

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING

May 6, 2026

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board” or “DCBOE”) held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 via Zoom and in the Board’s Hearing Room, located at 1015 Half Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003, Suite 750. Board Chairman Gary Thompson and Board Member Karyn Greenfield were present. The Board’s Executive Director, Monica Holman Evans, (“Director Evans”), General Counsel, Terri Stroud, the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”) Director, Cecily Collier-Montgomery, and OCF General Counsel, William SanFord, were also present.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

II. ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM

Board Chair Thompson and Board Member Greenfield constituted a quorum.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously adopted the agenda and minutes from the last meeting held on April 1.

IV. BOARD MATTERS

None

V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Evans presented the [Executive Director's Report for April 2026](#).

VI. GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT (TERRI STROUD)

A. Initiative Matters

1. Adoption of Formulations

a. Initiative Measure No. 88, the “Rent Control and Housing Eligibility Adjustment Amendment Act of 2026”

General Counsel Stroud presented the formulations prepared by the Office of the General Counsel (“OGC”) and requested that the Board consider adoption. The measure was submitted on January 19, 2026; the Board determined that the measure met proper subject requirements on April 1, 2026. The OGC prepared formulations on April 15, which were published in the D.C. Register on April 24.

The proposer's counsel, Joseph Sandler, and proposer Salim Adofo were present and offered alternative language for the short title and summary statement. Nicholas Schiller also offered public comment on the formulations

Following adoption, the Board will notify the proposer of the final language for the short title, summary statement, and legislative form. The adopted formulations will then be published in the D.C. Register with a projected publication date of May 15 initiating a 10-day period during which any registered qualified elector may seek review in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, including objections to the formulations or to the Board's proper subject determination. The 10-day review period is projected to end on May 25.

BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously adopted the short title as recommended by the Office of the General Counsel and the summary statement as proposed by the proposer's counsel.

B. Rulemaking to Title 3 of the D.C. Municipal Regulations

1. Emergency and Proposed Rulemaking

- a. Chapters 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17
 - i. General Counsel Stroud presented emergency and proposed rulemaking prompted by D.C. Court of Appeals guidance received during the 2026 primary challenge season. The rules require challengers to use the Board's official form, identify each challenged signature by sheet and line, state the exact defect, and cite the applicable rule. Narrative statements and attachments cannot expand grounds not identified in the form fields, and statistical or inferential fraud arguments cannot substitute for signature-by-signature challenges. The burden of proof rests with the challenger; noncompliant challenges are rejected at the threshold. If adopted, the emergency rules take effect immediately for 120 days unless superseded by final rulemaking, and the proposed rules will be open for 30 days of public comment following publication.

BOARD ACTION: Voted unanimously to adopt the emergency and proposed rulemaking and authorized submission to the D.C. Register for publication in the May 15 edition.

C. Enforcement Hearings

1. In the Matter of Serena Gyi

Evidence from the ERIC voter participation report indicated that a ballot was cast in the same voter's name in both the D.C. and Maryland 2024 general elections. Investigation revealed that the signature on the D.C. mail ballot return envelope matched the handwriting of Serena Gyi, not the voter to whom the ballot was issued. Ms. Gyi was notified of multiple pre-hearing conferences and hearings but appeared only once (April 9) and disputed the evidence. She was given additional time to obtain counsel but did not appear at the continued April 28 pre-hearing conference and did not confirm attendance at today's meeting.

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted unanimously to refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General for further investigation and possible prosecution.

2. In the Matter of Lashawn Lopez

Ms. Lopez was previously the subject of a referral order at the April meeting, but the Board delayed referral to give her an opportunity to seek reconsideration. Ms. Lopez timely filed a motion for reconsideration, cooperated fully with the OGC's investigation, and entered into a stipulated agreement acknowledging that she unintentionally voted a ballot issued to another individual. The General Counsel recommended a fine capped at \$150. Ms. Lopez was present at the meeting but indicated she did not wish to speak.

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted unanimously to grant the motion for reconsideration, accept the stipulated agreement, and impose a civil fine of \$150. The matter will not be referred to the Office of the Attorney General.

3. In the Matter of Earlene Washington

Ms. Washington was also the subject of a referral order at the April meeting. After receiving the order, she filed a motion for reconsideration and a motion for leave to file out of time. She contacted the OGC, cooperated fully, and entered into a stipulated agreement acknowledging that she unintentionally voted the ballot of another individual in addition to her own. The General Counsel recommended a fine capped at \$150.

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted unanimously to grant leave to file out of time, grant the motion for reconsideration, accept the stipulated agreement, and impose a civil fine of \$150. The matter will not be referred to the Office of the Attorney General.

C. Litigation Status

1. Stacia Hall, et al., v. D.C. Board of Elections (U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit)

No change in the status of this matter since the last Board meeting.

2. Charles Wilson v. Muriel Bowser, et al. (D.C. Superior Court)

No change in the status of this matter since the last Board meeting.

