

Election Commission Meeting Minutes

Student Government Association

Elections Commission Meeting

Thursday, January 27th, 2022

Call to Order: 8:30

Elections Commission Members Present: Spencer Greenwood (Supervisor of Elections), Vice

Chair: Nicholas Concilla, Mackie Taranto, Kelvin Ready, Corey Adamyk, Khamisi Thorpe, Carter Pope, Henry Thompson

Guests: Ashley Gonzalez, Connor Kennon, Gabbi Little, Jack Rowan, Jason Puwalski, Kirsten Harold, Maggie Gahan, Rawan Abhari, Kenley Adams, Brandon Louis, Marcus Williams, Jimmy Wood, Henry Thompson, Nimna Gabadage

New Business: Hearing violations regarding the alleged election code violations by the Forward Student Body Presidential Ticket

- Acting Chair Concilla read aloud that the three violations are about breaking the election code statute forbidding to campaigning before the 1 week election period

Gabbi Little representing Surge FSU, begins argument. Details how all three members of Forward FSU solicited support from the student body by asking students to support them on election day which is held on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Posts violate statutes, by using the phrase/word support in their announcement message. The law of 711(C)(4) is clear. Yields rest of time

Jason Puwalski responds for Forward FSU. Statutes are very clear when violations are enforceable and when they can be presented to the Elections Commission. Proceeds to give full overview of chapter 700, says that the code can be enforced 3 weeks prior to an election and we are not in that time area yet. This complaint is not meeting the 3 week threshold. Will save the rest of argument for case in chief, and yields time to save 2 ½ minutes for time.

Acting Chair Concilla. Will give a 2 minute warning and will interrupt when time is over. EC members can ask questions starting after 3 minutes after arguments.

Jack Rowan starts argument for Surge FSU. Says that statute 711 is clear and argues back against the argument said previously by arguing that this complaint can be brought against Forward, and is within its time limit to report. This case is simple, the posts are clear cut and simple, Forward

violated the election code. Brings up Walker v. Unite Using this reasoning, the party must be found responsible for these violations. The party must be found responsible for these violations.

Acting Chair Concilla calls for 3 minute recess, adjourned at 8:57

Acting Chair Concilla calls Hearing back to order at 9:00

Jason Puwalski begins his case in chief.

Describes how the election code would not be enforceable outside of the 3 week election period laid out in chapter 700 of the Election Code. Questions from commissioners Pope, Ready, Concilla, Thorpe, Taranto, and Adamyk. The SOE approved these before releasing them to the public, so Forward was of the opinion that they were in line with the code.

Closing statements begin

Gabbi Little Presents for Surge, says that it is a clear and shut case, Forward violated the Election Code and should be found responsible for campaigning earlier than 1 week before the election.

Jason Puwalski presents for Forward, saying that the code cannot be enforced before this three week deadline and the SOE approved of the campaign materials before being posted, even though that would not absolve them of any wrongdoing.

Acting Chair Concilla adjourns for 1 hour meeting with Election Commissioners

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.