
Account: Impallaria, Richard Friends of

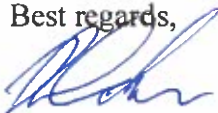
I'm in receipt of a Late Fee Bill dated March 16, 2021 (I have attached a copy).

Let me lay out the facts as to what occurred.

1. Around Jan. 17, 2021, I received back-to-back emails to my State email account from the State Board of Elections requesting I e-sign reports dating back to 2014 each sent separately.
2. I spoke with Jared DeMarinis. He said he would look into it. I also told him that George Holy was in hospice care and my son was now the Treasurer (he is a CPA). Mr. Holy's health had put him in a position that we could no longer communicate with him.
3. On Jan. 19, 2021 I was with my son, now the new Treasurer. We filled out the report and was completed on time. Once again, we received a notice as before that the request be e-signed.
4. The next day I contacted Jared and told him what had happened. He was looking into it and would get back to me.
5. On Feb. 12, 2021 I received an email that my report was not filed. That same day, we re-filed the report without making any changes.
6. I called again and reported what was and had occurred.
7. I then received the March 21 late fee notice. I spoke to a staff person and Jared. It was requested that I write up this account of events. So, I have. I also have emails, phone records that follow this timeline.

I request for these reasons that the fine be waived and that this closes this matter.

Best regards,



Del. Rick Impallaria  
2706 Greene Road  
Baldwin, MD 21013

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Jenson, Michael Citizens for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013262	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	10/17/19	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	3/14/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Darnell Nathaniel	<b>Start Date:</b> 10/17/19
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Mike Jenson	10/17/19
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		1/24/21	\$ 80.00	\$80.00
			\$	\$
				Total: \$ 80.00

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

### Prior Waiver and Fees

Report	Late Fee	Waiver/payment	Referred OSP
11/17/20	\$1000	waived	yes
10/23/20	\$210	paid	yes
8/25/20	\$1000	waived	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

We are no longer running for office the account will be closed

### Division Comments

Deny account has a history of non-compliance.

### Administrator's Decision

Late Fee Waiver Request Form  
Maryland State Board of Elections ù Division of Candidacy and  
P.O. Box 6486 ? Annapolis, MD 21401-0486  
410-269-2880 ? 800-222-8683

Campaign Account Name: Citizens for Michael Jensen

Account Number: CCFID: 01013262 Date of Request: 3/14/21

Name of the Requestor(s)\*: Michael D. Jensen

The Requestor is the: Chairman Treasurer

Waiver of late fees for the following Campaign Fund Report(s):  
Notice to Show Cause

Total Amount of late fees: \$ 4,080.00

The basis for the request: Hello, we are humbly requesting  
for a waiver for the outstanding balance of \$1,080.00.  
The campaign account for Citizens for Michael Jensen  
is no longer being used. The bank account designated for  
this campaign will be depleted and proceeds donated. We  
are no longer running for any political offices and will  
not be running for any offices in the future. We  
humbly request a waiver for this balance and ask that this  
account be closed to prevent any future billing.

  
(Signature)

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.

For Board Use Only  
Date Rcvd: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Heard: \_\_\_\_\_

Verification: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bd. Decision. \_\_\_\_\_

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Truth in Politics PAC	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	13013442	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/3/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/24/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Pac Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	Reginald Palmore	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/3/20
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Robert Dashiell	1/3/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		N/A	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
11/17/20		2/23/21	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
				Total: \$2000.00

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
10/23/20	\$1000	paid	yes
8/25/20	\$1000	paid	yes
5/11/20	\$1000	paid	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I wish to shut down our account and need to know what I need to do to accomplish this. As you can see by the bank statements there has been no activity with the account for months. I the treasurer have had a stroke.

### Division Comments

Deny report has not been filed

### Administrator's Decision



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

**Fwd: Truth in Politics PAC**

1 message

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

Wed, Feb 24, 2021 at 9:35 AM

Vicky,  
Please use this email and the attachments below, as a waiver request.

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

From: **Reggie Palmore** <rpalmore@patuxentaccounting.com>  
Date: Tue, Feb 23, 2021 at 6:03 PM  
Subject: Re: Truth in Politics PAC  
To: Cindy Thomas -OSPMD- <cynthiaf.thomas1@maryland.gov>  
Cc: Ebony Parran -SBE- <ebony.parran@maryland.gov>, Robert Dashiell <robertdashiell@dashiell-lawoffice.com>, <info@truthsuperpac.com>

Ms Thomas,

Per our conversation

I have attached the bank statements for the Truth in Politics PAC, all of them, also proof of the company start up and the shutdown of the entity. Please note the dates. Proof of my stroke and my subsequent mental state.

