



THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT SUPREME COURT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

**Advisory Opinion: End of Filing Period for First-  
Year Elections**

CHIEF JUSTICE BIRENBAUM delivers the opinion. JUSTICE  
SLAGLE, JUSTICE DARROW, JUSTICE NGUYEN, and  
JUSTICE JEON join.

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AT AUSTIN**

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No. 2018 Fall – 003

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Delivered August 21, 2018

The Court is issuing an advisory opinion regarding the end of the filing period for elections.

Specifically, this opinion aims to answer the question of whether a candidate, who has the intention to file, walks into the Student Government Office one minute before the deadline and finishes signing the filing paperwork two minutes later, making the candidate one minute late, should be disqualified. As reference, Student Government Election Code §3.12 states:

**FILING DOCUMENTS.** The appropriate documents that all candidates seeking to run for office in the Student Government must file in the Student Government Office (SAC 2.102) are: (a) A statement announcing the intention of the candidate to run for a particular office, listing the candidate's current address, phone number, and college; (b) A statement signed by the candidate which gives permission to the Election Supervisory Board to solicit the Dean of Students to verify the requirements for the appropriate office, in accordance with Article I of the Student Government Constitution.

The Student Government Election Code states the end of the filing period. Under Student Government Election Code §3.8:



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**FILING PERIOD.** The filing period shall open at 9:00AM (CST) on the first day of the spring semester. The filing deadline shall be by 12:00PM (CST) on the day of the candidate seminar.

The code clearly states that that the filing deadline, meaning the last time to file for elections, ends 12:00 PM CST. Therefore, the Court finds that a student who has walked into the Student Government Office at 11:59 AM CST and finished signing the necessary paperwork at 12:01 PM CST has not filed in time and cannot be considered a candidate.

It is so ordered.