



STATE OF MAINE  
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS  
AND ELECTION PRACTICES  
135 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0135

To: Commissioners  
From: Erin Gordon, Candidate Registrar  
Date: June 12, 2026  
Re: Request for Waiver of Late Filing Penalty by Candidate Douglas Thomas

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Douglas Thomas is an experienced candidate running for House. He is financing his campaign through the Maine Clean Election Act program. Mr. Thomas was required to file the 11-Day Pre-Primary Report by 11:59 p.m. on May 29, 2026. The report was filed on June 1, three days late. The preliminary penalty for the late report is \$40.50, and Mr. Thomas is requesting a full waiver of the penalty.

### LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for Legislature are required to file the 11-Day Pre-Primary Report no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 11<sup>th</sup> day before the date on which an election is held and must be complete for the filing period as of the 14<sup>th</sup> day before that date. 21-A M.R.S. § 1017(3-A)(C). One condition of participating in the Maine Clean Election Act is that candidates may not file their own campaign finance reports, which includes making a certification that the report is complete and accurate. Candidates may enter financial transactions in the Commission's eFiling system, but the report must be filed by the treasurer or deputy treasurer. 21-A M.R.S. § 1125(12-D). Although misuse of Maine Clean Election Act funds is rare, the rationale for this policy is to have a person other than the candidate lay eyes on the report and certify its accuracy.

When a candidate files a late campaign finance report, the amount of the preliminary penalty is set by a statutory formula which takes into consideration a percentage of the total contributions or expenditures, whichever is greater, the number of prior violations within a two-year period, and the number of days the report is late. 21-A M.R.S. § 1020-A(4-A). The candidate may request a waiver of the preliminary penalty due to mitigating circumstances under § 1020-A(2)&(6).

## DISCUSSION

On May 22, Candidate Registrar Erin Gordon sent an email reminder to all candidates assigned the 11-Day Pre-Primary Report one week before the May 29 filing deadline. Ms. Gordon sent another email early in the afternoon of May 29 to any candidates who had not yet filed the report, advising them that if they were receiving the email, the report still needed to be filed. This email contained a reminder that the treasurer, not the candidate, must file reports for MCEA candidates. Mr. Thomas and his treasurer, Linda Thomas, received both emails.

Based on the statutory formula for late-filing penalties, the preliminary penalty amount is \$40.50, calculated as follows:

| Report                    | Deadline   | Financial Activity | Penalty Rate | Days Late | Preliminary Penalty |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|---------------------|
| 11-Day Pre-Primary Report | 05/29/2026 | \$675.00           | 2%           | 3         | \$40.50             |

In his waiver request, Mr. Thomas states that he and Linda sat down to complete the report on the evening of May 29 but were unable to submit the filing; they were logged in with Mr. Thomas' credentials, not Mrs. Thomas's, and were unaware of the requirement that the report be filed by the treasurer. On the morning of Monday, June 1, they contacted Ms. Gordon for assistance and Mrs. Thomas filed the report.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Timely campaign finance reports are an integral part of campaign finance transparency and disclosure. The Legislature deems timely filing to be of the utmost importance, as the statute requires late-filing penalties to increase by each day past the due date the report is filed. All campaigns are expected to pay attention to and meet all reporting deadlines, especially when multiple reminders are sent for each due date. Even when candidates have missed deadlines acting in good faith, the Commission has assessed penalties to reinforce the importance of filing campaign finance reports on time.

A chart of candidate penalties since 2018 is attached. In recent election years, the Commission generally has reduced late-filing penalties against candidates to a range of \$300 - \$350. The most recent examples, from the 2024 election cycle, are:

- from \$1,117.21 to \$300 – late 42-Day Post-General Report by Holly Rae Eaton
- from \$1,938.64 to 300 – late 24-Hour Report by Laura Supica
- from \$1,851.80 to 300 – late 24-Hour Report by Reda Edelman

The Commission has generally declined to waive preliminary penalties that were already below \$300, most recently:

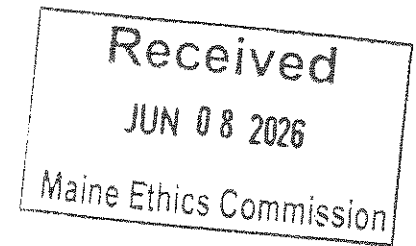
- \$184.43 – late 11-Day Pre-Primary Report by Kevin Freeman
- \$43.98 – late 24-Hour Report by Scott Cyrway
- \$64.90 – late 42-Day Pre-General Report by Flavia DeBrito

Because Mr. Thomas' preliminary penalty of \$40.50 is already below the usual range of penalties when a candidate files a campaign finance report late, the Commission staff does not recommend a waiver of the penalty or violation.

