

To: Commissioners

From: Emma Burke, Political Committee & Lobbyist Registrar

Date: December 8, 2022

Re: Request by York Voter Alliance for Waiver of Late-Filing Penalty Due to Late 2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure Report

The York Voter Alliance (YVA) was required to file a 2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure (IE) Report no later than October 1, 2022. YVA filed the report on November 14th, 44 days late. The preliminary penalty is \$672.61. YVA is requesting a waiver of the penalty.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Any person, party committee, political committee or political action committee that makes any independent expenditure in excess of \$250 per candidate in an election from the 60th day through the 14th day before an election, must file a report within two calendar days of the expenditure. 94-270 C.M.R. Ch. 1 § 10(3)(B)(2). If a person is late in filing a campaign finance report, the amount of the penalty is set by a 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).

DISCUSSION

On October 27th, Political Committee & Lobbyist Registrar Emma Burke received an email from Suzanne Berlin, the chair of the York Republican Town Committee. In this email, Ms. Berlin attached a picture of yard signs that had been put up in York stating "Mills 4 ME" with the only disclosure statement being "York Citizens Alliance" printed at the bottom. Neither the York Citizens Alliance, nor the York Voter Alliance, which appear to be the same group, are registered as a PAC. Due to the lack of registration, and the lack of complete disclosure on the signs, it was not clear to those viewing the signs who paid for and disseminated them.

Within the few days after, Ms. Burke was in contact with the York municipal clerk about the signs and if the town planned to act on them. The clerk communicated to Ms. Burke the signs were being taken down voluntarily and the disclosure statements corrected. The clerk also passed along the name of a David Chase, who was a known leader of this group and was involved with the purchasing and dissemination of the signs.

After this conversation with the clerk, Ms. Burke reached out to Mr. Chase via phone, and left a voicemail for him. At this juncture, though the YVA was correcting its disclosure issues within the 10 days allowed by statute (21-A M.R.S. § 1014(4)), Ms. Burke was concerned about the cost of the signs being an independent expenditure and needing to be reported on an independent expenditure report, due to the language on the sign expressly advocating for Governor Mills' election. On November 9th, Mr. Chase emailed Ms. Burke asking for the details of the concerns with the signs and what kind of report needed to be filed. Ms. Burke responded explaining when an independent expenditure report needs to be filed, and a link to a PDF of a blank report for him to complete if necessary.

On November 14th, the Commission received a 2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure Report from the York Voter Alliance, showing a \$764.33 expenditure for yard signs on September 29th.

Based on the statutory formula for calculating late-filing penalties, the preliminary penalties amount to \$672.61, calculated as follows:

eadline	Financial Activity	Penalty Rate	Days Late	Preliminary Penalty
0/01/2022	\$764.33	2%	44	\$672.61
	eadline	Activity	Activity Rate	Activity Rate Late

In YVA's waiver request, Mr. Chase states simply the YVA is an informal, ad hoc group that felt this year's gubernatorial election "demanded action" and they simply were not aware of all the requirements and reporting regulations. This small group of individuals fundraised among themselves and made one purchase for signs. Mr. Chase states he did attempt to do some research about disclosure requirements under the Department of Transportation's regulations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

IE reports are considered essential for public awareness prior to general elections. Without these reports, any interested member of the press, public, or candidate campaigns would need to wade through thousands of transactions on reports covering greater lengths of time, to determine if any candidate supporting or opposing purchases had been made. In this case, the appearance of these signs in York caused concern as there was no way for a general member of the public to know who paid for and disseminated them.

There have not been any cases similar enough in recent history to this to provide precedence guidance to the Commission. Most late filing penalties are assessed against candidates, PACs, or other committees that are registered with the Commission (see attached chart). The YVA is not a PAC, nor were they required to register as one, thus there is no treasurer to be experienced, and there were no reminders to be received. The Commission staff do strongly believe, however, if funds are to be raised and spent on communications encouraging Mainers to vote in a certain way, the individuals involved are obliged to know and follow the rules and laws put in place to regulate such behavior, even though that is arguable burdensome. The Commission staff recommends reducing the penalty to \$200.00 to account for the limited public harm, as the signs were only disseminated in York, and the inexperience of the individuals involved, particularly Mr. Chase.

