

**BEFORE THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE**  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**1015 HALF STREET, SE SUITE 775**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003**  
Telephone: (202) 671-0547  
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**IN THE MATTER OF**

Lock the Clock DC – The Time Stability  
Act

Daniel J. Bernier, Treasurer  
2401 Calvert St., NW Apt. 630  
Washington, D.C. 20008

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Docket No: 2025 I-001

**ORDER**

**Statement of the Case**

This matter came before the Office of Campaign Finance (hereinafter OCF) Office of the General Counsel following a determination by its Public Information and Records Management Division, that pursuant to The Campaign Finance Act of 2011 (The Act), codified in DC Official Code 1-1163.01, 1-1163.09(a)(1), and 3 DCMR § 3017.2, the committee for the initiative Loc the Clock DC – The Time Stability Act, failed to timely file a Receipt and Expenditure Report (hereafter R&E) that was due on Thursday July 31, 2025. Reminder Notices were emailed to the committee’s treasurer on July 2, 2025, and on August 11, 2025, extending the filing deadline to August 22, 2025.

By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated September 12, 2025 and September 26, 2025 respectively, OCF ordered Daniel J. Bernier, Treasurer,(hereinafter Respondent), to appear at a scheduled virtual conference hearing on September 26, 2025 and October 9, 2025<sup>1</sup> and show cause why he should not be found in violation of Title III of the Campaign Finance Act of 2011, and fined accordingly.

**Summary of Evidence**

Respondent admits the failure to timely file the R&E Report that was due on July 31, 2025. Respondent states that the purpose of the initiative was to get the citizenry and the governing city council to consider placing on the ballot a law that would keep the District of Columbia consistently on” Daylight Savings Time”, instead of switching back to “Standard Time”. Respondent stated that he spent his own money to finance the initiative.

Respondent stated that failure to file the R&E Report was an inadvertent act. He stated that promoting this initiative was the first time he has been in electoral politics. He represented that he was

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<sup>1</sup> Respondent appeared for this hearing. He agreed to represent himself and acted pro se.

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unaware that he was required to file a financial report until he received notice from a friend (George who works at the Board of Elections) that he was delinquent in filing the report. Respondent requested that OCF/OGC give him additional time to file the outstanding report. He stated that he would file the report by the close of business, on October 9, 2025. The request was Granted.

The R&E Report was successfully filed (Acknowledgement Number 2074698813) on October 9, 2025 @3:26 PM.

**Findings of Fact**

**Having reviewed the allegations and the record herein, I find:**

1. Respondent, Treasurer, for the Initiative Committee “Lock the Clock DC – The Time Stability Act” admitted that he failed to timely file the R&E Report due on July 31, 2025.
2. Respondent stated that the failure to timely file the R&E Report was the result of a mistake. Respondent stated that he was unaware of the delinquent filing until he was informed by a friend who works at the Board of Elections.
3. Respondent stated that he used his personal money to fund the Initiative committee.
4. Respondent requested additional time to file the R&E Report. He promised to file the report on or before the close of business, October 9, 2025.
5. Respondent kept his promise and successfully filed the report on October 9, 2025.

**Conclusions of Law**

**Based on the record provided by the OCF, I therefore conclude:**

1. Respondent’s failure to timely file the July 31, 2025, R&E Report is a violation of D. C. Official Code §1 – 1163.09 (a).
2. The Respondent filed the July 31<sup>st</sup> R&E report on October 9, 2025. On the date of the filing the report was 30 business days past due.
3. The penalty established at D.C. Code §1-1163.09, and 3 DCMR 3711.2 for failure to timely file the July 31<sup>st</sup> report is a fine of \$50.00 per day for each business day sequent

to the due date up to \$4,000 for the first offense and not more than \$10,000 for the second and each subsequent offense.

4. In accordance with D.C. Official Code 1-1163.35, the respondent and the Initiative committee may be fined a maximum of \$1,500 for failing to timely file a July 31<sup>st</sup> R&E Report.
5. For good cause shown pursuant to 3 DCMR 3711.6, the Director of the Office of Campaign Finance (Director) may modify, rescind, dismiss or suspend any fine.

**Recommendation**

A review of the financial record filed on behalf of the Initiative committee indicates that the R&E Report in question covers the period from February 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025. The report indicates that the committee had minimal activity, with a beginning balance of \$1,000 and only one (1) expenditure of \$42.00. This supports Respondent’s representation that very little money was raised, with Respondent being the primary contributor to the campaign.

Respondent states that prior to this campaign he never ran an initiative campaign. A review of the records does not indicate the Respondent’s name as a candidate for election, initiative, referendum or political action committee. He further states that the failure to timely file the R&E Report was a mistake. When granted an extension of time (1 day) to file the R&E Report Respondent kept his word and filed the report within that time frame.

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, I hereby recommend that the Director impose a fine in the amount of \$1,500 and suspend the fine in this matter. Respondent should be warned that should he be found in violation of the campaign finance law in the future he will subject to a penalty that could result in he and the committee being fined.

November 21, 2025  
Date

/s/ Leonard Muhammad  
Hearing Officer

**Concurrence**

In view of the foregoing, I hereby concur with the Recommendation.

November 21, 2025  
Date

/s/ William O. SanFord  
William O. SanFord  
General Counsel

**ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

**IT IS ORDERED** that the fine in this matter be hereby suspended.

November 21, 2025  
Date

/s/ Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery  
Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery  
Director

**NOTICE**

Any party adversely affected by any order of the Director may obtain review of the order by filing, with the Board of Ethics a request for a hearing *de novo*. Pursuant to 3 DCMR §3711.5 any fine imposed by the Director shall become effective on the 16<sup>th</sup> day following the issuance of a decision and order, if the Respondent does not request an appeal of this matter. If applicable, within 10 days of the effective date of this order, please make a check or money order payable to the D.C. Treasurer, c/o Office of Campaign Finance, 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY** that a true copy of **the ORDER** has been served on Daniel John Bernier, Treasurer, via electronic mail at: [locktheclockdc@gmail.com](mailto:locktheclockdc@gmail.com) on this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of November 2025.

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