

Election Commission (EC) Violation Hearing Student Government Conference Room (SU 320) February 28, 2025 8:50 AM

# EC VIOLATION HEARING

1. Call to Order: 8:57 AM

2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 6/4

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Supervisor of Elections Luke Brown	sga_ec@ucf.edu sgec9@ucf.edu	Р	
Assistant Supervisor of Elections Alyssia Wright	sga_aec@ucf.edu sgec3@ucf.edu	P	
<b>Commissioner</b> Norah Sackett	sgec1@ucf.edu	Р	
Commissioner VACANT	sgec2@ucf.edu	-	-
<b>Commissioner</b> Aneesha Nayak	sgec4@ucf.edu	Р	
<b>Commissioner</b> Amarah Presley	sgec5@ucf.edu	Р	
Commissioner VACANT	sgec6@ucf.edu	-	-
<b>Commissioner</b> Jessica Vitarelli	sgec7@ucf.edu	E	
<b>Commissioner</b> Brianna Phillips	sgec8@ucf.edu	Р	
Commissioner VACANT	sgec10@ucf.edu	-	-

- a. Introduction of Violation Hearing:
  - a. Supervisor Brown: On February 21st, Hailey Donahue submitted an affidavit regarding a reddit post made by Brandon Garrett on his account u/B1gManB0b and on his personal Instagram account: @brandongrtt. Along with that, the filer submitted a picture of a flyer



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handed out on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Today the Election Commission will be determining if this is a violation of the Election Statutes under Title VI, Chapter 606.4, Section D stating that "Active campaigning before the specifically designed time for Active Campaigning."

#### b. Statement of the Filer:

a. On Monday, Presidents' Day, I was given this flyer by John Leflame. He told me that I got handed a flyer by Brandon advertising his campaign. It was to my knowledge that handing out printed material before the active campaign period was not allowed. Also, I had seen a social media post that could be seen as a violation of statues as it was posted before the designated campaign period.

# c. Statement of the Accused:

a. All the materials submitted by me or the other parties, the reddit is not my account but a friend, we were aiming to educate and get my name out. I was not stating i was a candidate but interested in running. I ran this by Alyssia and Luke and received approval for both. I had to inform Jon multiple times that I was not running for president but attempting to gain the necessary signatures, him doing this was outside the rules I expressed

### d. Questioning of the Filer:

- a. On the flyer you submitted, it says this is not a vote, and that this is aimed just to qualify as a candidate. Despite what the friend said do you believe this is a reason
  - i. This was about giving out tangible materials prior. Two years prior I was not permitted to do this. This would have constituted a violation in the past.

### e. Questioning of the Accused:

- a. Nayak: You mentioned the reddit post was not made by you but rather friends, did you make it or did they do it before asking
  - i. I wasn't aware of what they were putting in the post, and they stated they should make the post
- b. Presley: I see that you got permission from Luke and Alyssia for the flyer, were you aware of election statues
  - i. Yes, I was aware, and I always made sure to ask permission and be careful with my posts. I also ran it by a friend.
- c. Sackett: On your personal Instagram you a made a post to request signatures but it doesn't clarify you haven't been cleared to run. Did you think about this prior to ensure there was no confusion?
  - i. The was a post prior clarifying this
- f. Questioning of the Filers Witnesses and Evidence:
  - a. Witness Nathan Lax: My name is Nathan Lax, and in 2023 I ran for Student Body President of the University of Central Florida. So, for reference, this is not the first time I've been in front of the election commission. This statement is a verification of fact, as well as the acknowledgement of statutes. Firstly, the statement of fact that I was handed a piece of



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paper requesting my signature for the petition for Brandon Garret and Liam Casco to run for Student Body President and Vice President. This was handed to me by an individual named John LaFlamme, who stated that his friends Brandon Garrett and Liam Casco were running for president. (A statement that is not allowed to be made at that point in the campaign.) The paper itself contained a QR code, the faces of the (at the time prospective) candidates and a statement that they need petition signatures in order to run. This was not concurrent with the statement I was given at the handoff of the campaign materials. While many facets of the petition-gathering process remain up to the understanding of the candidates, Supervisor of Elections, and Election Commission to adjudicate any potential campaign violations; the statutes of elections, title six are drafted and put through the E&A committee as well as the Student Body Senate. Under said statutes, the distribution of any and all material before the campaigning period is expressly and strictly forbidden. This was not a post online, it was not the creation of a campaign page that didn't have anything beyond a name. This was the purposeful design, production, printing, and distribution of materials branded with the faces and names of the candidates. All of this, mind you, at a time when other candidates had received the necessary signatures without the need to break campaign statutes in order to do so. While I am on the subject of election statutes, I should also note that Title Six, section 606.20, Subsection D requires the supervisor of elections to: "submit a memo containing all information that will be examined during the violation hearing to both the affidavit filer and accused candidate/ticket, at least one (1) academic day prior to the violation hearing. The memo will inform both individuals of the process by which to review the submitted evidence." One academic day, not 36 minutes. If we are operating on a new title six, which certainly seems to be the case, it would only be fair to make that information publicly available. The site still contains statutes outlining that what the candidates did was wrong, "conditional approval" or not. Thank you, and I yield to your questions.

- b. When you were stating that you were handed the flyer, you stated that the person who handed you flier states that they were actively running, but the flyer stated that they were collecting signatures
  - i. Yes
- c. Presley: In section 604.10A of Title IV, "The candidate/ticket is not responsible for unauthorized verbal, written or physical campaigning by third parties." Were you aware of this statue
  - i. Yes, I was aware
- g. Questioning of the Accused Candidate/Ticket's Witnesses and Evidence:
  - a. Phillips: I just want to ensure i have all facts correct
    - i. I told him not to say that and to make up policies for me. I told him I never said I was going to do that. I was only trying to get signatures, and he did not listen to me about this.



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- b. Did he continue to do this?
  - i. Yes
- c. Nayak: What's your relationship with the individual?
  - i. He's in one of my classes and the brother of one of the members of the someone in united nations. I talk to him occasionally but i am not friends with him
- d. Sackett: How did he find out you were wanting to run?
  - i. I was outside the front of the student union, and he began handing out flyers after he asked what was going on.
- e. Donahue: Jon said he was your friend, is that true?
  - i. We have been friendly but never have socialized outside of united nations
- f. Sackett: Do you know why he took the imitative?
  - i. He was talking about how he ran and how the commission failed him in the past.
- h. Final Questioning:
  - a. None
- i. Closing Statement of the Filer:
  - a. Donahue: Thank you for listening to this, if you have update statutes to include handing out items, please update title 6. I have no further comments
- i. Closing Statement of the Accused Candidate/Ticket:
  - a. Garrett: Thank you for listening, and I am hoping the statements I presented and the evidence alongside it prove i am not guilty.
- k. Election Commission Deliberation:
  - a. Executive Sessions
  - b. 0-6-0. No violation has occurred
- 1. Final Roll Call: 6/4
- m. Adjournment: 9:26 AM

### Key:

- P Present
- A Absent
- E Excused
- MTD Move to Debate
- MTV Move to Vote
- MTA- Move to Amend

MSQD – Motion for Speech, Questioning, & Debate Time

- PP Postpone
- PPI Postpone Indefinitely
- GC General Consent



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