The signs did not initially comply 21-A M.R.S. § 1014(2) because they did not state who paid for them. The Commission staff does not recommend any action on this because Mr. LaFreniere remedied the signs once he learned about the requirement.

Thank you for your consideration of this memo.

Received

NOV 28 2022

Maine Ethics Commission

November 20, 2022

Ms. Emma Burke Political Committee & Lobbyist Registrar Commission on Gov. Ethics & Election Practices 135 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0135

Dear Ms. Burke:

On November 16th we received your communication concerning late filing of a "2-day pre-general independent expenditure report," charging the York Voter Alliance \$672.61 as a penalty for failure to file in a timely fashion. Truth is, we were ignorant of the filing requirement and ask that the Commission waive or reduce the penalty.

Let me explain. The York Voter Alliance is an informal aggregation of voters, some affiliated with a political party, most not, who come together occasionally on an ad hoc basis. There is no formal structure or membership. This year's gubernatorial election several of us felt demanded action.

The group was brought together from time to time in years past by the late Ted Little, with my assistance. He led on state elections, I on federal. With his death last year, state elections fell to me. The prospect of another LePage term in office seemed beyond the pale. And the local Democrats were not doing much of anything in the way of campaign signs—a strength of the local GOP. A few folk raised a bit of money and with it we bought signs. Before doing so, I researched what would be required and found the signs regs at Title 23/1913-A and MDOT's site. I did not come upon reporting requirements. My error. When informed by York's town clerk that our signs were not fully compliant, we pulled them all—despite the fact that LePage, Thelander and Hunkler signs were non-compliant and remained in place. As I say, we pulled all our signs, updated them, and reposted. I asked the town clerk for guidance; she told what the signs needed but not about reporting. Again, my error in not seeking further information.

Our total expenditure was \$764.33. A penalty of \$672.61 seems excessive. We hope the Commission will exercise its authority to waive the penalty, or at least to reduce it.

Now fully aware of the regulations concerning reporting, if in future the York Voter Alliance posts signs again, we will comply.

Thank you for your consideration,

David Chase For the York Voter Alliance 33 Barrell Lane, York 03909



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

December 12, 2022

David Chase York Voter Alliance 33 Barrell Lane York, Maine 03909

Re: Late Filing of 2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure Report

Dear David:

The Commission staff has made a finding you were late in filing a 2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure campaign finance report. The report was due by 11:59 p.m. on October 1, 2022 but was not filed until November 14, 2022. Under the Commission's statutes, the late filing of a report triggers an enforcement process. (21-A M.R.S.A. § 1020-A). Based on the amount of financial activity in the report, the number of calendar days the report was late, and any history of violations from the committee, the Commission staff has determined a penalty of \$672.61 is owed. (Please see attached penalty matrix for the calculation.)

The committee may make a written request the Commission waive the violation or penalty in whole or in part. Any request for a waiver 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 committee filed late. Upon receiving your request, the Commission staff will schedule your appeal for an upcoming Commission meeting.

The Commission may waive the penalty 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 the committee made a bona fide effort to file the report on time. Also, the Commission may waive the penalty if it is disproportionate to the level of experience of the person filing the report or the harm suffered by the public from the late disclosure.

Please call (207) 287-4709 or send an email to emma.burke@maine.gov if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Emma Burke Political Committee & Lobbyist Registrar

PAYMENT RECEIPT (Please enclose with payment.)

Mail payment to:

Maine Ethics Commission 135 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Make checks payable to: "Treasurer, State of Maine."