June 3, 2026

**State of Maine**

Commission on Governmental Ethic  
And Election Practices  
135 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0135



Douglas Thomas  
306 Stream Road  
Ripley, ME 04930

Dear Commissioners,

I'm running for the District 72 seat in the Maine House. Last Friday Midnight was the deadline to file my 11-Day Pre-Primary Report. My wife Linda is my Treasurer. We have one desktop Computer in our house all the required reports we have to file are always much easier a on a Desk top verses trying to do it on a cell phone. I've been make sure my Treasurer filed all my reports correctly and on time for 8 previous Legislative races. Linda and I filed the last report on the desk top without a problem.

We weren't concerned about this report, and sat down after supper to fill it out. Everything was fine and we filled in all the transactions and attempted to file the report. There was no button to file we were signed into the site with my password and didn't realize we needed to be signed in from Linda's password to file the report. The draft report was posted Friday evening.

Monday morning first thing we got on the phone and straightened everything out. It took us a while, but the report was filed shortly Monday morning thanks to Erin Gordon's help. \$40 isn't a lot of money, but after so many years of complying with all the rules I don't want this black mark on my record. So, I'm asking you to find that we did our best and there was no violation.

Thank you,

  
Douglas Thomas

Linda Thomas



P.S. As you can see we aren't computer experts.

# Filing Details

[Go to Filer Profile](#)

[Close](#)

View filing information and itemized transactions

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| ID             | d_01kstyc0zqfe891nwmn4racd1s |
| Report Type    | Mcea Campaign Finance        |
| Report Status  | Filed                        |
| Version        | 0                            |
| Created At     | May 29, 2026 18:41           |
| Submitted By   | Linda Thomas                 |
| Date Submitted | June 01, 2026 10:39          |

## Filing Information

|                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Report Name       | 11 Day Pre Primary Mcea Report |
| Reporting Period  | April 08, 2026 - May 26, 2026  |
| Report Due Date   | May 29, 2026 23:59             |
| Filer             | Douglas A. Thomas              |
| Version of Report | Original                       |

## Filer Information

|       |                   |
|-------|-------------------|
| Name  | Douglas A. Thomas |
| Email | firewood@tds.net  |

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| Phone Number | (207) 270-1020 |
|--------------|----------------|

## Treasurer Information

|       |                                                                        |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name  | Linda Thomas                                                           |
| Email | <a href="mailto:linda10242651m@gmail.com">linda10242651m@gmail.com</a> |

## Filing Summary

|                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| Balance at the Beginning of the Period | \$0.00   |
| Total MCEA Payments                    | \$675.00 |
| Total Bank Interest                    | \$0.00   |
| Total Expenditures                     | \$348.35 |
| Return of MCEA Funds                   | \$0.00   |
| Balance at the End of the Period       | \$326.65 |
| Debt Balance                           | \$0.00   |

## Itemized Monetary Contributions

**No itemized monetary contributions reported**

## Returned Monetary Contributions

**No returned monetary contributions reported**

**Itemized In-Kind Contributions**

**No itemized in-kind contributions reported**

**Returned In-Kind Contributions**

**No returned in-kind contributions reported**

**Bank Interest**

**No bank interest reported**

**Returned Bank Interest**

**No returned bank interest reported**

**Previous Campaign Transfers**

## No previous campaign transfers reported

## Returned Previous Campaign Transfers

## No returned previous campaign transfers reported

## Expenditures

| Transaction Type            | Date                         | Amount                           |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Expenditure</a> | May 12, 2026                 | \$346.35                         |
| Payee Type                  | Name                         | Address                          |
| Business                    | Dexter Print Shop and Design | 54 Main Street, Dexter, ME 04930 |

| Transaction Type            | Date                                 | Amount                       |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Expenditure</a> | May 01, 2026                         | \$2.00                       |
| Payee Type                  | Name                                 | Address                      |
| Financial Institution       | Maine Highlands Federal Credit Union | PO Box 233, Dexter, ME 04930 |

## Returned Expenditures

**No returned expenditures reported**

## MCEA Payments

| Transaction Type             | Date           | Amount   |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| <a href="#">Mcea Payment</a> | April 08, 2026 | \$675.00 |
| Contact Type                 | Name           | Address  |
| Individual                   | —              | —        |

