The University of Alabama Student Government Association Student Elections Board Ruling

ELECTION: Spring 2023 SGA General Election

HEARING DATE: Monday, February 27, 2023

COMPLAINANT: Xzarria Peterson & Aaron Glidden

ALLEGED: Collier Dobbs, Presidential Candidate

ELECTION CODE VIOLATION: XI.F.9. The date, time, and location of a campaign stop that involves structures/tables or food must have prior approval from the UA Department of Facilities and Grounds and must conform to guidelines for campus demonstrations as listed in the Campus Grounds Use Policy. A campus Grounds Use Permit (GUP) may be required for a campaign stop. A campaign stop shall be defined as any public activity on the part of candidates that demonstrates involvement in the election process, disseminates the views and platforms of a particular candidate, and/or actively solicits votes or support from members of the student body. A campaign stop may feature the use of campaign material so long as it conforms to guidelines pertaining to the content and location of said materials as outlined elsewhere in the Elections Manual.

ELECTIONS BOARD DECISION: By a vote of 7-0, the Elections Board found the Richardson Campaign in violation of Election Code XI.F.9. The Grounds Use Permit (GUP) submitted on behalf of the Dobbs Campaign for 2/21/2022 did not indicate a request for permission to use sound equipment, despite photographic evidence showing speakers at the event. During the hearing, the Dobbs Campaign stated that speakers were used for the Campaign Stop on the Quad and took full responsibility for the oversight.

PENALTY: The Dobbs Campaign is awarded 1 point for a minimal campaign violation.

The University of Alabama Student Government Association

ELECTIONS VIOLATION COMPLAINT FORM

All information/blanks must be completed in order to be reviewed by the Elections Board

Any member of The University of Alabama community shall have the right to file a complaint. Oral complaints will not be accepted, complaints **MUST** be filed in writing and will only be accepted via the following form.

Complaints MUST contain the following:

- 1. Name of the candidate and/or individual(s) who committed the alleged violation
- 2. Brief description of the alleged violation, including date and time of the incident and reference to the relevant provisions of the <u>Student Elections Board Manual</u>
- 3. Any applicable evidence

02/21/2023

- 4. Printed name of the person filing the complaint
- 5. Signature of the person filing the complaint

No anonymous complaints will be reviewed. Further, complaints must be filed within 24 hours of the violation or within 24 hours of when the violation is known.

If you have questions regarding filing an Elections Violation Complaint Form, please email sqaelections@ua.edu.

| Q1.2. Name of person filling complaint: | |
|--|--|
| Aaron Glidden | |
| Q1.3. Phone Number: | |
| | |
| Q1.4. UA Crimson Email Address: | |
| | |
| Q1.5. Date of Incident/Violation: (mm/dd/yyyy) | |

Q1.6.

ALLEGED

Person(s) committing the alleged violation and for whom, the complaint is being filed against.

| Collier Dobbs | Col | llier | Do | bb | S |
|---------------|-----|-------|----|----|---|
|---------------|-----|-------|----|----|---|

Q1.7.

ELECTION CODE VIOLATIONS

List specific election codes that were allegedly violated. Refer to the <u>Elections Manual</u> for the relevant provisions of the code. *Example: XIX.C.9. Exceeding campaign spending limit*

XI F. 2, "The date, time, and location of a campaign stop that involves structures/tables or food must have prior approval from the UA Department of Facilities and Grounds and must conform to guidelines for campus demonstrations as listed in the Campus Grounds Use Policy. A campus Grounds Use Permit (GUP) may be required for a campaign stop. A campaign stop shall be defined as any public activity on the part of candidates that demonstrates involvement in the election process, disseminates the views and platforms of a particular candidate, and/or actively solicits votes or support from members of the student body. A campaign stop may feature the use of campaign material so long as it conforms to guidelines pertaining to the content and location of said materials as outlined elsewhere in the Elections Manual." 8. Use of public address systems and amplified sound, including electronic amplification, is only permitted pursuant to the terms of Section I (Use of Sound Amplification) below. -written approval is required from section one

Q1.8.

DESCRIPTION/NARRATIVE

Please provide a brief description of the alleged violation, including date, time, and location of the incident; along with a list of individuals who were involved and/or may have knowledge of the alleged violation.

Collier Dobbs has speakers at a campaign event that were not pre-approved for campaigning. This is in clear violation of XI.F.2, see attached photo for people involved. This was around 3:00 PM today

Q2.1.

APPLICABLE EVIDENCE

Attach additional information and/or files for consideration.



PRINTED NAME

Please type your full name to indicate that you understand that this complaint report is **NOT** confidential and may be shared publicly, per $ARTICLE\ VIII\ Section\ 1\ (D)(1)(c)$ of the <u>SGA Constitution</u>, which states that "the Student Elections Board shall publish **all** alleged election and campaign violations, as well as their respective decisions, on the SGA website following their Student Elections Board hearing."

| Aaron Glidden | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| | | |

O2.3.

