



# UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

## *Student Government Association*

This serves as an official notice of sanction from the Elections Committee.

Following the testimony of the candidates, the Elections Committee has found the ACT Ticket in violation of Chapter 503.2, subsections a, b, c, and h of the Student Government Association Ethics Code.

The Elections Committee found via evidence and testimony by the complainant party that after the initial notification of complaint, the Instagram under the handle “uga\_empower” was changed. At the time of filing, “uga\_empower” had 20 followers and was following 532 accounts. After the notification of the hearing, the account “uga\_empower” featured a wide discrepancy in follower statistics (0 followers and following 44 accounts). At the same time, a new account, “impact.uga”, appeared in search results for “empower uga”, indicating a recent name change from some variant of “empower uga” per Instagram’s own search cache, and bearing a strikingly similar follower statistics as had previously been seen under the “uga\_empower” account (16 followers and following 533 accounts). Given these discrepancies, the complainant persuasively argued that the names of the accounts had been switched or otherwise tampered with, which interrupted the Elections Committee’s investigation. Charley Claudio was verified by the ACT Campaign to be the only person with access to these accounts.

Based on the interpretation of these acts, the Elections Committee agrees that Charley Claudio acted unethically in violation of Chapter 503, Article 2, Sections a, b, c, and h of the Code of Ethics. We do not find Charley Claudio in violation of Chapter 503.2.e or Chapter 503.6.a due to the account in question not being a direct representation of herself and thus unable to reflect the candidate’s own professionalism. Per 704.8.A.i of the Elections Code, Charley Claudio’s actions are a reflection of the ACT Ticket, and per Elections Code 704.4.f, these violations of the Code of Ethics constitute a campaign violation.

Due to the nature of these violations, the Elections Committee has determined that the ACT campaign will be suspended from digital campaigning between the hours of 12:00 AM and 8:00 AM on Monday, February 25th. Digital campaigning includes, but is not limited to: the use of social media, publication of websites and other digital media, and the use of digital group messaging to campaign.

The Elections Committee also strongly encourages the ACT Ticket to relinquish any and all social media usernames and handles for which it has no immediate plans in order to foster communication and cooperation between the tickets.

Failure to adhere to the remedies enumerated herein will result in further discipline by the Elections Committee.