



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
Student Government Association

OFFICIAL HEARING DECISION STATEMENT, 3-3-2019

This serves as an official notice from the Elections Committee.

Following the testimony of the candidates and their respective witnesses, the Elections Committee has found the ACT Ticket to not be in violation of Chapter 704.8 subsection a, d, and e of the Student Government Association Elections Code.

Tarun Ramesh was not, and has not been, listed as a member of the ACT campaign, via their staff roster. Thus, the crux of the argument revolves around whether Ramesh was actively representing the ACT campaign as an unregistered staff member. On the point of whether Chapter 704.8.a was violated, the Election Committee voted 3-2 that Ramesh was not “actively representing” the interests of the ACT campaign, and thus could not be considered an unregistered staff member of ACT. The majority of the Elections Committee felt that the complainant failed to adequately argue that Ramesh undertook actions that were “Actively representing” the ACT Ticket. Because the majority of the Elections Committee deemed him not an active representative of the ACT Executive Ticket, the ticket is not held liable for conversations he has as an individual. If he is not “actively representing” the ACT campaign, ACT has no obligation to list him as a campaign staff member and his actions cannot be considered campaigning as defined in Chapter 704.1.a of the Elections Code. If Ramesh cannot be considered an unregistered staff member, the ACT campaign cannot be held responsible for his actions, and thus did not violate Chapter 704.8.e.

The majority of the Elections Committee felt that, while there may be concerns about Ramesh’s conversation with a fellow member of [redacted student organization] regarding a potential endorsement, ultimately they were not relevant to the arguments presented to the Elections Committee. As a member of the executive board of [redacted student organization], Ramesh is entitled to his ability to have a personal discussion with a fellow member of that executive board.

Ultimately, the burden of proof rests with the complainant, and the Elections Committee found that the argument and evidence of the complainant party was not persuasive enough to find the ACT ticket in violation of Chapter 704, Article 8, sections a, d, and e of the Elections Code.