## Returned MCEA Funds

**No returned MCEA funds reported**

## Debts

**No debts reported**

## Debt Payments

**No debt payments reported**

**Loans**

**No loans reported**

**Loan Forgivenesses**

**No loan forgivenesses reported**

**Loan Payments**

**No loan payments reported**

**Open Debts**

**No debts reported**

**Open Loans**

**No loans reported**

## Certification

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Certification Acknowledged | Yes |
|----------------------------|-----|

|                         |                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Certification Statement | I, Linda Thomas, certify that the information contained in this report is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Certified By | Linda Thomas |
|--------------|--------------|

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Certified By Email | linda10242651m@gmail.com |
|--------------------|--------------------------|

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Certification Date | June 01, 2026 10:39 |
|--------------------|---------------------|



STATE OF MAINE  
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS  
AND ELECTION PRACTICES  
135 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0135

June 1, 2026

Douglas Thomas  
306 Stream Road  
Ripley, Maine 04930

**Re: Notice of Violation and Penalty for Late-Filed 11-Day Pre-Primary Report**

Dear Mr. Thomas:

You were required to file the 11-Day Pre-Primary Report on May 29, 2026 by 11:59 p.m. (21-A M.R.S. § 1017 (3-A)(B)), but the report was not filed until June 1, 2026. Under the Commission's statutes, the late filing of a report triggers an enforcement process (21-A M.R.S. § 1020-A(4-A)). The Commission staff has made a preliminary finding of violation and determined the preliminary penalty for filing the report late is **\$40.50**. Please see the next page for the penalty calculation.

You may request the Commission waive the penalty in whole or in part or find there was no violation. *The request must be made within 14 calendar days of your receipt of this notice.* The request must be in writing and contain a full explanation of the reasons the report was filed late. Upon receiving your request, the Commission staff will schedule your request to be heard at an upcoming Commission meeting. You or your designee will have an opportunity to be heard at the meeting or you may submit a sworn statement to the Commission explaining the mitigating circumstances for its consideration.

The Commission may waive or reduce the penalty or find there was no violation if it determines the report was late due to mitigating circumstances, which are defined as (1) a valid emergency; (2) an error made by the Commission staff; or (3) relevant evidence that a bona fide effort was made to file the report on time. (21-A M.R.S. § 1020-A(2)) The Commission may also consider whether the penalty is disproportionate to the size of the candidate's campaign, the level of experience of the candidate, treasurer or campaign staff, or the harm to the public caused by the late disclosure.

The staff requests you pay the preliminary penalty within 14 days of the date of your receipt of this notice if you do not intend to request a waiver. Please use the payment statement on the next page when paying by mail. You may also make a payment online at [www.maine.gov/ethics](http://www.maine.gov/ethics) by clicking the "Penalty Payment" link. Please contact me at (207) 287-3651 or [erin.gordon@maine.gov](mailto:erin.gordon@maine.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Erin Gordon  
Candidate Registrar

## Penalty Calculation

The penalty for filing a campaign finance report late is based on a percentage of the total contributions or expenditures for the reporting period, whichever is greater, multiplied by the number of days late. The percentage is based on your history of past violations: 2% for the first violation, 4% for the second violation, and 6% for the third and each subsequent violation. Violations for late-filed reports accumulate in the two-year period beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each even-numbered year. A penalty accrues daily beginning on the day following the filing due date. Any penalty of less than \$25 is automatically waived.

### How Your Penalty Was Calculated

|                                                     |            |                            |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------|
| <b>Filer:</b> Douglas Thomas                        |            |                            |          |
| <b>Late-Filed Report:</b> 11-Day Pre-Primary Report |            |                            |          |
| <b>Contributions</b>                                | \$675.00   | <b>Penalty Base Amount</b> | \$675.00 |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                                 | \$348.35   | <b>Percentage</b>          | 2%       |
| <b>Due Date</b>                                     | 05/29/2026 | <b>Daily Accrual Rate</b>  | \$13.50  |
| <b>Date Filed</b>                                   | 06/01/2026 | <b>Days Late</b>           | 3        |
| <b>Previous Violations</b>                          | 0          | <b>Your Total Penalty</b>  | \$40.50  |

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### Payment Statement and Payment Options

**From:** Douglas Thomas

**Penalty Amount:** \$40.50

**Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check/M.O. #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BY MAIL:** Enclose this payment statement with your payment.