David Chase York Voter Alliance 33 Barrell Lane York, Maine 03909

Violation:Late 2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure ReportAmount Due:\$672.61

Committee Name: David Chase - York Voter Alliance

Prior Violations: 0

Report Name	Activity Amount	Due Date	Days Late	Penalty Rate	Penalty
2-Day Pre-General Independent Expenditure	\$764.33	10/01/2022	44	2%	\$672.61
Report					

The penalty for late filing of a required report is a percentage of the total contributions or expenditures for the filing period, whichever is greater, multiplied by the number of calendar days the report is filed late, as follows:

For the first violation, 2% For the second violation, 4% For the third and each subsequent violation, 6%

A penalty begins to accrue at 11:59 p.m. on the day the report is due.

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

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.

MAXIMUM PENALTIES

21-A M.R.S.A. Section 1020-A(5-A)

\$5,000 for Intendent Expenditure Reports, except if the financial activity reported late exceeds \$50,000, the maximum penalty is 100% of the amount reported late.



Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices Mail: 135 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333 Office: 45 Memorial Circle, Augusta ME, 04333

> Website: www.maine.gov/ethics Phone: 207-287-4179 Fax: 207-287-6775

> > 田臣(家住): マロル1413 - 1116、0433

1-9.gov/cthic: 17-267-4179

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INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES AFFIDAVIT

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF WAINE COUNTY OF YORK _____

I, DAVIDUUAUCHASS, being duly sworn, attest that I, or the organ	
that I am affiliated with, made each of the expenditures listed in the attached report independently, an	· · · ·
cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate, aut	horized
committee or agent of a candidate in a race affected by any expenditure listed in this report.	1946-1874年末 7月29月1日 - 7

I certify that on the date set forth below, the individual named above did appear personally before me and that I did identify this applicant by: (a) comparing his/her physical appearance with the photograph on the identifying document presented by the applicant and with the photograph affixed thereto, and (b) comparing the applicant's signature made in my presence on this form with the signature on his/her identifying document.

The statements on this document are subscribed and sworn to before me by the applicant on this 10th day of

November, 2022.		
Notary Public Signature: A alugue Daughe Kaga	SC	
My Notary Commission Expires: 7 29 2029	Kathryn M. Danylik-Lagasse Notary Public	. dozi ńa.
	State of Maine My Commission Expires July 29, 2022	

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Schedule B-IE-1

CANDIDATE(S) SUPPORTED/OPPOSED

- Please list all candidates that were the subjects of independent expenditures.
- If more than one candidate was the subject of the expenditure, allocate the expenditure among the candidates
- Duplicate as needed

Office sought by candidate (including district # or county)	Candidate's Name	Indicate whether expenditure was made in support of or in opposition to the candidate	Amount expended this reporting period for each candidate
Gour	JULIUS	Support \$	764.33
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	Total expenditures for all candida	tes this reporting period. \Rightarrow	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

This amount should equal the total independent expenditures listed on Schedule B-IE-2, Line C.

Independent Expenditure Report for: JORF VOTER ALLADCE



Schedule B-IE-2

PAYMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS

- Please indicate the date, payee, expenditure type, and amount of each expenditure.
- If you are reporting an agreement or obligation to make a <u>future payment</u>, please check (1) the box next to the expenditure type.
- Duplicate as needed.

