

Complaint #26-39

Petitioner(s): Madelyn Stuart

Respondent(s): Tav Cockrell and Ian Kariuki

The following allegations were filed March 5, 2026, 9:35 PM:

- **Article 3, Section 3, Clause 1:** "All candidates are held accountable to the provisions of this code, the Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws, and all other University policies. All candidates, by way of registering and running for office, agree to abide by potential sanctions and policies the Election Commission and/or Judicial Branch deem appropriate based on their interpretation of the Student Code of Conduct and University Policy. No sanction will extend beyond the context of an individual's involvement with the Student Government and/or Student Government practice."
- **Article 3, Section 3, Clause 2:** "All candidates must attend a candidate seminar to be held no later than five (5) business days after the filing deadline. At the time of filing, each candidate will be informed of the seminar's time and location. The Election Commission will be wholly responsible for the organization and execution of this seminar."
- **Article 4, Section 2, Clause 13:** "Campaigning within the walls or within fifteen (15) feet from the entrances of UH libraries, student centers, recreation and wellness centers, residence halls, dining halls, and/or within any dining establishment owned/operated by the University of Houston is prohibited."
- **Article 4, Section 1, Clause 2:** "'Active campaigning' or a 'direct solicitation of votes' is defined as an attempt to obtain votes through personal communication or contact."
- **UH Harassment Policy:** "No persistent or intimidating behavior."

Decision [03/07/26]: Petitioner's complaint **DOES NOT HAVE MERIT.**

Conclusion: The petitioner alleges that members of the respondents' campaign were campaigning within the 15-foot restricted zone of Cougar Woods Dining Hall. She further claims that campaign members targeted her while she was resting inside the hall by taking pictures, pointing, and laughing through the window.

Upon review of the evidence, the Commission finds the documentation insufficient to confirm a violation. The photographic evidence does not definitively prove that the campaign members were positioned within the 15-foot prohibited zone of the entrance. Regarding the allegations of harassment, while the petitioner described feeling targeted and uncomfortable, there is no physical evidence provided to substantiate that the

campaign members' actions met the University's threshold for persistent or intimidating behavior. Consistent with previous rulings on proximity and conduct, the legal threshold for a merit ruling has not been reached.

Sanction: None.

Appeals: n/a

Zainab Khimji

Election Commissioner