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE & POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

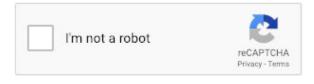
Knowingly filing a frivolous or bad faith complaint may result in the individual or campaign filing the complaint being subject to sanctions and/or referral to the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) for review and adjudication.

By signing below, I confirm my understanding of the aforementioned Elections Board policy on filing complaints and certify that all information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Further, I acknowledge and understand that should this complaint result in a hearing, that both the alleged violation and the decision of the Student Elections Board shall be published on the <u>Election Violations</u> page of the SGA website within twenty-four hours after the violation has been ruled upon.

A signature is required to submit this form. Please sign below using your mouse cursor (or finger, if you are using a tablet or other mobile device with touchscreen capabilities) to indicate your acceptance of the above stated terms.



Q2.4. Captcha Verification



Location Data

The University of Alabama Student Government Association

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02/21/2023

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| Xzarria | a Peterson | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|----|--|--|
| Q1.3. P | Phone Number: | | | |
| | | | | |
| Q1.4. U | JA Crimson Email Address | S: | | |
| | | | | |

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ALLEGED

Person(s) committing the alleged violation and for whom, the complaint is being filed against.

| Collier Dobbs | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| | | |

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| XI. F. 9 Campaigning, Campaigning on Campus |
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Q1.8.

DESCRIPTION/NARRATIVE

Please provide a brief description of the alleged violation, including date, time, and location of the incident; along with a list of individuals who were involved and/or may have knowledge of the alleged violation.

Coiller Dobbs hosted his event today in the section of the quad that is not accessible with a Grounds Use Permit. The section is specifically in the area that stretches from the circle in front of the Gorgas Library steps all the way to Denny Chimes. According to the Grounds Use Permit map provided, this section is not allocated any numbered sections. There was also a speaker playing music at this event.

Q2.1.

APPLICABLE EVIDENCE

Attach additional information and/or files for consideration.



92C9241F-982F-4829-8DAA-AF310BF0D88C.jpeg 449.5KB image/jpeg

Please type your full name to indicate that you understand that this complaint report is **NOT** confidential and may be shared publicly, per $ARTICLE\ VIII\ Section\ 1\ (D)(1)(c)$ of the <u>SGA Constitution</u>, which states that "the Student Elections Board shall publish **all** alleged election and campaign violations, as well as their respective decisions, on the SGA website following their Student Elections Board hearing."

| Vzarria Dotorcon | | | |
|------------------|--|--|----|
| Xzarrıa Peterson | | | |
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Q2.3.

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE & POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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A signature is required to submit this form. Please sign below using your mouse cursor (or finger, if you are using a tablet or other mobile device with touchscreen capabilities) to indicate your acceptance of the above stated terms.



Q2.4. Captcha Verification

| I'm not a robot | 2 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| | reCAPTCHA |
| | Privacy - Terms |

Location Data

Subject: Re: Elections Board Notice of Reported Campaign Violations

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 9:00:09 PM Central Standard Time

From: Meghan Haran

To: sgaelections <sgaelections@ua.edu>, Collier Dobbs

CC: sgaelections <sgaelections@ua.edu>

Attachments: 2-21 Quad Grounds Use Permit.pdf, GUP Approval Letter.pdf, GUP Approved Areas.JPG

Good evening,

I appreciate the Elections Board reaching out and doing your due diligence regarding these allegations.

Please find attached a copy of our grounds use permit, signed letter of approval from the Grounds Use Permit Coordinator Justin Miles, as well as a highlighted map of Collier Dobb's approved areas for grounds use on 2/21/2023.

I hope this clears up any confusion over today's campaign event location and time. Please also note that Collier spoke to the BSU at 4:10 today, so all attendees of this event, as well as Collier himself, left the quad before the 4pm deadline that is specified within our Grounds Use Permit.

Please feel free to follow up with any questions or concerns! Thank you.

Best regards, Meghan Haran

Meghan Haran | International Studies, Pre- Law

President I Zeta Tau Alpha Nu Chapter

Chief Administrative Officer | Student Government Association

Director of Public Relations | UA End Overdose



From: sgaelections <sgaelections@ua.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 7:42:24 PM

To:

sgaelections <sgaelections@ua.edu>

Subject: Elections Board Notice of Reported Campaign Violations

Collier.

