Election Supervisory Board Advisory Opinion 2020-004

Subject: Financial Disclosure Deadlines and Penalties

The 2020 Election Supervisory Board is issuing an advisory opinion to clarify the deadlines for financial disclosures and the associated penalties for missing said deadlines. Section 7.14 of the Campus-Wide Election Code specifies that financial disclosures are the purview of the Election Supervisory Board and that disclosures:

“Shall be filed with the Election Supervisory Board, in the Student Government Office (SAC 2.102) or other locations designated by the Election Supervisory Board, at the following times:

(a) By 4:30PM, on the first day of campaigning;
(b) By 4:30PM, on the last day of the General or Special Election.”

Per Section 7.12 of the Campus-Wide Election Code:

“Each candidate must keep accurate and up-to-date records of all campaign receipts and expenditures. A template for financial disclosures for use by all candidates will be developed by the Election Supervisory Board and provided to each group by the first day of filing.”

Following these specifications, the first financial disclosure will be due by **Monday, February 17, 2020 at 4:30 PM**. The second will be due by **Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 4:30 PM**. The second financial disclosure will become available for submission after the due date for the first.

Financial disclosure forms can be found at [utexasvote.org](http://utexasvote.org). The candidate should file their disclosures through the portal on the aforementioned website.

These forms must be submitted before their respective deadlines have passed, regardless of whether or not the candidate has anything to disclose on the form.

For example: *Jane Smith is running for an elected position but does not plan on spending/has not spent any money on her campaign.* Jane Smith still must submit the Financial Disclosure form by the deadline by inputting a zero-dollar amount.

Failure to submit any Financial Disclosure forms by their respective deadlines will be recognized as a failure to comply with the Campus-Wide Election Code and will result in the following violations:

(a) Failure to submit the first Financial Disclosure Form by the deadline will be a Class A Violation (referenced from Sec. 4.13 of the Campus-Wide Election Code “DEFINING CLASSES OF VIOLATIONS”) – up to a 50% decrease of your campaign spending limit.
(b) Failure to submit the second Financial Disclosure Form by the deadline will be a Class A Violation (referenced from Sec. 4.13 of the Campus-Wide Election Code “DEFINING CLASSES OF VIOLATIONS”) – up to a 50% decrease of your campaign spending limit.

Opinion authorized by:

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