**Please make check or money order payable to:** Treasurer, State of Maine

**Mail to:** Maine Ethics Commission  
135 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0135

**ONLINE:** Go to [www.maine.gov/online/ethics/penalties](http://www.maine.gov/online/ethics/penalties).

## Gordon, Erin

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**From:** Gordon, Erin  
**Sent:** Friday, May 22, 2026 10:25 AM  
**Subject:** REMINDER: 11-Day Pre-Primary Report Due Next Friday

Good morning, Candidates and Treasurers:

The 11-Day Pre-Primary Report is due **next Friday, May 29, 2026, by 11:59 p.m.** This report covers your campaign activity through May 26. The report is filed online at our new eFiling site, [www.mainecampaignfinancedisclosure.com](http://www.mainecampaignfinancedisclosure.com).

HOW TO ENTER TRANSACTIONS: <https://maine-disclosure-system.refined.site/space/MESUPPORT/2563670019/Add+a+transaction>

HOW TO FILE: <https://maine-disclosure-system.refined.site/space/MESUPPORT/2564521988/File+a+campaign+finance+report>

- Please note that the report is not completely filed until you check the box affirming its accuracy and click **Submit**.

*If you have not logged into the new site yet*, let me know as soon as possible so that we can get you set up.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you,

*Erin Gordon*

*Candidate Registrar*

Maine Ethics Commission

(207) 287-3651 | [www.maine.gov/ethics](http://www.maine.gov/ethics)

135 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0135

45 Memorial Circle, Augusta, ME

## Gordon, Erin

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**From:** Gordon, Erin  
**Sent:** Friday, May 29, 2026 2:03 PM  
**Subject:** REPORT DUE TODAY: 11-Day Pre-Primary Report

Good afternoon, candidates and treasurers,

You are receiving this email because your campaign has been assigned the 11-Day Pre-Primary Report, due today by 11:59 p.m., and **you are required to file it.**

Log into [www.mainecampaignfinancedisclosure.com](http://www.mainecampaignfinancedisclosure.com) to access the campaign and file the report. If you are unable to log in, please contact me *as soon as possible*; I am available until 5:00 today to assist.

**Note to MCEA candidates:** your treasurer must file your report on your behalf.

The following user guides may be helpful as you navigate the site:

HOW TO ENTER TRANSACTIONS: <https://maine-disclosure-system.refined.site/space/MESUPPORT/2563670019/Add+a+transaction>

HOW TO FILE: <https://maine-disclosure-system.refined.site/space/MESUPPORT/2564521988/File+a+campaign+finance+report>

- Please note that the report is not completely filed until you check the box affirming its accuracy and click **Submit**.

Do not hesitate to reach out with questions. Thank you,

*Erin Gordon*

*Candidate Registrar*

Maine Ethics Commission

(207) 287-3651 | [www.maine.gov/ethics](http://www.maine.gov/ethics)