This email is to notify you that **three** Elections Violation Complaints were received against your campaign. Filed separately by a similarly allege a violation of Election Code XI.F.9. The date, time, and location of a campaign stop that involves structures/tables or food must have prior approval from the UA Department of Facilities

and Grounds and must conform to guidelines for campus demonstrations as listed in the Campus Grounds Use Policy. A campus Grounds Use Permit (GUP) may be required for a campaign stop. A campaign stop shall be defined as any public activity on the part of candidates that demonstrates involvement in the election process, disseminates the views and platforms of a particular candidate, and/or actively solicits votes or support from members of the student body. A campaign stop may feature the use of campaign material so long as it conforms to guidelines pertaining to the content and location of said materials as outlined elsewhere in the Elections Manual.

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• The complaint by Xzarria Peterson states that "Coiller Dobbs hosted his event today in the section of the quad that is not accessible with a Grounds Use Permit. The section is specifically in the area that stretches from the circle in front of the Gorgas Library steps all the way to Denny Chimes. According to the Grounds Use Permit map provided, this section is not allocated any numbered sections. There was also a speaker playing music at this event."

This email, however, is NOT to notify you that you have received violation points by the Elections Board, but a request for your response to these allegations. According to the Elections Manual, you have twelve (12) hours to reply to the alleged violations for review by the Elections Board.

Should you have additional questions or if we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Elections Board

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Student Government Association

The University of Alabama
sgaelections@sa.ua.edu | https://sga.sa.ua.edu/elections



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA OFFICE OF FACILITIES AND GROUNDS APPLICATION FOR USE OF CAMPUS GROUNDS

| ity: Tuscaloosa | States Al | 7: 35401 | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----|
| ity: Tuscaloosa | State: AL | Zip: <u>33401</u> | |
| epresenting (Self/Name of UA Org | . or Dept.): Self/Collier Dobbs' Ca | mpaign | - |
| Office/Position Held in Org./Dept.: | | | |
| NIVERSITY ACCOUNT NUM | BER: | | |
| CAMPUS GROUNDS REQUESTED: Qu Attach a campus map if necessary. I | | | |
| At <u>NO TIME</u> will unauthorized veh | icles be allowed on the Quad for | any reason. | |
| Sumber of Persons Expected t | o Attend: 30 | | |
| OATE OF Use: 02/21/2023 Generally, The Office of Landscape went to be processed.) | | To: 4PM 10 business days notice for the | he |
| this is a recurring event, please list | the other dates and times: | | |
| DATE OF USE: | TIME — From: | To: | |
| ATE OF USE: | TIME — From: | To: | |
| ATE OF USE: | | To: | |
| o you request permission to use So f yes, please describe equipment) | UND EQUIPMENT? □ Yes ■ No | 0 | _ |
| o you request permission to display, f yes, please describe them in detail) | | S? □ Yes ■ No | |
| | | | |

| Will the food be home cooked or catered? | |
|--|--|
| | |

- 9. Will there be ALCOHOL at this event?

 Yes No
- 10. HEALTH & SAFETY STANDARDS/LIABILITY: I understand that this event must meet all health and safety requirements of the University, City and County of Tuscaloosa, and State of Alabama and agree to ensure conformity with all such requirements.

I further agree to take full responsibility to manage this event in such a way as to comply fully with UA's policy relating to the Use of University Space, Facilities & Grounds; the General Terms and Conditions; and all other relevant University policies and procedures.

I agree to remove all trash and other items associated with this event, and to return the grounds to pre-event condition. In the event that I fail to return the grounds to pre-event conditions, the University will assess the reasonable costs of labor (at a minimum of four (4) hours per person performing the labor), damages, clean-up and repairs. For University organizations and departments, such reasonable costs will be assessed to the University Account number provided above. For individual faculty and staff members, the University will provide me an invoice itemizing the amount I owe, and I agree to be personally responsible for the amounts set forth in the invoice. If I fail to pay the invoice within seven (7) days of the University issuing it to me, I authorize the amount of the invoice to be satisfied by payroll deduction (including a lump sum deduction) and by any other method allowed by law.

02/10/2023

| Applicant Signature: | Date: |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Applicant Printed Name: | |

11. Will CHILDREN (age 0-17) be participating in or attending your event? □ Yes ■ No

If yes, will the children be supervised at all times during the event by a parent, guardian, or teacher?

Yes
No

Depending on the type of event proposed, there may be other forms or steps in addition to this one—and other offices to contact—before the event can be considered for approval. If you are a student organization, you will need to register your event with The SOURCE utilizing the Online Event Planning Form.

Should you have questions, please refer to UA's Grounds Use Permit website.

Please return your completed Application and any required certifications to:

Donna McCray — Director of UA Facilities Operations and Grounds Use Permits
Box 870294 ● 1204 14th Street ● Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487
205-348-6777 ● groundspermits@fa.ua.edu

| Office Use Only: Approved: Pal Wilgh | | A D | DA | VEN |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----|-----|
| Approved: Val Wilsel | Date: 2-16-23 | Confirmation Sent: | nv | |

