

2018 Election Supervisory Board

In Res. Sabrina Chowdhury

ESB Resolution 2018-010

“In the matter of campaigning over Spring Break,”

Whereas, The Election Supervisory Board designated a “suspension of campaigning” over Spring Break period as outlined to candidates both in person, over email, and in Advisory Opinion 2018-008, and;

Whereas, Campus-Wide Election Code Section 8.2 reads:

Sec. 8.2 UNAUTHORIZED CAMPAIGNING. All candidates are prohibited from campaigning, soliciting, or otherwise bringing attention to their campaign or election before the campaign period.

(a) This prohibition includes all attempts to secure endorsements, sponsorships, or any other presentation of information made for public consumption or use.

(b) However, this prohibition does not include the personal individual recruitment by a candidate of individual team members. And;

Whereas, Presidential candidate Guneez Ibrahim retweeted multiple tweets that expressed support for her which in turn brought attention to the Guneez-Hannah alliance during the Spring Break period, a designated period of unauthorized campaigning. Retweeted tweets on the part of Ibrahim included the hashtag “VoteGuneezAndHannah2018”, and people supporting her as a presidential candidacy. And;

Whereas, Campus-Wide Election Code Section 2.11 reads:

Sec. 2.11 “CAMPAIGN” and “CAMPAIGNING” refer to statements, literature, activities or deliberate uses or distribution of materials of any kind that have or are intended to have the effect of soliciting votes, support or interest for a candidate or elective office. Campaigning should only occur during the official campaign period as defined in this Code, and;

Whereas, The retweets as noted above were determined to fall under the definition of “campaigning” as outlined in the Campus-Wide Election Code, and;

Whereas, Precedent set by ESB Resolutions 2018-004, 2018-007, and 2018-008 informs the board's decision in that only the specific actors on social media found in violation, be it the official campaign or an individual candidate or agent, are held liable for violations committed, therefore be it;

Resolved: The actions of Presidential candidate Guneez Ibrahim warrant a Class B violation of Section 4.12 of the Student Government Election Code. The Board has ruled that the Ibrahim will have a moratorium of campaigning placed against only herself from the period of 8:00am, March 22nd, 2018, to 5:00pm, March 22nd, 2018, and be it;

Resolved: That any party adversely affected by this decision has the right to appeal in accordance to Section 5.1 of the Campus Wide Election Code:

“APPEAL OF ESB DECISION. Any party adversely affected by a decision of the Election Supervisory Board may file an appeal with the entity with appellate jurisdiction within twenty-four (24) hours after the adverse decision is announced, unless the Election Supervisory Board's decision takes place during a voting period.”

In conclusion, the Election Supervisory Board submits its resolution on Thursday, March 22, 2018, with the majority of board members who were present at the meeting.

Affirmative Votes:

Jennifer Valdez, Chair
Alexandra George, Vice-Chair
Spencer Buckner, Secretary
Mariano Bracamontes Akle
Carlos Campos
Nrhari Duran
Taylor Newman
Tessa Slagle
Farhan Kassam Ali