Also I want to be clear, all of the lateness of filing requirements are my fault. and due to my inability (lack of ability) to file the required forms. None of this is Mr Dashiell's responsibility. I will be completing all of the forms required.

I wish to shut down our account and need to know what I need to do to accomplish this. As you can see by the bank statements there has been no activity. With the account for months.

Thank you in advance for your help in this matter!

Best regards,

Reggie

On Tue, Feb 23, 2021 at 2:33 PM Cindy Thomas -OSPMD- <cynthiaf.thomas1@maryland.gov> wrote:  
Thank you.

## Waiver Request Information Page

### General

<b>Account Name</b>	Vismale, Maria Friends for	
<b>CCF ID:</b>	01013431	<b>Status:</b> Active
<b>Date Established</b>	1/24/20	
<b>Date Waiver Requested</b>	2/26/21	
<b>Account Type</b>	Candidate Account	

### Officers

<b>Current Treasurer</b>	N/A	<b>Start Date:</b>
<b>Responsible Treasurer</b>		
<b>Current Chairman</b>	Maria Vismale	1/24/20
<b>Responsible Chairman</b>		

### Waiver Request Dates

Late Report	Affidavit	Date Received	Fees	Total Fees
1/20/21		N/A	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
11/17/20		N/A	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
				Total: \$2000.00

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
10/23/20	\$20	n/a	yes
8/25/20	\$1000	n/a	yes

### Recent Financial Activity History

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

### Reason for Waiver

I have been sick and unable to handle business during COVID 19

### Division Comments

Deny reports have not been filed.

### Administrator's Decision



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

**Fwd: Urgent Re: 21-0219-FTF Friends for Maria Vismale, Reminder**

1 message

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

Fri, Feb 26, 2021 at 5:42 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Maria Vismale <mvismale@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** February 26, 2021 at 4:09:56 PM EST  
**To:** Cindy Thomas -OSPMD- <cynthiaf.thomas1@maryland.gov>, Ebony.Parran@maryland.gov  
**Subject:** **Urgent Re: 21-0219-FTF Friends for Maria Vismale, Reminder**

Good afternoon:

I am attempting to request a waiver for fees since unfortunately my team and I had trouble filing documents on time especially because I have been extremely sick and unable to handle business during COVID. Please allow me to send a letter to resolve these fees. Note: I did not fundraise during the listed time frames again I was sick and am attempting to avoid any prosecution or penalties associated with my account.  
Maria M. Vismale

On Feb 19, 2021, at 5:05 PM, Cindy Thomas -OSPMD- <cynthiaf.thomas1@maryland.gov> wrote:

Dear Chairperson,

You recently received a letter from this office outlining violations associated with the above referenced campaign finance committee. This is your final reminder that filing of the reports and payment of the fees are due immediately. The table below, from the campaign finance committee website, shows the violations. The reports highlighted in yellow have been referred to this office for enforcement action. The other reports require immediate attention as well.

**Violations**





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Maryland State Board of Elections  
151 West Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

May 4, 2021

To the Honorable Chair and Members:

On behalf of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, I am requesting that you consider allowing, on a permanent basis, the use of electronic signatures for petitions filed with the State Board of Elections under Maryland law. The State Board of Elections has the authority to accept electronic signatures for such petitions pursuant to Md. Ann. Code Comm. Law §21-117(a). This is the same authority upon which the Board based its April 22, 2020 ruling that accepted the use of electronic signatures for petitions on a temporary basis in 2020. The acceptance of electronic signatures on a permanent basis will serve the public interest and the just and efficient administration of the election laws of the State of Maryland.

I ask that the Board consider placing this issue on your agenda at your next regular meeting (May 27, 2021), or at your next earliest convenience. Please note that your temporary extension of the acceptance of electronic signatures under SBE Policy 2021-01 (adopted January 12, 2021) is set to expire by its terms on May 27, 2021.

Once scheduled, I would like to submit a memorandum in support of the proposition, provide oral testimony in support, and answer questions the Board may have with respect to this issue. The Green Party of Maryland will likely join us in wanting to be heard on the matter.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

/s

Eric J. Blitz, Chair  
Libertarian Party of Maryland

Libertarian Party of Maryland  
P.O. Box 176, Abingdon, Maryland 21009-0176  
1-800-MLP-1776  
By Authority: Robert S. Johnston, III, Treasurer

**Title 33 STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**Subtitle 05 VOTER REGISTRATION**  
**Chapter 01 Definitions; General Provisions**

Authority: Election Law Article, 2-102(b)(4) and 3-202.1, Annotated Code of Maryland

**.02 Definitions.**

A. (text unchanged)

B. Terms Defined.

(1) "Absent uniformed services voter" has the meaning stated in 42 U.S.C. §1973ff-6.

