

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS

Christopher E. "Chris" Piper Commissioner Jessica N. Bowman
Deputy Commissioner

February 12, 2020

The Honorable Colin D. Stolle Commonwealth's Attorney Office of Virginia Beach 2425 Nimmo Parkway Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Re. Violation of Campaign Finance Disclosure Act of 2006

Dear Mr. Stolle,

Thank you for your letter dated January 15, 2020, regarding a potential violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act of 2006 wherein you outlined details regarding a complaint submitted to your office about the Virginia Beach Teachers' Association.

On January 12, 2020, a political action committee called the Virginia Beach Teachers Association, PAC-19-01062, submitted a statement of organization to the Department of Elections. Upon review the statement included the following dates regarding the appointment of a treasurer, the designation of a committee depository, and when the committee's contributions and expenditures exceeded \$200: the committee reported that it appointed a treasurer and designated a committee depository on August 1, 2019. Further, the committee reported that its contributions and expenditures, respectively, exceeded \$200 on September 23, 2019 and October 22, 2019.

Based on the committee's failure to file the statement of organization within ten days of its organization, or within 10 days of anticipating that it will receive contributions or make expenditures exceeding \$200, the committee violated the Code of Virginia 24.2-949.2. Accordingly, on February 4, 2020, the Department of Elections issued a \$500.00 Statement of Organization violation penalty to the committee. The committee has until March 31, 2020 to pay this penalty.

In compliance with the Code of Virginia 24.2-946.3, if unable to collect the penalty, the Department of Elections on behalf of the State Board of Elections will report the violation to the appropriate attorney for the Commonwealth for further enforcement.

Thank you for providing the complaint and bringing your evaluation of this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

Chris Piper

Commissioner, Department of Elections