135 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0135

45 Memorial Circle, Augusta, ME

**Commission Penalty Decisions - Candidates  
(2018 - present)**

| Candidate                                | Late Report/Other Violation                                       | Preliminary Penalty | Final Penalty | Commission Meeting Date |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Legislative and County candidates</b> |                                                                   |                     |               |                         |
| James Boyle                              | Late January Semiannual Report                                    | \$1,000.00          | \$500.00      | 03/28/18                |
| Diane Russell                            | Substantially Non-Compliant January Semiannual                    |                     | \$100.00      | 05/30/18                |
| Diane Russell                            | Substantially Non-Compliant 42-Day Pre-Primary                    |                     | \$200.00      | 05/30/18                |
| Ian Schwartz                             | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$384.37            | \$300.00      | 08/29/18                |
| Danny Costain                            | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$2,991.36          | \$300.00      | 08/29/18                |
| Jeffrey Slocum                           | Late July Semiannual                                              | \$112.00            | \$112.00      | 08/29/18                |
| Mark Lawrence                            | 11-Day Pre-Primary (not compliant)                                | \$1,739.73          | \$400.00      | 09/26/18                |
| John Tuttle, Jr.                         | Late 42-Day Post Primary                                          | \$432.00            | \$250.00      | 09/26/18                |
| Dana Dow                                 | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$115.93            | \$115.93      | 11/28/18                |
| Jan Collins                              | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$2,565.38          | \$300.00      | 12/19/18                |
| Cynthia Soma-Hernandez                   | Commingling of funds                                              |                     | \$100.00      | 12/19/18                |
|                                          |                                                                   |                     |               |                         |
| John Clark                               | MCEA Violation-Contributions after Certification                  |                     | \$250.00      | 03/06/19                |
| Cathleen Nichols                         | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$3,744.00          | \$400.00      | 03/06/19                |
| James LaBrecque                          | Late 42-Day Post General                                          | \$235.03            | \$235.03      | 03/06/19                |
| Mark Remick                              | Late 24-Hour Report (2)                                           | \$2,011.85          | \$400.00      | 03/06/19                |
| Stephen Ball                             | Commingling of funds waived since he returned \$115 of MCEA funds |                     | \$100.00      | 06/04/19                |
| Philip Spiller ( <i>Municipal</i> )      | Late 24-Hour Report (3)                                           | \$2,395.28          | \$900.00      | 12/18/19                |
|                                          |                                                                   |                     |               |                         |
| Edward Cohen                             | Failure to Register                                               |                     | \$100.00      | 05/27/20                |
| Mark Lawrence                            | Late 42-Day Post Primary                                          | \$529.50            | \$350.00      | 10/16/20                |
| Brian Redmond                            | Late 42-Day Post Primary                                          | \$84.00             | \$84.00       | 10/16/20                |
| Mark Andre                               | Late 42-Day Post Primary                                          | \$132.00            | \$132.00      | 10/16/20                |
| Jeffrey Pierce                           | Late 42-Day Pre-General                                           | \$40.37             | \$40.37       | 10/30/20                |
| Steve Collins                            | No Disclaimer on Signs                                            |                     | \$200.00      | 12/18/20                |
|                                          |                                                                   |                     |               |                         |
| Troy Jackson                             | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$50.00             | \$50.00       | 01/27/21                |
| Scott Gaiason                            | Late 11-Day Pre-General Report                                    | \$109.54            | \$109.54      | 01/27/21                |
| William Guerrette                        | No Disclaimer on Signs                                            |                     | \$0.00        | 03/08/21                |
| Robyn Stanicki                           | Late July Semiannual Report                                       | \$637.50            | \$250.00      | 10/29/21                |
|                                          |                                                                   |                     |               |                         |
| Howard Patten                            | Failure to Register                                               |                     | \$100.00      | 04/27/22                |
| Timothy Keenan                           | Failure to Register                                               |                     | \$100.00      | 04/27/22                |
| John V. Chambers                         | Late 42-Day Post Primary                                          | \$34.90             | \$34.90       | 09/28/22                |
| Benjamin J. Meiklejohn                   | Late 42-Day Post Primary                                          | \$18.03             | \$18.03       | 09/28/22                |
| Nancy Piche                              | Failure to File SOSOI                                             |                     | \$100.00      | 09/28/22                |
| Timothy Keenan                           | Failure to File SOSOI                                             |                     | \$100.00      | 09/28/22                |
| Daniel Merrill                           | Failure to File SOSOI                                             |                     | \$100.00      | 09/28/22                |
| Susan Bernard                            | No Disclaimer on mailing                                          |                     | \$75.00       | 10/26/22                |
| Danielle Fienberg                        | Late 11-Day Pre-General Report                                    | \$368.12            | \$300.00      | 11/30/22                |
| Stephen Hanrahan                         | Late 24-Hour Report                                               | \$423.54            | \$300.00      | 11/30/22                |
| David Thurston                           | Late 11-Day Pre-General Report                                    | \$139.82            | \$100.00      | 11/30/22                |
| Scott Gaisaon                            | Substantially Non-Compliant 11-Day Pre-General Report             | \$135.43            | \$135.43      | 11/30/22                |

