

Summary of Evidence

Respondents failed to timely file the January 31st, 2025 Report of Receipts and Expenditures (January 31st, 2025 Report) that was due January 31st, 2025, Respondents were referred to OGC for enforcement. On March 6, 2025, OGC issued a Notice to Respondents, scheduling a virtual hearing on March 20, 2025. Respondent requested a different hearing date of April 3, 2025, but failed to appear. On June 13, 2025, OGC issued a Second Notice to Respondents, scheduling a virtual hearing on June 26, 2025. A hearing was held, Candidate and Khadiyah Mitchell, Communications Staffer, appeared at the hearing for the Committee; Attorney Advisor, Nereida Gonzalez, and Kamille Key and Patrick Walker, representatives for PIRM, attended the hearing, as well.

Findings of Fact

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

1. Respondent, Villareal Johnson is the Candidate, and Timothy Lewis is the Treasurer for the Friends of VJ 4 Ward 7, a Principal Campaign Committee.
2. At all times pertinent, Respondents were required to file the January 31st, 2025 Report, by the filing date, January 31st, 2025.
3. Candidate did not attend the OCF Mandatory Entrance Conference.
4. Candidate attended hearing, and testified that Timothy Lewis, Treasurer had died in December, 2024, and did not have access to pertinent databases.
5. Candidate testified that records had been acquired and the January 31st, 2025 Report would be filed with ten (10) days of the hearing.
6. The Committee has not filed the January 31st, 2025 Report and is not in compliance.

Conclusions of Law

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

1. At all times pertinent, Respondents were required to file the January 31st, 2025 Report by the extended filing date, January 31st, 2025.
2. Respondents violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(a) and (b) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2.
3. 3 DCMR § 3711.1 dictates that the Director of Campaign Finance (“Director”) may ministerially impose fines upon the candidate, treasurer, committee, or designated agent.

4. 3 DCMR § 3711.4(l) established a Fifty (\$50.00) Dollar fine, per day, for failure to timely file a Report of Receipts and Expenditures.
5. 3 DCMR § 3711.8, the Director may modify, rescind, dismiss, or suspend any fine, for good cause.
6. The Director may impose a civil penalty with the maximum amount of Four-Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) for one-hundred and one (101) days of non-compliance, in this matter.

Recommendation

In view of the foregoing information included in the record, and for good cause, I HEREBY RECOMMEND that the Director suspend the fine of \$ 4,000, in this matter.

<u>November 7, 2025</u>	<u>/s/ Nereida Gonzalez</u>
Date	Nereida Gonzalez, Attorney Advisor

Concurrence

In view of the foregoing, I hereby **CONCUR** with the Recommendation.

<u>November 7, 2025</u>	<u>/s/ William SanFord</u>
Date	William SanFord, General Counsel

ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR

IT IS ORDERED that the fine of \$ 4,000 be suspended, in this matter..

<u>November 7, 2025</u>	<u>/s/ Cecily E. Collier Montgomery</u>
Date	Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery, Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that I have served a true copy of the foregoing Order was served, via U.S.P.S. on Villareal Johnson, Candidate, at 2934 Nelson Place, SE, Washington, D.C. 20020 and by email to vjohnson2006@gmail.com.

Notice

Any party adversely affected by an Order of the Director may: (1) file a Motion for Reconsideration (Motion) with the OCF within five (5) days after receipt of an Order, provided that, relevant evidence was omitted from consideration at the hearing (3 DCMR § 3709.13); or (2) obtain review of the Order by filing a request for a hearing *de novo* with the Board of Elections within fifteen (15) days from the date of issuance of an Order. Any fine imposed by the Director pursuant to § 3711.4 shall become effective on the sixteenth (16th) day following the issuance of a decision or Order; provided that, the Respondent does not request a hearing *de novo* with the Board of Elections. Fines imposed shall be paid within ten (10) days of the effective date of the issued Order of the Director. Make payment by check or money order, payable to: *District of Columbia Treasurer*. Send payment to the *Office of Campaign Finance, 1015 Half Street S.E., Suite 775, Washington, DC 2003*.