

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:
CASE NUMBER
C 2022-134

COMPLAINT FORM

COMPLAINANT: State Ethics Commission
ADDRESS: 201 Executive Center Drive
Suite 150
Columbia, SC 29210

RESPONDENT: Carlton Boyd
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (803) 253-4192

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

TITLE: Candidate - Governor

Section 8-13-1308, S.C. Code Ann., 1976, as amended, requires candidates to file Campaign Disclosures within ten (10) days of receiving or expending \$500; fifteen (15) days prior to each election; within ten (10) days of the end of each quarter; and a final report when the campaign account is closed. In addition, certified campaign reports detailing campaign contributions and expenditures must contain the total of contributions accepted, the name and address of each person making a contribution, the total expenditures made by or on behalf of the candidate or committee, and the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made from campaign funds. Pursuant to Section 8-13-1362 and Regulation 52-504 (C), the Pre-Election and quarterly report are required even when there have been no contributions or expenditures.

Records of the State Ethics Commission indicate that an Initial Campaign Disclosure was due no later than April 9, 2022 and a Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure was due between May 25, 2022 and May 30, 2022.

Respondent was reminded of the Initial filing requirement by a certified letter dated May 6, 2022 as described in the attached. To date, a properly completed Initial or Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure have not been received. All in violation of Section 8-13-1308(A), Section 8-13-1308(D)(1), and Section 8-13-1308 (F), S.C. Code Ann., 1976, as amended.

If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Richland

Personally appeared before me Meghan L. Walker who, first being duly sworn, says that she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
19th day of October, 2022

[REDACTED]

Meghan L Walker, Executive Director

[REDACTED]

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission expires 01/22/26

SEC-7 (Revised 3/2022)

REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192
ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
Complaint C2022-134)	
)	
State Ethics Commission)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Complainant.)	
)	
Carlton Boyd)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO FILE AN INITIAL CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(A), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2022 Initial Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(A).

COUNT TWO
FAILURE TO FILE A PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(D), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2022 Pre-Election CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(D).

COUNT THREE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FOUR
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FIVE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT SIX
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT SEVEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT EIGHT
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023

Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT NINE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2024 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT ELEVEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2024 Quarter 2/Final CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any

questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.



Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 11th day,
of December 2024.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Carlton Boyd, 226 Branchview Drive, Columbia, SC 29229 by depositing said **NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 19th day of December 2024, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant

State Ethics Commission

(803) 253-4192

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2022-134)
State Ethics Commission)
Complainant.)
Carlton Boyd)
Respondent.)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

**AMENDED
NOTICE OF HEARING**

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO FILE AN INITIAL CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(A), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2022 Initial Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(A).

COUNT TWO
FAILURE TO FILE A PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(D), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2022 Pre-Election CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(D).

COUNT THREE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FOUR
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023

Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2024 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT ELEVEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Carlton Boyd, gubernational candidate, did in Richland County, fail to file 2024 Quarter 2/Final CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any

questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.




Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 26th day,
of March 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Carlton Boyd, 226 Branchview Drive, Columbia, SC 29229 by depositing said **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 26th day of March 2025, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.


Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission

Columbia, South Carolina

(803) 253-4192

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
COMPLAINT C2022-134)	
)	
State Ethics Commission,)	CONSENT ORDER
Complainant,)	
)	
Carlton Boyd,)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission (Commission) by way of a Complaint filed on October 19, 2022. Pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i) of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act), the Complaint against Carlton Boyd (Respondent) was considered by the Commission and probable cause was found to warrant an evidentiary hearing. Prior to the call of the case, Respondent agreed to the following:

STATEMENTS OF FACT

1. Respondent was an unsuccessful candidate for Governor in a June 14, 2022 primary election.
2. Respondent submitted his Statement of Intention of Candidacy and Party Pledge to the State Election Commission on March 30, 2022, and paid the \$4,243.12 filing fee.
3. Respondent did not file an Initial Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR) within ten (10) days of paying the \$4,243.12 filing fee.
4. Respondent did not file a 2022 Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) prior to March 30, 2022, the close of filing for the office of Governor.
5. In a May 6, 2022 certified letter, the Commission notified Respondent of his failure to timely file an Initial CDR and a 2022 Statement of Economic Interests (SEI). This letter was mailed to Respondent’s address of record at 4611 Hard Scrabble Road in Columbia, South Carolina.¹

¹ 4611 Hard Scrabble Road is not Respondent’s residential address, but rather a UPS Store that provides private mailbox services to its customers.

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6. According to the United States Postal Service (USPS), the certified letter was “Delivered to Agent for Final Delivery” on May 9, 2022 at 5:52 p.m. The signature on the USPS Return Receipt was illegible.
7. On May 23, 2022, Respondent filed a 2022 SEI, but did not file an Initial CDR.²
8. On May 23, 2022, late-filing penalties began to accrue at \$10.00 per day.
9. On May 29, 2022, late-filing penalties began to accrue at \$100.00 per day.
10. Respondent did not file a Pre-Election CDR between May 25, 2022 and May 30, 2022, which was fifteen (15) to twenty (20) days prior to the June 14, 2022 primary election.
11. Following the filing of the complaint, Respondent’s campaign bank account records were subpoenaed. These records revealed the following:
 - a. Respondent opened his campaign bank account on April 13, 2022.
 - b. The campaign bank account remained open with funds on-hand.
 - c. The campaign bank account carried a positive balance of approximately \$1,000.00 or less after the June 14, 2022 primary election.
 - d. Respondent’s campaign was entirely self-funded.
 - e. Aside from monthly service charges, the campaign bank account remained dormant after the June 14, 2022 primary election.
12. On July 16, 2024, Respondent filed a 2022 Initial CDR, a 2022 Pre-Election CDR, and nine (9) Quarterly CDRs from Quarter 2, 2022 through Quarter 2, 2024.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Statements of Fact, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. At all times relevant, Respondent was a “candidate” pursuant to Section 8-13-1300(4). Therefore, the Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction.