3. Jason Christopher Long v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Superior Court.)

No change in the status of this matter since the last Board meeting.

4. U.S. Dept. of Justice v. D.C. Board of Elections (U.S. District Court for D.C.)

Replies to motions to dismiss were filed on April 17. The Board is awaiting the Court's decision.

5. Melodie Shuler v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Court of Appeals)

Ms. Shuler filed an application for review of the Registrar's decisions to reject her challenges to the nominating petitions of all Democratic Mayoral candidates. On April 23, the Court granted the Board's dispositive motion and affirmed the Registrar's decisions. The Court's decision on the merits is final and the case is closed.

6. Douglas Sloan v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Court of Appeals)

Mr. Sloan filed a petition for review of the Board's order upholding a challenge to his nominating petition for the office of At-Large Member of the Council. The Court struck Sloan's brief and appendix for failure to pay the filing fee and found the Board's motion for summary affirmance moot. On April 24, the Court denied Sloan's motion to recall the mandate and struck his motion for reconsideration. The case is closed.

7. Kathy Henderson v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Court of Appeals)

Ms. Henderson filed two petitions for review of the Board's orders upholding two separate challenges to her nominating petition for the office of Mayor. The cases were consolidated. On April 23, the Court granted the Board's dispositive motion and affirmed the Board's denial of ballot access. The mandate was issued and Ms. Henderson's motion to recall was denied. The case is closed.

8. Calvin Gurley v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Court of Appeals)

Mr. Gurley filed a petition for review of the Board's order upholding a challenge to his nominating petition for the office of Council Chair. On April 23, the Court denied summary reversal and granted summary affirmance. The mandate was issued. The case is closed.

9. Hope Solomon v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Court of Appeals)

Ms. Solomon filed a petition for review of the Board's order denying her challenge to the nominating petition of Rini Sampath, candidate for Mayor. On April 23, the Court granted summary affirmance and upheld the Board's order. The mandate was issued and Ms. Solomon's motion to recall the same was denied. Ms. Solomon has filed a petition for a writ of certiorari in the U.S. Supreme Court.

10. John Guggenmos v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Superior Court)

Mr. Guggenmos filed a petition for a writ of mandamus regarding Initiative Measure No. 87, the District of Columbia Living Wage for All Amendment Act of 2026. The complaint alleges improper subject, Open Meetings Act violations, inadequate public comment opportunity, a misleading summary statement, and impermissible retroactive effects. The Board has filed an answer and will adhere to the briefing schedule set by the Court.

VII. CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT (PRESENTED BY DIRECTOR COLLIER-MONTGOMERY)

A. Director Collier-Montgomery presented the [Office of Campaign Finance \(OCF\) report for April](#). The full report will be posted on the OCF website(www.ocf.dc.gov).

B. OCF General Counsel SanFord presented the report of the Office of the General Counsel (“OGC”).

1. Monthly Intake/Output Report

During April, OGC received 25 referrals, held four informal hearings, and issued

four orders. Two orders imposed no fines, one order imposed a fine of \$4,000 against the Principal Campaign Committee (“PCC”) of Eboni-Rose Thompson for failure to remit funds to the Fair Elections Fund after the 2024 election, and one order of revocation of Fair Elections Program certification was issued to Khalil Lee, who has withdrawn as a candidate for the office of At-Large Member.

2. Investigations

a. Docket No. OCF-I 2026-003 was docketed on March 11. The complainant, JP Szymkowicz, alleged the improper use of government resources by the respondents, Brian Swann and Brian for D.C., PCC. The order regarding this matter was issued on April 3.

b. Docket No. OCF-I 2026-004 consolidated matter, was opened on March 24 through March 30. The complainants Elissa Silverman, Tim Krip, Amy Mauro, Michael Crawford, and Senovia Hurtado-Aviles, allege campaign contribution reporting violations by the respondent, the Khalil Lee PCC. The matter remains pending before OGC.

c. Docket No. OCF-I 2026-005 was docketed on April 2. The complainant, Jack Evans, alleges the improper use of government resources by the respondent, Phil Mendelson. The matter remains pending before OGC.

d. Docket No. OCF-I 2026-006 was docketed on April 20. The complainant, Douglas Ticker, alleges the failure to report expenditures by the respondent, Jakeline Maryori Reyes Janes. The matter remains pending before OGC.

e. Docket No. OCF-I 2026-007 was docketed on April 24. The complainant, Kevin Sobkoviak, alleges improper coordination by the respondents, Janeese Lewis-George, Safe and Affordable, Unite Here Local 25, and SEIU 32BJ. The matter remains pending before OGC.

f. Docket No. OCF-I 2026-008 was docketed on April 28. The complainant, Sheila Jackson, alleges a lack of a disclaimer on campaign literature and failure to register with OCF. The matter remains pending before OGC.

3. Request for Interpretive Opinions – None

4. Show Cause Proceedings – None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.