	EXPEND	ITURE T	YPES			
APP	Apparel (t-shirts, hats, embroidery, etc.)	PER	Personnel and ca	ampaign staff, consulting,	and inde	pendent contractors
CON	Contribution to party committee, non-profit, other	PHO	Phones (phone banking, robocalls, and texts)			· ·
EQP	Equipment of \$50 or more (computer, tablet, phone, furniture, etc.)	POL	Polling and survey research			
EVT	Campaign and fundraising events (venue/booth rental, entertainment, supplies, etc.)	POS	Postage for US Mail and mailbox fees			e le 2 r d ry
FOD	Food for campaign events or volunteers, catering	PRO	Professional services (graphic design, legal services, web design)			es, web design)
HRD	Hardware and small tools (hammer, nails, lumber, paint, etc.)	RAD	Radio ads and production costs only			
LIT	Printed campaign materials (palmcards, signs, stickers, flyers etc.)	ткт	Entrance cost to event (bean suppers, fairs, party events, etc.)			
MHS	Mail house and direct mail (design, printing, mailing, and postage)	TRV	Travel (mileage and lodging, etc.)			
OFF	Office supplies, rent, utilities, internet service, phone minutes/data	TVN	TV/Cable ads, pr	roduction, and media buy	er costs o	only 👘 👘 🗠 🗤
ONL	Social medial and online advertising only	WEB	Website and inte	rnet costs (website doma	in and re	gistration, etc.)
отн	Other and fees (bank, contribution, and money order fees, etc.)					
Date Expend		ode		Expenditure Type		Amount
9/59	22 SUPER CHEAPSIGNS	An-144-44-44-44-44-44-44-44-44-44-44-44-44		LIT		764.33
•	9200 WIFEFELD CED	IRE à	UD			
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						••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
			A. Expend	itures for this pa	ge ⇒	764.33
	B. Total fo	or all other	Schedule B	-IE-2 pages (if an	ıy) ⇒	<u>o</u>
	C. Total independent expo This amount should equal the total amount for					5764.33

Burke, Emma

From:	David Chase <chase.email@maine.rr.com></chase.email@maine.rr.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, November 9, 2022 1:02 PM
То:	Burke, Emma
Subject:	RE: INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE REPORT

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Thank you, Ms. Burke. We will file a report as soon as we have our figures in shaped. David Chase

From: Burke, Emma <Emma.Burke@maine.gov> Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 12:44 PM To: David Chase <chase.email@maine.rr.com> Subject: RE: INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE REPORT

Hi David,

If you, or a group, of folks spent more than \$250 on the 'Mills 4 ME' signs, then an Independent Expenditure report was required to filed with our office, within one or two days of the signs being purchased. Even though we are now post-election, the report remains required, and unfiled.

The report is available here:

https://www.maine.gov/ethics/sites/maine.gov.ethics/files/inlinefiles/2022%20General%20Independent%20Expenditure%20Report 1.pdf

I request you fill it out and submit it to our office as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Emma J. Burke (she/her) Political Committee & Lobbyist Registrar Maine Ethics Commission (207) 287-4709 | <u>Agency Site</u> | <u>eFiling Site</u>

From: David Chase <<u>chase.email@maine.rr.com</u>> Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 8:42 AM To: Burke, Emma <<u>Emma.Burke@maine.gov</u>> Subject: INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE REPORT

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ms. Burke - Please send specifics of the complaint, and particulars about filing a report, if that turns out to be necessary.

Thank you - David Chase

§1019-B. Reports of independent expenditures

1. Independent expenditures; definition. For the purposes of this section, an "independent expenditure" means any expenditure made by a person, party committee or political action committee that is not made in cooperation, consultation or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate, a candidate's authorized political committee or an agent of either and that:

A. Is made to design, produce or disseminate any communication that expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate; or [PL 2021, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

B. Unless the person, party committee or political action committee making the expenditure demonstrates under subsection 2 that the expenditure was not intended to influence the nomination, election or defeat of the candidate, is made to design, produce or disseminate a communication that names or depicts a clearly identified candidate and is disseminated during the 28 days, including election day, before a primary election; during the 35 days, including election day, before a special election day. [PL 2021, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

[PL 2021, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

2. Commission determination. A person, party committee or political action committee may request a determination that an expenditure that otherwise meets the definition of an independent expenditure under subsection 1, paragraph B is not an independent expenditure by filing a signed written statement with the commission within 7 days of disseminating the communication stating that the cost was not incurred with the intent to influence the nomination, election or defeat of a candidate, supported by any additional evidence the person, party committee or political action committee chooses to submit. The commission may gather any additional evidence it determines relevant and material and shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether the cost was incurred with intent to influence the nomination, election or defeat of a candidate.

[PL 2021, c. 132, §8 (AMD).]

