

Ruling #5 Summary

Campaigning on an unapproved account and posted content on her account that the election office did not approve.

Parties to the Ruling

- Jacob Verghese, Chief Returning Officer
- Farah Elgaweesh, candidate for Vice President Academic

Elections Office Jurisdiction

This ruling refers to campaign activity within the election. It falls under the jurisdiction of the rules established by the Elections Office in the Nomination Package.

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."
- General Election Nomination Package, page 13: Unapproved campaign materials incur a counterbalancing fine of "Materials confiscated" and a punitive fine of "\$2.00 per material."
- Used previous CRO cases to make judgment decisions based on these offences.

Findings

Students at large notified the elections staff of this. We saw multiple posts about this which weren't approved or allowed on her Instagram account.

- Will send the DIE Board the photos if requested because we did not want to put her personal account to the public.

Ruling

The post was contrary to the rule requiring campaign material approval in advance.

The account was not given to the election office.

Penalty

The CRO contacted the candidate and ordered the post taken down.

\$50 dollars for unapproved campaign material plus 10 dollars for extra post: $10 \times 6 = 60$.
Total for unapproved campaign materials is 110 dollars.

\$50 dollars for an unapproved campaign account.

The total fine allocated is \$160 dollars.

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 PM on Thursday, March 7th and the deadline for appeal is 12:00 PM on Monday, March 11th.