|                                |                                                |            |            |          |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Matthea Daughtry               | Late 11-Day Pre-General Report                 | \$658.21   | \$150.00   | 12/21/22 |
| Robert McCarthy                | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$308.09   | \$300.00   | 12/21/22 |
|                                |                                                |            |            |          |
| Ronald Russell                 | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$1,573.52 | \$350.00   | 01/30/23 |
| Reagan Paul                    | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$1,945.30 | \$350.00   | 01/30/23 |
| Neil MacLean, Jr.              | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$3,680.00 | \$350.00   | 01/30/23 |
| Sharri MacDonald               | Substantially Non-Compliant Pre-General Report | \$962.47   | \$150.00   | 01/30/23 |
| Sharri MacDonald               | Substantially Non-Compliant Pre-General Report | \$293.40   | \$50.00    | 01/30/23 |
| Frank Roma                     | MCEA Overspending                              |            | \$200.00   | 01/30/23 |
|                                |                                                |            |            |          |
| Joseph Galletta                | Late registration                              | \$100.00   | \$100.00   | 05/29/24 |
| John DeVeau                    | 2 Late Semiannual Reports                      |            | \$200.00   | 09/25/24 |
| Richard Cyr                    | Late 42-Day Pre-General Report                 | \$498.50   | \$300.00   | 10/30/24 |
| Flavia DeBrito                 | Late 42-Day Pre-General Report                 | \$64.90    | \$64.90    | 10/30/24 |
| Scott Cyrway                   | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$43.98    | \$43.98    | 12/18/24 |
| Leo Kenney                     | Late 11-Day Pre-Primary                        | \$835.37   | \$300.00   | 12/18/24 |
| Kevin Freeman                  | Late 11-Day Pre-Primary                        | \$184.43   | \$184.43   | 12/18/24 |
|                                |                                                |            |            |          |
| Rogert Albert                  | 2 Late 24-Hour Reports                         | \$2,482.60 | \$400.00   | 01/29/25 |
| Steven Bishop                  | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$2,707.62 | \$300.00   | 01/29/25 |
| Walter Runte                   | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$1,275.55 | \$300.00   | 01/29/25 |
| Joseph Rafferty, Jr.           | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$5,000.00 | \$300.00   | 01/29/25 |
| Joe Boyd                       | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$2,262.62 | \$300.00   | 01/29/25 |
| Reda Edelman                   | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$1,851.80 | \$300.00   | 01/29/25 |
| Laura Supica                   | Late 24-Hour Report                            | \$1,938.64 | \$300.00   | 02/26/25 |
| Holly Rae Eaton                | Late 42-Day Post-General Report                | \$1,117.21 | \$300.00   | 02/26/25 |
| John DeVeau                    | Late Semiannual Report                         | \$500.00   | \$500.00   | 04/30/25 |
| David McCrea                   | Accepting an unreported In-Kind Contribution   | \$0.00     | \$0.00     | 09/24/25 |
| Roland Danny Martin            | Accepting an unreported In-Kind Contribution   | \$0.00     | \$0.00     | 09/24/25 |
| Vance Mclaughlin               | Accepting an unreported In-Kind Contribution   | \$0.00     | \$0.00     | 09/24/25 |
| Melanie Tompkins               | Accepting an unreported In-Kind Contribution   | \$0.00     | \$0.00     | 09/24/25 |
| Kevin Freeman                  | Accepting an unreported In-Kind Contribution   | \$0.00     | \$0.00     | 09/24/25 |
| Matthew Rush                   | Accepting an unreported In-Kind Contribution   | \$0.00     | \$0.00     | 09/24/25 |
|                                |                                                |            |            |          |
| Frank Mawson Blauvelt, Jr.     | Late registration                              |            | \$100.00   | 06/01/26 |
| Frank Mawson Blauvelt, Jr.     | Late Semiannual Report                         | \$1,000.00 | \$300.00   | 06/01/26 |
| <b>Candidates for Governor</b> |                                                |            |            |          |
| Mark Eves                      | Late 24-Hour Report (2)                        | \$1,378.70 | \$500.00   | 09/26/18 |
|                                |                                                |            |            |          |
| Paul R. LePage                 | Late 42-Day Pre-Primary                        | \$9,091.83 | \$3,000.00 | 06/22/22 |
| Ethan Alcorn                   | Late 42-Day Pre-Primary                        | \$200.00   | \$200.00   | 06/22/22 |

## 21-A M.R.S. § 1017. Reports by candidates

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**1. Federal candidates.** [2007, ch. 443, § A-16 (RP).]

**2. Gubernatorial candidates.** A treasurer of a candidate for the office of Governor shall file reports with the commission as follows. Once the first required report has been filed, each subsequent report must cover the period from the end date of the prior report filed.

**A.** In any calendar year, other than a gubernatorial election year, in which the candidate or the candidate's political committee has received contributions in excess of \$1,000 or made or authorized expenditures in excess of \$1,000, reports must be filed no later than 11:59 p.m. on July 15th of that year and January 15th of the following calendar year. These reports must include all contributions made to and all expenditures made or authorized by or on behalf of the candidate or the candidate's treasurer as of the end of the preceding month, except those covered by a previous report.

**B.** Reports must be filed no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 42nd day before the date on which an election is held and must be complete as of the 49th day before that date. If a report was not filed under paragraph A, the report required under this paragraph must cover all contributions and expenditures through the 49th day before the election.

**C.** Reports must be filed no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 11th day before the date on which an election is held and must be complete as of the 14th day before that date.

**D.** If the candidate has an opponent who is on the ballot or who is a declared write-in candidate, any single contribution of \$10,000 or more received or any single expenditure of \$10,000 or more made after the 14th day before the election and more than 48 hours before 11:59 p.m. on the day of the election must be reported within 48 hours of that contribution or expenditure. The candidate or treasurer is not required to include in this report expenditures for overhead expenses or compensation paid to an employee or other member of the campaign staff who has received payments at regular intervals that have been disclosed in previously filed campaign finance reports. As used in this paragraph, "overhead expenses" includes, but is not limited to, rent, utility payments, taxes, insurance premiums or similar administrative expenses.