3. Report required; content; rules.

[PL 2009, c. 524, §6 (RPR); MRSA T. 21-A §1019-B, sub-§3 (RP).]

4. Report required; content; rules. A person, party committee or political action committee that makes any independent expenditure in excess of \$250 during any one candidate's election shall file a report with the commission. In the case of a municipal election, the report must be filed with the municipal clerk.

A. A report required by this subsection must be filed with the commission according to a reporting schedule that the commission shall establish by rule that takes into consideration existing campaign finance reporting requirements. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. [PL 2011, c. 558, §2 (AMD).]

B. A report required by this subsection must contain an itemized account of each expenditure in excess of \$250 in any one candidate's election, the date and purpose of each expenditure and the name of each payee or creditor. The report must state whether the expenditure is in support of or in opposition to the candidate and must include, under penalty of perjury, as provided in Title 17-A, section 451, a statement under oath or affirmation whether the expenditure is made in cooperation, consultation or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, the candidate or an authorized committee or agent of the candidate. [PL 2015, c. 350, §6 (AMD).]

C. A report required by this subsection must be on a form prescribed and prepared by the commission. A person filing this report may use additional pages if necessary, but the pages must be the same size as the pages of the form. The commission may adopt procedures requiring the electronic filing of an independent expenditure report, as long as the commission receives the statement made under oath or affirmation set out in paragraph B by the filing deadline and the commission adopts an exception for persons who lack access to the required technology or the

§1020-A. Failure to file on time

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. [PL 2019, c. 323, §18 (AMD).]

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; [PL 1999, c. 729, §5 (AMD).]

B. An error by the commission staff; [PL 1999, c. 729, §5 (AMD).]

C. Failure to receive notice of the filing deadline; or [PL 1999, c. 729, §5 (AMD).]

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. [PL 2009, c. 190, Pt. A, §13 (AMD).]

[PL 2009, c. 190, Pt. A, §13 (AMD).]

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.

[PL 2011, c. 389, §22 (AMD); PL 2011, c. 389, §62 (AFF).]

4. Basis for penalties.

[PL 2001, c. 470, §7 (AMD); 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%; [IB 2015, c. 1, §7 (AMD).]

B. For the 2nd violation, 4%; and [IB 2015, c. 1, §7 (AMD).]

C. For the 3rd and subsequent violations, 6%. [IB 2015, c. 1, §7 (AMD).]

Any penalty of less than \$10 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.

A registration or report may be provisionally filed by transmission of a facsimile copy of the duly executed report to the commission, as long as the facsimile copy is filed by the applicable deadline and an original of the same report is received by the commission within 5 calendar days thereafter. [IB 2015, c. 1, §7 (AMD).]

5. Maximum penalties.

[PL 2001, c. 470, §8 (AMD); 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; [PL 2019, c. 323, §19 (AMD).]

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; [PL 2019, c. 323, §19 (AMD).]

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; [PL 2019, c. 323, §19 (AMD).]

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 [PL 2011, c. 558, §4 (AMD).]

D. Five hundred dollars for municipal, district and county committees for reports required under section 1017-A, subsection 4-B. [PL 2011, c. 558, §4 (AMD).]

E. [PL 2011, c. 558, §5 (RP).] [PL 2019, c. 323, §19 (AMD).]

6. Request for a commission determination. If the commission staff finds that a candidate or political committee has failed to file a report required under this subchapter, the commission staff shall mail a notice to the candidate or political committee within 3 business days following the filing deadline informing the candidate or political committee that a report was not received. 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. [PL 2013, c. 334, §17 (AMD).]

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.

