

## **February 28 - Violations Report**

### **Cobb Endorsement (Jared Hunter)**

The Elections Board has unanimously voted that Jared Hunter is not in violation of Article III, Section 4B of the SGA Elections Manual for the Facebook post from Sue Bell Cobb in support of his campaign.

Because of the circumstances and Hunter's unique relationship with the person posting the Facebook status, the board believes her post can be defined as support of Jared and not an official public endorsement from a political party.

Note: The board realizes the wording from the clause can be confusing and has motioned to clarify the spirit of the rule. By definition, the board rules that campus population can include any stakeholders directly involved with a student, such as alumni or parents wanting to support their student. The spirit of this rule is to prohibit the active recruitment of endorsement from a business or political party outside of the campus population in order to sway voter support.

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### **Snapchat Inside Academic Building (Jared Hunter)**

The Elections Board has unanimously voted that Jared Hunter is not in violation of Article III, Section 2. Subpoint D. Clause b of the SGA Elections Manual for the posting of a Snapchat stating "Test Time!! International Political Economy. Wish me luck!" with a classroom background on his official campaign account

Note: The use of campaign accounts within campus buildings is not considered campaigning inside of an academic building. A photo taken within an academic building and then used on campaigning material is allowed. If this particular Snap in question had been inside of a classroom building and had stated "vote for me" or something of that nature, that would be considered campaigning within an academic building and he would have been in violation.

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## **Bar Tab - Heat Pizza Bar (Jared Hunter)**

The Elections Board deliberated on these violations for an extensive amount of time and found Jared Hunter to have committed two (2) campaign ethics violations, which the Elections Manual defines as major violation and one (1) campaign spending limit violation, which the manual defines as an intermediate violation.

The Elections Board unanimously found Jared Hunter in violation of Article III. Section 3C by providing a bar tab to those in attendance to his kickoff party. A bar tab would be considered “anything of tangible value...to affect a student’s vote”. (Campaign Ethics 1 - Major)

The Elections Board unanimously found Jared Hunter in violation of Article III. Section 3A during his written and verbal statements by omitting or falsifying information while testifying to the Elections Board. (Campaign Ethics 2 - Major)

The Elections Board unanimously found Jared Hunter in violation of Article IV. Section 1 - Campaign spending limits by permitting the use of a \$500 bar tab during his kickoff event, which violates the \$1000 spending limit in accordance with the \$953 reported on his final budget. (Campaign Spending Limits - Intermediate)

All parties involved were given due process and a hearing was completed in which Jared Hunter was found to omit or falsify information presented to the board. This was taken into consideration while examining all evidence, reports, and statements.

A lengthy discussion of the proper sanctions for the committed violations was held and the following sanctions are being ordered:

### **Election Board Sanctions:**

- Violation of Campaign Ethics (Major) - 1st Count - Article III, Section 3C
  - a. 20 hours community service in restitution
    - i. 1 hour = \$25 of the approximate \$500 bar tab
    - ii. 10 of the 20 hours have to be done this week, prior to Monday, March 6th at 8 a.m.

- Violation of Campaign Ethics (Major) - 2nd Count - Article III, Section 3A
  - a. 25 base hours of community service to be completed by the end of Spring 2017 semester

**45 total hours of service by end of semester**

- Violation of Campaign Spending Limits (Intermediate) - Article IV, Section 1A
  - 1. Loss of privilege (campaign blackout period) beginning Wednesday, March 1 at 8 a.m. through Monday, March 6 at 8 a.m.
    - a. This campaign blackout includes, but is not limited to, any type of public or private campaigning, in person or electronic, conducted by:
      - i. All of Jared Hunter's campaign staff
      - ii. All people that can be organizationally affiliated with Jared Hunter
    - b. Only exception: Candidate will be allowed to participate in the presidential debate on Sunday, March 5 @ 7 p.m.
      - i. Candidate would only be allowed to answer questions from the moderator and any regulated crowd questions.
      - ii. No campaigning would be allowed before or after the debate.
- **The Board is sending a report of this case for further review by the Office of Student Conduct.**
  - **Code of Conduct Article III. Section A**
- The board also gives official notice that **one more violation by Jared Hunter or his staff of any kind**, minor, intermediate, or major, will not be tolerated and will be grounds for disqualification from this election.