**E.** Reports must be filed no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 42nd day after the date on which an election is held and must be complete for the filing period as of the 35th day after that date.

**F.** Unless further reports will be filed in relation to a later election in the same calendar year, the disposition of any surplus or deficit in excess of \$100 shown in the reports described in paragraph E must be reported as provided in this



paragraph. The treasurer of a candidate or political committee with a surplus or deficit in excess of \$100 shall file reports semiannually with the commission within 15 days following the end of the 2nd and 4th quarters of the State's fiscal year, complete as of the last day of the quarter, until the surplus is disposed of or the deficit is liquidated. The first report under this paragraph is not required until the 15th day of the period beginning at least 90 days from the date of the election. The reports will be considered timely if filed electronically or in person with the commission on that date or postmarked on that date. The reports must set forth any contributions for the purpose of liquidating the deficit, in the same manner as contributions are set forth in other reports required in this section.

**G.** Unless otherwise specified in this subsection, reports must be complete back to the end date of the previous report filing period. The reports described in paragraph E, if filed with respect to a primary election, are considered previous reports in relation to reports concerning a general election.

**H.** Reports with respect to a candidate who seeks nomination by petition for the office of Governor must be filed on the same dates that reports must be filed with respect to a candidate who seeks that nomination by primary election.

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## 21-A M.R.S. § 1020-A. Failure to file on time

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**1. Registration.** A candidate that fails to register the name of a candidate, treasurer or political committee with the commission within the time allowed by section 1013-A, subsection 1 may be assessed a forfeiture of \$100. The commission shall determine whether a registration satisfies the requirements for timely filing under section 1013-A, subsection 1.

**2. Campaign finance reports.** A campaign finance report is not timely filed unless a properly signed or electronically submitted copy of the report, substantially conforming to the disclosure requirements of this subchapter, is received by the commission by 11:59 p.m. on the date it is due. Except as provided in subsection 7, the commission shall determine whether a report satisfies the requirements for timely filing. The commission may waive a penalty in whole or in part if the commission determines that the penalty is disproportionate to the size of the candidate's campaign, the level of experience of the candidate, treasurer or campaign staff or the harm suffered by the public from the late disclosure. The commission may waive the penalty in whole or in part if the commission determines the failure to file a timely report was due to mitigating circumstances. For purposes of this section, "mitigating circumstances" means:

- A.** A valid emergency determined by the commission, in the interest of the sound administration of justice, to warrant the waiver of the penalty in whole or in part;
- B.** An error by the commission staff;
- C.** Failure to receive notice of the filing deadline; or
- D.** Other circumstances determined by the commission that warrant mitigation of the penalty, based upon relevant evidence presented that a bona fide effort was made to file the report in accordance with the statutory requirements, including, but not limited to, unexplained delays in postal service or interruptions in Internet service.

**3. Municipal campaign finance reports.** Municipal campaign finance reports must be filed, subject to all the provisions of this subchapter, with the municipal clerk on forms prescribed by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. The municipal clerk shall send any notice of lateness required by subsection 6 and shall notify the commission of any late reports subject to a penalty.

**4. Basis for penalties.** [MRSA T. 21-A §1020-A, sub-§4 (RP).]

**4-A. Basis for penalties.** The penalty for late filing of a report required under this subchapter is a percentage of the total contributions or expenditures for the filing



period, whichever is greater, multiplied by the number of calendar days late, as follows:

- A.** For the first violation, 2%;
- B.** For the 2nd violation, 4%; and
- C.** For the 3rd and subsequent violations, 6%.

Any penalty of less than \$25 is waived.

Violations accumulate on reports with filing deadlines in a 2-year period that begins on January 1st of each even-numbered year. Waiver of a penalty does not nullify the finding of a violation.

A report required to be filed under this subchapter that is sent by certified or registered United States mail and postmarked at least 2 days before the deadline is not subject to penalty.

