

IN THE STUDENT JUDICIARY  
FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

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No. 23-007

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AARON GLIDDEN;  
STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA:

Appellant,

versus

COLLIER DOBBS;  
CANDIDATE, STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

Appellee,

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Election Appeal for Judicial Review

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## **OPINION**

CHIEF JUSTICE THOME delivered the Opinion of the Court, which was joined in full by the Panel of Justices present on the case.

### **I**

Let it be known that the Judicial process regarding Elections Appeals differs slightly from those cases seen on a regular basis by the Court regarding other matters. In standard Judicial Appeals, the Court would hear a case between a Complainant and a Defendant. However, Elections Appeals differ slightly in that the Court serves as an appellate body to hear matters that have previously been adjudicated by the Elections Board.

### **II**

The issue brought before the Court in Elections Appeal 23-007 is one of an alleged campaign ethics violation. In the initial appeal, Appellant Aaron Glidden cites the Elections Manual in making his argument that Appellee Dobbs is connected to voting coercion, specifically as it pertains to a member of [unnamed Greek house]. Specifically, he cites Article XII. CAMPAIGN ETHICS which states that:

“A. Candidates are expected to conduct themselves in an ethically appropriate manner in accordance with the Student Government Association documents and the Code of Student Conduct. A violation of this Manual may also be a violation of the Code of Student Conduct or other University Policy.

B. A candidate or volunteer may under no circumstances intentionally interfere with the campaign of another candidate in any way.

C. Tampering or interfering with campus elections or an individual's right to vote in the same is strongly prohibited. These prohibited actions include asking or requiring someone to provide evidence of voting for a particular candidate or issue; coercing or using valuable incentives to induce an individual to vote for a particular candidate or issue; or taking detrimental actions against an individual who refuses to vote for a particular candidate or issue.

D. Sanctions for incentive violations can be imposed on candidates, students, and/or Source-registered organizations at the discretion of the Elections Board. These sanctions will be sent to the Office of Student Conduct for further review.”

Upon a discussion of this Article and a review of all evidence presented, the panel of Justices found that there was no sufficient tie between the Appellee and encouragement by [unnamed Greek house] to violate any of the clauses present in the Article.

### **III**

Finally, according to the Code of Student Conduct which all students are bound to follow upon their admission into the University of Alabama, offenses against the University Community include:

“1. Acts of dishonesty, including, but not limited to, the following:

- c. Tampering or interfering with campus, local, state, or federal elections or an individual's right to vote in the same, including, but not limited to, asking or requiring someone to provide evidence of voting or evidence of voting for a particular candidate or issue, coercing or using valuable incentives (e.g.,

organization participation points, food, beverages, etc.) to induce an individual to vote in an election or for a particular candidate or issue, or taking detrimental actions against an individual who refuses to vote or provide evidence of voting for a particular candidate or issue.

This means that any student or student organizations alleged of violating this code may be subject to an immediate conduct referral and hearing(s) by the Office of Student Conduct.

**ORDERS**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:** That no further action be taken with regards to Appeal 23-007,  
and the case be settled in favor of the Appellee.

It is so ordered,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caleb Thome". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'C' and 'T'.

Caleb Thome,

Chief Justice, Student Government Association