Commission Penalty Decisions - PACs, BQCs, Party Committees (2018 - present)						
Committee Name	Requested Waivers of Late-Filing Penalties	Preliminary Penalty	Final Penalty	Commission Meeting Date		
Waiver Requests			•			
Maine United Auto Workers PAC	Late January Quarterly	\$400.00	\$400.00	04/25/18		
Maine Health Care Assoc. PAC	Late 24-Hour Report	\$2,760.00	\$500.00	08/29/18		
Fecteau Leadership PAC	Late 24-Hour Report	\$400.00	\$400.00	08/29/18		
New Mainers PAC	Late 24-Hour Report	\$10,000.00	\$1,000.00	03/06/19		
Senate Democratic Campaign Committee	Late January Quarterly	\$1,010.50	\$750.00	04/24/19		
Unite Portland PAC (Municipal)	Late IE Report	\$5,000.00	\$1,250.00	12/18/19		
Unite Portland PAC (Municipal)	Late IE Report	\$2,052.16	\$750.00	12/18/19		
Women's Leadership Fund PAC	Late IE Report	\$100.00	\$50.00	08/11/20		
Maine Truck PAC	Late 24-Hour Report	\$2,686.68	\$50.00	10/16/20		
Revive Hometown Maine PAC	Late October Quarterly	\$510.00	\$250.00	10/30/20		
Mainers for Health and Parental Rights	Late 24-Hour Report	\$980.00	\$750.00	01/27/21		
Kittery Democratic Committee	Late 11-Day Pre-General Report	\$500.00	\$100.00			
Madison Republican Committee of Maine	Late 11-Day Pre-General Report	\$500.00	\$100.00	02/24/21		
York Town Republican Committee	Late 11-Day Pre-General Report	\$500.00	\$100.00	02/24/21		
Energy PAC for Maine	Late 24-Hour Report	\$8,840.00	\$750.00	03/31/21		
Protect Maine Elections	Late Initial Report	\$1,004.00	\$750.00	10/29/21		
Mainers for Local Power PAC	Late 24-Hour Report	\$300,000.00	\$25,000.00	02/28/22		
Mainers for Local Power PAC	Late 24-Hour Report	\$98,500.00	. ,	T		
No on 3: Right to Food is Wrong for Maine	Late 24-Hour Report (3)	\$932.00	\$300.00			
Piscataguis County Republican Committee	Late January Semiannual Report	\$500.00				
Waldo County Democratic Committee	2022 July Semiannual Report	\$181.21	\$60.40			
Lincoln County Republican Committee	2022 July Semiannual Report	\$500.00				
American Leadership Committee-Maine PAC	Late IE report Oct. Quarterly Report	\$679.88	-			
Planned Parenthood Maine Action Fund	Late IE report	\$2,433.60	\$750.00			
We the People PAC	Late IE report	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00			
We the People PAC	Late IE report	\$99.96				

Late Major Contributor Decisions (2020 - present)						
Committee Name	Violation	Preliminary Penalty	Final Penalty	Commission Meeting Date		
Waiver Requests	•	•				
Mainers for Local Power PAC	Late Major Contributor (2)	\$53,431.15	\$2,500.00	03/10/20		
Maine Street Solutions - Protect Schools BQC	Late Major Contributor	\$25,000.00	\$2,000.00	05/27/20		
Clean Energy Matters PAC	Late Major Contributor Notice	\$50,000.00	\$2,500.00	03/31/21		
We the People PAC	Late Major Contributor Notice	\$11,500.00	\$2,500.00	05/26/21		
Mainers for Local Power PAC	Late Major Contributor Notice	\$13,786.32	\$2,500.00	08/23/21		
Other Enforcement Decisions - Committees (2018 - present)						
Committee Name	Violation	Preliminary Penalty	Final Penalty	Commission Meeting Date		
Other Violations						
Sara Gideon Leadership PAC	Contributions Made in Name of Another		\$500.00	10/30/19		
Working Families PAC	Failure to file 2020 October Quarterly; 11-Day Pre-General, 42-Day Post- General, and 2021 January Quarterly and April Quarterly campaign finance reports		\$3,750.00	05/26/21		
Mainers for Fair Laws BQC	Missing Disclaimers in television ads		\$2,500.00	09/29/21		
Working Families PAC	Over the limit contribution to Diane Russell senate campaign		\$285.00	09/29/21		
American Leadership Committee-Maine PAC	Missing top three donors		\$10,000.00	11/30/22		