



EXECUTIVE BRANCH

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Jonathan P. Polera

To: Luke Brown, Supervisor of Elections
CC: Brice Lister, Student Body President
Alexander Brawley, Student Body Vice President
Brodie Taylor, Student Government Coordinator
From: Jonathan P. Polera, Attorney General
Date: March 12, 2025
Subject: Opinion on if Votes for Disqualified Tickets Count

I, Attorney General Polera, in accordance with Title VI: The Election Statutes of the Student Body of the University of Central Florida, hereby issue the following opinion to the Supervisor of Elections, Luke Brown, and all other interested parties:

The question being presented is whether votes for a presidential ticket that is disqualified by the Election Commission should count in determining whether a run-off election should be held.

The answer is yes. The votes cast by the Student Body for an approved candidate, even one who has been disqualified, should still count toward the total number of votes in the election.

The evidence supporting this opinion comes from Title VI, Sections 604.4(A) and 604.6(D). Regarding actions to be taken if the candidate wins, this opinion doesn't affect that and I refer to Section 604.4(A) states, "A Special Election will occur if the winning candidate/ticket is disqualified." This opinion focuses solely on whether the votes should count toward the total voting population, not the subsequent actions. According to 604.6(D), "Votes for any individual other than those sanctioned to be on the ballot either as a declared candidate or registered write-in shall be discarded and shall not count toward the total number of votes cast." Since a disqualified presidential candidate was on the approved list of candidates at the time of voting, their votes should still count as part of the total number of voters, despite the disqualification.

It is so ordered,

Jonathan P. Polera

Attorney General
University of Central Florida



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