² Because Respondent filed the 2022 SEI prior to the filing of this complaint, any associated late-filing penalties are being handled through the Commission’s Non-Compliance Division.

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2. Section 8-13-1308 provides, in relevant part:

(A) Upon the receipt or expenditure of campaign contributions or the making of independent expenditures totaling an accumulated aggregate of five hundred dollars or more, a candidate or committee required to file a statement of organization pursuant to Section 8-13-1304(A) must file an initial certified campaign report within ten days of these initial receipts or expenditures. However, a candidate who does not receive or expend campaign contributions totaling an accumulated aggregate of five hundred dollars or more must file an initial certified campaign report fifteen days before an election.

(B) Following the filing of an initial certified campaign report, additional certified campaign reports must be filed within ten days following the end of each calendar quarter in which contributions are received or expenditures are made, whether before or after an election until the campaign account undergoes final disbursement pursuant to the provisions of Section 8-13-1370.

(...)

(D)(1) At least fifteen days before an election, a certified campaign report must be filed showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to or by the candidate or committee for the period ending twenty days before the election. The candidate or committee must maintain a current list during the period before the election commencing at the beginning of the calendar quarter of the election of all contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures. The list must be open to public inspection upon request.

3. Section 8-13-1510(A) provides:

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, a person required to file a report or statement under this chapter who files a late statement or report or fails to file a required statement or report must be assessed a civil penalty as follows: (1) a fine of one hundred dollars if the statement or report is not filed within five days after the established deadline provided by law in this chapter; and (2) after notice has been given by certified or registered mail that a required statement or report has not been filed, a fine of ten dollars per calendar day for the first ten days after notice has been given, and one hundred dollars for each additional calendar day in which the required statement or report is not filed, not exceeding five thousand dollars.

4. Section 8-13-130 allows the Commission to “levy an enforcement or administrative fee on a person who is in violation” of the Ethics Act.

DISCUSSION

The Commission found probable cause to charge Respondent with one (1) count of violating Section 8-13-1308(A) for failing to file an Initial CDR by April 9, 2022; one (1) count of violating

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Section 8-13-1308(D)(1) for failing to file a Pre-Election CDR prior to the June 14, 2022 primary election; and nine (9) counts of violating Section 8-13-1308(B) for failing to file nine (9) quarterly CDRs from Quarter 2 2022 through Quarter 2 2024.³ Through this Consent Order, Respondent acknowledges he violated the Ethics Act when he failed to timely file the required CDRs. As mitigation, Respondent states that the 2022 election was his first run for public office and that he was unfamiliar with all the statutory duties imposed by the Ethics Act. Respondent states that he was aware that he was required to file something with the Commission prior to the primary election, but believed the 2022 SEI fulfilled that requirement. Respondent states that his campaign was entirely self-funded. Respondent further states he did not receive the Commission's May 6, 2022 correspondence that was mailed to his UPS mailbox on Hard Scrabble Road. Respondent states that it was not until a Commission investigator contacted him following the filing of the complaint that he became aware of his filing deficiencies.

DISPOSITION

1. The Commission hereby finds Respondent in violation of one (1) count of Section 8-13-1308(A), one (1) count of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1), and nine (9) counts of Section 8-13-1308(B).
2. The Commission hereby adopts the Statements of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Discussion, and Disposition as agreed upon by the Respondent.

THEREFORE, the Commission hereby issues a written warning and orders the Respondent to pay the Commission, within six (6) months from receipt of this Order, a reduced late-filing penalty of \$500.00 and an administrative fee of \$500.00, for a total of \$1,000.00. The Commission declines to assess any accrued penalties in light of the mitigation listed above, with a particular emphasis on the

³ Respondent was also charged with failing to disclose contributions and expenditures in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F). However, because Respondent has since disclosed all contributions and expenditures, the Commission declines to proceed as to these counts.


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fact that Respondent may not have received the Commission's May 6, 2022 certified notice of his failure to file.

By executing this Consent Order, Respondent understands that he is not only admitting to violations of the Ethics Act, but also confessing to a judgment of \$1,000.00 (less any money paid to the Commission) in the event he does not make full and timely payment as provided for in this Order. In that event, the Commission shall file a Judgment against Respondent in the Clerk of Court's Office in the County of Respondent's last known residence. Upon said filing, the Clerk of Court shall enter this Order in the amount of \$1,000.00 (less any money paid to the Commission) in its Judgment Rolls, without cost to the Commission.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 18TH DAY OF June 2025.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



CARLTON BOYD
RESPONDENT