



## Associated Student Government Judiciary

ASGJ-2018-GE4

### Election Violation Complaint Decision

March 12, 2018

*Associate Justice Pierce Teeuwen authoring for the Majority decision where the majority Rules (5-0).*

#### **I. Introduction**

The Majority has ruled that the election violation complaint ASGJ-2018-GE4, filed against the candidates of the For The Hill ticket – Spencer Bone, Abby Sikes, Marco Gargano, and Josie Dubois – does not constitute a violation. The parties involved have not violated Section IV, §§ D, E of the Official Statement on Elections, which prohibits the use of setting up a polling station. This verdict was made on the basis of evidence and testimonies provided by the Complainant, Witnesses, and the Defendants during the time of the formal ASG Judiciary hearing held March 13th in Arkansas Union 640, after ASGJ quorum was met.

#### **II. Facts of the Case**

The court was asked to determine whether the For The Hill campaign violated Section IV, §§D, E of the Official Statement on Elections.

The complainant, Christine Carroll, submitted the claim on March 5, 2018. The complainant's argument is that the QR code is different than the link "vote.uark.edu", in that the QR code facilitates voting.

The defendants stated that a QR code does not facilitate voting, but rather provides another means to access the voting website. Their second point is that the violation cited claims the polling station must have access to the university network, and that a QR code is not a computer but instead requires a computer to use it, thus removing a step in the process.

#### **III. Discussion**

The court's main determination was to decide if there was a difference in a QR code and the link "vote.uark.edu". If we determine that there is no difference then we cannot apply a sanction to a QR code and not to the link. The evidence provided by the complaining party did not provide sufficient evidence to explain the difference as to why a QR code is facilitation and the link is not.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

The court does not find the complainant's argument persuasive that QR codes facilitate voting in violation of the election code. This court believes QR codes simply provide a link to the voting website in the same manner as advertising the "vote.uark.edu" URL. It is the conclusion of the Majority that there was not a violation of Title VII, § D (E) of the Official Statement on Elections that occurred on the early morning of March 5, 2018.

**V. Decision**

The court finds that Spencer Bone, Abby Sikes, Marco Gargano, and Josie DuBois did not commit an election violation by placing QR codes on signs and banners. As the decision was ruled in favor of the majority, the majority rules. The decision stands as is.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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**Authored by Justice Pierce Teeuwen**

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**Joined by Justice Zana English**

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**Joined by Justice Julianna Tidwell**

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**Joined by Justice Brandon Turner**

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**Joined by Proxy Bennett Waddell**

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