

2017 Complaints/Dismissals/Hearings

2017 Election Supervisory Board Complaint Dismissal 2017-003

03/09/17

Dear Robert David:

The Election Supervisory Board has reviewed your complaint, and we are writing to inform you that we have made the determination to dismiss based on the following:

Title II, Chapter 4, Section 4.2

“DISMISSAL OF COMPLAINT: The Election Supervisory Board may dismiss a complaint if:

- a. The complaint was not filed within a reasonable amount of time; or,
- b. **The complaint fails to state a cause of action of which relief may be granted;** or,
- c. The filing of the complaint violates a provision of TITLE II, Section 4.1.

The nature of your complaint states that on the evening of Wednesday 03/08/17, Micky Wolf was going student-to-student on the fifth floor of the PCL, asking for support while holding a cardboard cutout of Alejandrina Guzman. However, it has been determined by the Election Supervisory Board that because the fifth floor of the PCL is a collaborative study area, and therefore not a quiet study area, that there is no violation of the common code.

Therefore, the Election Supervisory Board is dismissing your complaint on the ground that talking to students in a collaborative study area is not a violation of the common code.

Sincerely,

Catrin Watts, Chair

Alex Byron, Vice Chair

Sarah Fahim, Secretary

Catherine Wright, Member

AbdulKarim Bora, Member

Luis Limon, Member

Jennifer Valdez, Member

Hudson LaMothe, Member

Alexandra George, Alt-Member

Sofia Aranha, Alt-Member

Complaint 2017-006

3/8/17

Name: Robert David

UTEID:

Phone Number:

Email Address: Meriming@att.net

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Description of complaint: Micky Wolf is going student-to-student at the PCL, asking for support while holding a (NOT free-standing) cardboard cutout of Alejandrina, disrupting a learning environment during a time that is widely stressful for many students.

Are you running for an elected position? no

If yes, have you taken steps to resolve the issue with the other candidate(s) involved? no

Please describe the steps that have been taken to resolve the dispute. I asked him to stop.

2017 Election Supervisory Board Complaint Dismissal 2017-002

03/08/17

Dear Ian and Karishma:

The Election Supervisory Board has reviewed your complaint, and we are writing to inform you that we have made the determination to dismiss based on the following:

Title II, Chapter 4, Section 4.2

“DISMISSAL OF COMPLAINT: The Election Supervisory Board may dismiss a complaint if:

- a. The complaint was not filed within a reasonable amount of time; or,
- b. **The complaint fails to state a cause of action of which relief may be granted;** or,
- c. The filing of the complaint violates a provision of TITLE II, Section 4.1.

The nature of your complaint states that Paul Mannie used a printer located in a locked office designated only for use for Campus Events + Entertainment to print flyers and campaign materials for the Carter-O’Connell campaign. Furthermore, the complaint states concern as to whether the materials would have been declared on a financial disclosure. However, it has been determined by the Election Supervisory Board that there were no explicit restrictions on this printer and that it is open to use by students, and that the materials will be disclosed on the next financial disclosure, due 4:30pm on Thursday 3/9/17, and therefore, there is no violation of the common code.

Therefore, the Election Supervisory Board is dismissing your complaint on the ground that printing from the E+E printer and waiting until the next financial disclosure to report material costs is not a violation of the common code.

Sincerely,
Catrin Watts, Chair
Sarah Fahim, Secretary
Catherine Wright, Member
AbdulKarim Bora, Member
Luis Limon, Member
Jennifer Valdez, Member

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Hudson LaMothe, Member
Alexandra George, Alt-Member

2017 Election Supervisory Board Direct Notice of Hearing 2017-002

Dear Ian, Karishma, Isaiah, and Sydney,

This is a notification informing you to be present for a hearing conducted by the Election Supervisory Board on **Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at 7:00pm CST in SAC 3.106.**

In order to successfully conduct hearings in a timely manner between notification and event under Section 4.5 of the Election Code, we ask that you **let us know no later than Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at 5:00pm CST if you absolutely cannot make this time.** As this hearing will take place during the voting period, the 24-hour notice has been waived.

We will hold this hearing in order to review and rule on the facts of the complaint brought forward by Ian Durben and Karishma Adnani regarding a potential violation of the election code. Below is the description of the complaint.

During the hearing, both the complaining party and the responding party will be given 5 minutes to present information and evidence. Each side will then be given 3 minutes for a rebuttal, followed by a period of question and answer by the board.

For further details regarding specific hearing procedures, refer to Title II, Chapter IV, Subchapter A of the Student Government Election Code, or email the Vice Chair.

Thank you,

Catrin Watts
Election Supervisory Board, Chair

Complaint 2017-005

Name: Ian Durben & Karishma Adnani

UTEID:

Phone Number:

Email Address: ianrdurben@gmail.com & karishmaadnani@utexas.edu

Description of complaint: The Isaiah Carter – Sydney O’Connell campaign (specifically, Paul Mannie) used a printer located in a locked office designated only for use for Campus Events + Entertainment and printed flyers and campaign materials. We suspect this is not an expense that would have been declared on their campaign budget and as such is a violation of campaign

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code. Again, we are not intimately familiar with campaign code, but we felt that this was not right and should be reported/recorded.

Are you running for an elected position? no

If yes, have you taken steps to resolve the issue with the other candidate(s) involved? No

Please describe the steps that have been taken to resolve the dispute.

2017 Election Supervisory Board Direct Notice of Hearing 2017-001

2/27/17

9:04 am CST Update: Eliav Terk has been added as a complainant. See Complaint 2017-004 for details of complaint.

11:51am CST Update: Jessica Dorsey has been added as a complainant. See Complaint 2017-003 for details of complaint.