(2) *"Common Access Card" has the meaning stated in Election Law Article, §3-202.1, Annotated Code of Maryland.*

[(2)] (3) – [(4)] (5) (text unchanged)

(6) *"Federal Post Card Application" has the meaning stated in Election Law Article, §3-202.1.*

[(5)] (7) – [(14)] (16) (text unchanged)

**Title 33 STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**Subtitle 05 VOTER REGISTRATION**  
**Chapter 04 Processing VRAs and Other Requests**

Authority: Election Law Article, §§2-102(b)(4) and 3-202.1, Annotated Code of Maryland

**.04 Required Information.**

A. (text unchanged)

B. Signatures.

(1) – (2) (text unchanged)

(3) [At the direction of the State Administrator, digitized] *Digitized* signatures from the MVA shall be accepted.

(4) (text unchanged)

(5) *For the electronic submission of the Federal Post Card Application to update an existing registration, a signature may be applied using a Common Access Card.*

C. – D. (text unchanged)

**Title 33 STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**Subtitle 11 ABSENTEE BALLOTS**  
**Chapter 01 Definitions; General Provisions**

Authority: Election Law Article, §§2-102(b)(4), 3-202.1, and 9-303, Annotated Code of Maryland

**.01 Definitions.**

A. (text unchanged)

B. Terms Defined.

(1) – (3) (text unchanged)

(4) *“Common Access Card” has the meaning stated in Election Law Article, §3-202.1, Annotated Code of Maryland.*

[(4)] (5) (text unchanged)

(6) *“Federal Post Card Application” has the meaning stated in Election Law Article, §3-202.1.*

[(5)] (7) – [(8)] (10) (text unchanged)

**Title 33 STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**Subtitle 11 ABSENTEE BALLOTS**  
**Chapter 02 Applications**

Authority: Election Law Article, §§2-102(b)(4) and 3-202.1, Annotated Code of Maryland

**.05 Processing Applications — In General.**

A. (text unchanged)

B. Review.

(1) The election director shall:

(a) Review each application for an absentee ballot;

(b) *Accept any Federal Post Card Application by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter that is signed using a Common Access Card;*

[(b)] (c) If the election director determines that the voter resides in another county, [the election director shall] send by electronic transmission the application to the appropriate local board; and

[(c)] (d) (text unchanged)

(2) (text unchanged)

C. – D. (text unchanged)

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

William G. Voelp, Chairman  
Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman  
Malcolm L. Funn  
Severn Miller  
T. Sky Woodward



Linda H. Lamone  
Administrator  
  
Nikki Charlson  
Deputy Administrator

## Memorandum

**To:** Members of the State Board of Elections  
**From:** Nikki Charlson  
**Date:** May 13, 2021  
**Re:** Proposed Regulations for May 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting

At the May 27 meeting, I will present proposed changes to existing regulations to implement [Senate Bill 283](#) and [House Bill 156](#) of the 2021 Legislative Session (“Student and Military Voter Empowerment Act”). This memo summarizes the requirements of the new law and the proposed changes, and the text of the proposed changes accompany this memo.

This new law requires that election officials accept on certain Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA)<sup>1</sup> an electronic signature applied by a Common Access Card<sup>2</sup>. Under this new law, an electronically submitted FPCA with changes to an existing registration or a request from a registered voter for a mail-in ballot can be signed using a Common Access Card. An electronically submitted FPCA from an unregistered individual cannot be signed using a Common Access Card.

The proposed changes related to this implementation are:

1. 33.05.01.02 (Voter Registration) and 33.11.01.01 (Absentee Ballots): Adding definitions for “Common Access Card” and “Federal Post Card Application” and referencing the definitions in Election Law Article, §3-202.1. Adding these definitions requires the renumbering of subsequently defined terms.
2. 33.05.04.04 (Voter Registration): The proposed change to §B(3) reflects current practice. Online voter registration and other electronic transactions require digitized signatures from MVA. The proposed change to §B(5) incorporates the new requirement that a Common Access Card signature can be used to update an existing registration.
3. 33.11.02.05 (Absentee Ballots): The proposed changes incorporate the new requirement that a signature applied by a Common Access Card can be used to request a ballot (proposed §B(1)(b)) and correct a drafting error (proposed §B(1)(c)).

If you have any questions before the meeting, please do not hesitate to ask. Otherwise, I’m happy to answer your questions at the meeting.

<sup>1</sup> The [Federal Post Card Application](#) is a form for military and overseas voters to register to vote, update an existing voter registration, and/or request an absentee ballot. The form is produced and distributed by the U.S. Department of Defense’s [Federal Voting Assistance Program](#).

<sup>2</sup> A Common Access Card is the identification card issued by the U.S. Department of Defense to active-duty military personnel, eligible reserve personnel, Department of Defense civilian employees, and eligible Department of Defense contractor personnel.