

## Ruling #7 Summary

Illegal Campaigning in SUB.

## Parties to the Ruling

- Jacob Verghese, Chief Returning Officer
- Farah Elgaweesh, VP Academic Candidate

## Elections Office Jurisdiction

Illegal Campaigning to gain an advantage in the election

## Applicable Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations

- Bylaw 320, section 17.2: "Penalties available to the C.R.O. shall include (a) a fine to be counted against the Candidate's or side's Campaign Expenses..."
- Bylaw 320, section 17.3: "The C.R.O. shall draft a schedule of fines and penalties as an appendix to the rules and regulations concerning this bylaw."
- General Election Nomination Package, page 8: "Like physical materials, campaign materials used on social media must be approved by the CRO before being made public."
- General Nomination package, page 8: "Candidates must provide the CRO with a list of all account URLs for social media platforms; the CRO needs to follow or otherwise track those accounts before they can be used for campaigning."
- General Election Nomination Package, page 11: "While the Bylaws require disqualification in several situations, they also give the Chief Returning Officer significant latitude to enforce penalties as appropriate in other situations, including a fine to be counted against the candidate's campaign expense limit."
- Used previous CRO cases to make judgment decisions based on these offenses.
- General Nomination package, page 5: "Volunteers, defined as anyone who assists in any campaign activity, are bound by the same rules as candidates. It is the candidate's responsibility to inform their volunteers of election rules. Candidates are responsible for the actions of their volunteers and may be subject to penalties as a result of their volunteers' conduct."
- General Nomination package, page 5 "**Permitted Access**

Campaigning is not permitted in the following areas without the permission of the CRO:

- **Any business or service operated by the Students' Union, including Room At The Top (RATT), Dewey's, Students' Union Building<sup>1</sup>, InfoLink booths and any other Students' Union service or office space."**

## Findings

A student at large had come to the election office and asked if campaigning was allowed in SUB as they thought the rules had changed from last year. The election office said no they have not and went to check on it himself. The CRO had seen Elgaweesh's campaign manager campaigning by going to tables and talking about it.

## Ruling

Farah's Campaign manager has contravened the rule of campaigning in an unauthorized area.

## Penalty

\$11.00 (\$10.00 + \$0.10\*10 potential students reached) in compensatory fines for unsolicited campaigning.

\$15.00 in punitive fines for continued breach of bylaws.

Total \$26.00 in total fines.

## Appeal

Rulings of the CRO may be [appealed to the DIE Board](#) by current undergraduate students, using the DIE Board Application Form, within 12 working hours of the ruling being posted. This ruling was posted at 4:00 P.M. on Monday, March 11th and the deadline for appeal is 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 13th.