2/26/17

Dear Amber, Isaiah, and Sydney,

This is a notification informing you to be present for a hearing conducted by the Election Supervisory Board on **Monday, February 27, 2017, at 5:30pm CST in SAC 3.106.**

In order to successfully conduct hearings in a timely manner between notification and event under Section 4.5 of the Election Code, we ask that you let us know no later than Monday, February 27, 2017, at 5:30am CST if you absolutely cannot make this time.

We will hold this hearing in order to review and rule on the facts of the complaint brought forward by Amber Camilleri regarding a potential violation of the election code. Below is the description of the complaint.

During the hearing, both the complaining party and the responding party will be given 5 minutes to present information and evidence. Each side will then be given 3 minutes for a rebuttal, followed by a period of question and answer by the board.

For further details regarding specific hearing procedures, refer to Title II, Chapter IV, Subchapter A of the Student Government Election Code, or email the Vice Chair.

Thank you,

Catrin Watts
Election Supervisory Board, Chair

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Complaint 2017-002

2/24/27

Name: Amber Camilleri

UTEID:

Phone Number:

Email Address: asdfghamber@gmail.com

Description of complaint: I am an independent student (with no ties to any of the student body presidential campaigns), but I read the article in the Daily Texan and I'm outraged by the violations of the 2016 SG Election Code committed by the Isaiah Carter and Sydney O'Connell presidential campaign. At least 16 students (who did not personally know the sender) received emails on January 23rd, asking them to join the Carter-O'Connell campaign three weeks before the campaign period started on February 15th. Carter admitted to rule-breaking and abusing his position as SG Chief of Staff by using the Student Government database. He told the "Daily Texan" that his campaign email was sent to roughly 200 of the 1,000 students in the database. This is a clear violation of the Election Code and it is time to stop tolerating rule-breaking in our student body elections. Witness: Ida Hishmeh (Business freshman), one of the recipients of the email.

Are you running for an elected position? no

If yes, have you taken steps to resolve the issue with the other candidate(s) involved? no

Please describe the steps that have been taken to resolve the dispute. not applicable

Complaint 2017-003

2/26/17

Name: Jessica Dorsey

UTEID:

Phone Number:

Email Address: jessica.dorsey324@gmail.com

Description of complaint: I personally received an email from Isaiah Carter and Sydney campaign about joining their campaign in late January 2017. I had never met him or her, or anyone on his campaign team before, nor had I expressed any interest in joining their campaign. I applied to be an LLA and expressed interest in student government at the beginning of last semester. I am assuming that is how they got my email from one of those rosters, which Isaiah had access to with his position on SG — that is an abuse of power and an unfair advantage over the other campaigns. This email that was sent to me is only one instance of early campaigning, which is a violation of the election code. I want a fair election and I believe this violates it. Please deeply consider the unfairness of this complaint. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Jessica Dorsey

Are you running for an elected position? no

If yes, have you taken steps to resolve the issue with the other candidate(s) involved? no

Complaint 2017-004

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2/26/17

Name: Eliav Terk

UTEID:

Phone Number:

Email Address: eterk123@gmail.com

Description of complaint: I personally received an email from Isaiah Carter about joining his campaign on January 23rd 2017. I had never met him or anyone on his campaign team before, nor had I expressed any interest in joining his campaign. I expressed interest in getting involved in student government during summer orientation and am assuming he got my email from that roster, which he had access to with his position on SG - that is an abuse of power and an unfair advantage over the other campaigns. This email that was sent to me is only one instance of early campaigning, which is a violation of the election code. I have a copy of the time-stamped email available upon request if you'd like a copy of it.

2017 Election Supervisory Board Complaint Dismissal 2017-001

02/17/17

Dear Evan Weiss:

The Election Supervisory Board has reviewed your complaint, and we are writing to inform you that we have made the determination to dismiss based on the following:

Title II, Chapter 4, Section 4.2

“DISMISSAL OF COMPLAINT: The Election Supervisory Board may dismiss a complaint if:

- a. The complaint was not filed within a reasonable amount of time; or,
- b. **The complaint fails to state a cause of action of which relief may be granted;** or,
- c. The filing of the complaint violates a provision of TITLE II, Section 4.1.

The nature of your complaint states that a candidate posted in the official, faculty-ran, class of 2020 Facebook page to promote their campaign. However, it has been determined by the Election Supervisory Board that because the candidate is a member of that Facebook group – it is a group and not a page, as stated in the complaint – and the moderators of the group have allowed the post, that the candidate is not in violation of the common code.

The Election Supervisory Board is charged with ensuring a fair election process. Anyone can post in a Facebook group that they are a member of and members of these groups are consenting to receiving content that is publicly posted, and allowed by moderators to remain, in the group.

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Therefore, the Election Supervisory Board is dismissing your complaint on the ground that posting in a Facebook group that the candidate is a member of is not a violation of the common code.

Sincerely,

Catrin Watts, Chair
Alex Byron, Vice-Chair
Sarah Fahim, Secretary
Catherine Wright, Member
Maysa Alqaisi, Member
AbdulKarim Bora, Member
Luis Limon, Member
Jennifer Valdez, Member

Complaint 2017-001

2/16/17

Name: Evan Weiss

UTEID:

Phone Number:

Email Address: evanweiss@utexas.edu

Description of complaint: University-Wide Candidate Maher Rahman posted in the official, faculty-ran, class of 2020 Facebook page promoting his campaign approximately fifteen hours ago from this complaint. Evidence: <http://imgur.com/a/hscld>

Are you running for an elected position? yes

If yes, have you taken steps to resolve the issue with the other candidate(s) involved? no

Please describe the steps that have been taken to resolve the dispute.