

FALL 2025 FIRST-YEAR ELECTIONS

Advisory Opinion 2025-004 (AO 2025-004)

Issued: August 29, 2025

"RECRUITMENT OF CAMPAIGN WORKERS & AGENTS"



The 2025 FYE Election Supervisory Board (ESB) is authoring Advisory Opinion AO 2025-004.

WHEREAS, The University of Texas at Austin, Student Government Constitution, authorizes the Election Supervisory Board to oversee and decide on cases for First-Year Elections (FYE). This power is vested in the ESB per The **UT Austin Student Government Constitution §6.7:**

"The Election Supervisory Board shall oversee the annual fall first year student elections of the first-year representatives."

WHEREAS, the Student Government Election Code does not provide guidance for requirements of recruiting campaign staff (workers and agents). Furthermore, since First-Year Elections are different from that of Campus-Wide Elections, First-Year Elections do not fall under the authority of the Campus-Wide Election Code. Thus, ESB seeks to provide general tips that have for candidates of First-Year Elections.

- 1. AVOID SENDING MASS MESSAGES / GROUP MESSAGES. Such messages include Facebook group messages, group messages through GroupMe, and mass emails to recruit workers and/or supporters which could be construed as campaigning. It is recommended that you reach out to people individually regarding joining your campaign staff. If an individual has agreed to be an agent of your campaign, it is recommended that they too should individually solicit campaign workers and recruit the individual in a manner that is clearly not a solicitation of a vote and make a clear distinction that they will be fulfilling the role of a campaign staff.
- 2. AVOID BEING AMBIGUOUS. Refrain from using vague language when recruiting campaign workers. Simply asking for "support" may be construed as campaigning. Recruiting individuals to be agents and workers should be done in a manner that clearly is not solicitation of a vote such as but not limited to asking them if they would like to be a campaign worker, be a member of the campaign, work for the campaign, join the campaign staff, etc.

BY THE POWER VESTED IN THE ELECTION SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN,

ADVISORY OPINION 2025-004 (AO 2025-004) IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

SAMUEL J. HECHT BRADY E. HOWELL RILEY T. MCCAIN ISABELLA HERRERA **KAYA MILLER** Disciplina • Praesidium • Civitatis