Current Interpretation of Active Campaigning Violations

Section I. Interpretations

Article 1.D., ss. 2

““Active Campaigning” shall be considered as, but not limited to, all actions soliciting any form of support for or endorsement of a candidate. This includes any promotion of a candidate and the use of a ticket/party name”

- The 2019 SGA Spring Elections Committee has actively been investigating instances of active campaigning before the active campaigning start date and feels the need to clarify the current enforcement of the SGA Elections Code to potential candidates.
- As “Active Campaigning” is defined in Article 1 as including promotion of a candidate and use of a ticket/party name, the Elections Committee has interpreted this to include advertisements of collective values amongst ticket/team members and recommends that potential candidates only refer to themselves and their individual personal beliefs when asked about platforms/goals before the active campaigning start date.
- Example:
  Student: “What is your platform?”
  Potential Candidate: “I do not subscribe to any platform at this point, but personally wish to hold SGA executives accountable in the future.”

Section II. Violations of the Elections Code

Article 7.D. ss. 4

“No campaigning shall take place prior to active campaigning. Failure to comply shall result in an automatic $15 fine per instance”

- The Elections Chair or any person under Article 7. E. can file a violation against another candidate or potential candidate.
- The Elections Committee will investigate and hold hearings to determine the culpability of alleged violations. After this process, they may serve penalties to the offending parties, subject to an appeal to the Judicial Court.

Questions regarding the Elections Code or process shall be directed to Elections Chair Steven Treadway (srtreadway@mix.wvu.edu)