**5. Maximum penalties.** [MRSA T. 21-A §1020-A, sub-§5 (RP).]

**5-A. Maximum penalties.** Penalties assessed under this subchapter may not exceed:

**A.** Five thousand dollars for reports required under section 1017, subsection 2, paragraph B, C, D, E or H; section 1017, subsection 3-A, paragraph B, C, D, D-1 or F; and section 1017, subsection 4, except that if the dollar amount of the financial activity that was not timely filed or did not substantially conform to the reporting requirements of this subchapter exceeds \$50,000, the maximum penalty is 100% of the dollar amount of that financial activity;

**A-1.** Five thousand dollars for reports required under section 1019-B, subsection 4, except that if the dollar amount of the financial activity that was not timely filed or did not substantially conform to the reporting requirements of this subchapter exceeds \$50,000, the maximum penalty is 100% of the dollar amount of that financial activity;

**B.** Five thousand dollars for state party committee reports required under section 1017-A, subsection 4-A, paragraphs A, B, C and E, except that if the dollar amount of the financial activity that was not timely filed or did not substantially conform to the reporting requirements of this subchapter exceeds \$50,000, the maximum penalty is 100% of the dollar amount of that financial activity;

**C.** One thousand dollars for reports required under section 1017, subsection 2, paragraphs A and F and section 1017, subsection 3-A, paragraphs A and E; or

**D.** Five hundred dollars for municipal, district and county committees for reports required under section 1017-A, subsection 4-B.

**E.** [2011, ch. 558, § 5 (RP).]

**6. Request for commission determination.** If a candidate or a political committee files a report required under this subchapter late, a notice of preliminary penalty must be sent to the candidate or political committee whose registration or campaign finance report was not received by 11:59 p.m. on the deadline date, informing the candidate or political committee of the staff finding of violation and preliminary penalty calculated under subsection 4-A and providing the candidate or political committee with an opportunity to request a determination by the commission. Any request for a determination must be made within 14 calendar days of receipt of the commission's notice. A candidate or political committee requesting a determination may either appear in person or designate a representative to appear on the candidate's or political committee's behalf or submit a sworn statement explaining the mitigating circumstances for consideration by the commission. A final determination by the commission may be appealed to the Superior Court in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 7 and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 80C.

**7. Final notice of penalty.** If a determination has been requested by the candidate or political committee and made by the commission, notice of the commission's final determination and the penalty, if any, imposed pursuant to this subchapter must be sent to the candidate and the political committee.

If a determination is not requested, the preliminary penalty calculated by the commission staff is final. The commission staff shall mail final notice of the penalty to the candidate and treasurer. A detailed summary of all notices must be provided to the commission.

**8. Penalties for failure to file report.** If the commission staff finds that a candidate, party committee or other person has failed to file a report required under this subchapter, the commission staff shall send by regular mail and e-mail a notice to the candidate, party committee or person within 3 business days following the filing deadline informing the candidate, party committee or person that the report has not been received. If the report remains unfiled after 10 days, the commission staff shall send another notice by regular mail and e-mail. If the candidate, party committee or person has not filed the report after these 2 notices, the commission staff may refer the violation to the commission, which may, after providing notice and an opportunity to be heard, determine whether a violation has occurred and, if so, the amount of any penalty. The penalty may not exceed the maximum penalties as provided in subsection 5-A. A candidate party committee or other person who fails to file a report as required by this subchapter after the commission has sent the first 2 notices required by this subsection is guilty of a Class E crime. As an alternative to assessing a penalty, the commission may refer the violation to the Office of the Attorney General for potential criminal prosecution.

**8-A. Penalties for failure to file report.** [2025, ch. 224, § 15 (RP).]

**9. List of late-filing candidates.** [2025, ch. 224, § 16 (RP).]

**10. Enforcement.** A penalty assessed pursuant to this section that has not been paid in full within 30 days after issuance of a notice of the final determination may be enforced in accordance with section 1004-B.

## 21-A M.R.S. § 1125. Terms of participation

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**12-D. Duties of the campaign treasurer and deputy treasurer.** The treasurer shall file all campaign finance reports required by section 1017, this chapter and commission rules, unless the treasurer delegates the filing of reports to the deputy treasurer designated on the candidate's registration. A candidate may enter financial transactions in an electronic reporting system or on paper forms of the commission, but the report must be filed by the treasurer or deputy treasurer. The treasurer is jointly responsible with the candidate for ensuring that the campaign keeps all records required by section 1016, this chapter and commission rules. If the candidate keeps the records, the candidate shall provide the treasurer or deputy treasurer with access to the records for the purpose of filing complete and accurate campaign finance reports. The commission may hold the candidate and treasurer jointly and severally liable for any penalties assessed for violations of the financial reporting or record-keeping requirements of this chapter, chapter 13 and commission rules. If the deputy treasurer files reports for the campaign, the commission may hold the deputy treasurer jointly and severally liable for any penalties related to reports filed by the deputy treasurer.

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