

**OFFICIAL ELECTIONS COMPLAINT**  
**2019 STUDENT BODY ELECTIONS COMPLAINT FORM**

*Cause of action: The executive ticket comprising of Asim Ahmed for President, Charley Claudio for Vice President, and Wesley Tillman for Treasurer has violated both the SGA Elections Code and the SGA Code of Ethics via their creation and usage of false Instagram accounts for the purpose of obstructing campaign activities by the Empower Executive Ticket.*

*Articles Violated: SGA Code of Ethics, Chapter 503, Article 2, Sections A, B, C, E, and H, Chapter 503, Article 6, Section A and Sub-Section i; SGA Elections Code, Chapter 704, Article 4, Section F; Chapter 704, Article 8, Section A and Sub-Section i*

*Explanation: Upon investigation, members of the Empower Executive Ticket and their staff discovered several Instagram accounts featuring names that our ticket believes to be designed to mislead voters, to disadvantage our campaign, and to misrepresent the Empower Ticket. At the time of the submission of this complaint, there existed six such accounts with various permutations and arrangements of the elements "Empower" and "UGA." The suspicious accounts include: "empoweruga" ; "uga.empower" ; "empower\_uga" ; "empower.uga" ; "uga\_empower" ; and "ugaempower". Whereas the existence of these accounts could be seen as a coincidence, we believe that this assumption is false and that there is a relation between Charley Claudio and these accounts. As per the screenshots attached as evidence on this submission, Claudio follows "empoweruga" and "uga.empower". Furthermore, as per another screenshot, "uga.empower" includes pictures consistent with those found on a "finstagram," or fake-Instagram, private accounts used by people to upload activities unbecoming of their normal selves. Several of the other accounts listed above have no posts, no followers, and follow no one, which serves as further evidence of "shell" accounts designed to block our ticket from publicizing our message during the campaign period.*

*Due to Claudio's obvious association with these accounts, the Empower Executive Ticket believes that Claudio's executive ticket has violated the SGA Code of Ethics, specifically Chapter 503, Article 2, Sections A, B, C, and H. These parts of the Code of Ethics state: "The following expectations apply to all members of the Student Government Association. Active members shall: a. Conduct themselves at all times in a manner that shall reflect positively on the Student Government Association and the University of Georgia; b. Be loyal to the highest ethical principles and to the Student Government Association oath of office; c. Uphold the Oath of Office, Constitution, Statutes, and all governing documents of the Student Government Association, in addition to the University of Georgia Student Code of Conduct...; h. Uphold the principles, ever conscious that a Student Government Association office is a public trust of the student body, of the University of Georgia." Furthermore, the Empower Executive Ticket also believes that Claudio violated Chapter 503, Article 6, Section A and Sub-Section I of the Code of Ethics, which states: "Active members...; a. Will not, at any time, make, directly or indirectly,*

*any oral or written public or private statements that are false and disparaging of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia, any of its present or former officers, or its Constitution, Bylaws, Codes, procedures, and regulations.; i. Public or private platforms include, but are not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, GroupMe, Google accounts, and public or private media outlets.” Because Claudio associated herself with accounts that falsely represented themselves as the Empower Executive Ticket, and because at least one of the accounts contains vulgar content that could serve to damage the reputation of the Empower Executive Ticket, we believe that her ticket should be held accountable. Furthermore, she, as an active member of SGA, has not behaved in a manner that reflects well on SGA, she has not behaved in an ethical way by intentionally reserving (or directing others to reserve) all Instagram handles that incorporate Empower’s ticket name, she has not upheld the Elections Code as a governing document (SGA Elections Code, Chapter 704, Article 4, Section F), and she has not upheld the principles of the University of Georgia, which include honor and respect for other people. Therefore, the Empower Executive Ticket believes that Charley Claudio’s executive ticket has violated the SGA Code of Ethics on at least five counts.*

*Due to her violation of the Code of Ethics, Claudio and her ticket have also violated the SGA Elections Code, specifically Chapter 704, Article 4, Section F, which states, “All candidates, staff, parties, and tickets will abide by the Student Government Association’s Code of Ethics as defined in this document.”*

*In addition to violating the Elections Code clause regarding the Code of Ethics, the Empower Executive Ticket also believes that Claudio and her ticket have violated the Elections Code in another fashion. We believe that Claudio and her ticket have aimed to misrepresent themselves as our ticket, violating Chapter 704, Article 4, Section E, which states, “No candidate or any individual working on a campaign may disseminate campaign materials or postings containing false or misleading information about a candidate, staff member, Elections Committee member, or party.” As per the Elections Code definition of “campaign material,” (Chapter 704, Article 3, Section A, Sub-Section iv: “Campaign material shall also include, but will not be limited to the following...; Any social media or traditional media platform intended to promote an electoral matter, candidate, party, or ticket. 1. These platforms include, but are not limited to: privately acquired websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and GroupMe.” If the person/people who control these secondary/false accounts are members of Claudio’s staff, as per Chapter 704, Article 3, Section B of the Elections Code, “All postings made by official staff members will be seen as an extension of the candidate, party, or ticket associated with said platform and as such be held to the disciplinary standards as defined by the Elections Committee;” also, as per Elections Code Chapter 704, Article 8, Sections C and D, “Candidates and parties are responsible for the actions of their staff” and “Campaign staff will adhere to the Student Government Association’s Code of Ethics, the Elections Code, and the University of Georgia’s Code of Conduct,” in which case, Claudio’s staff members have also violated the Code of Ethics, and since these staff*

*members are an extension of Claudio's campaign, Claudio is at fault. If the people who control these secondary/false accounts are NOT members of Claudio's staff, according to Elections Code Chapter 704, Article 8, Sections A and E, "All individuals who are actively representing an individual or party are considered to be staff and must be registered with a Statement of Intent or Party Affiliation," and, "The participation of unregistered staff members will result in disciplinary action from the Elections Committee." Therefore, regardless of whether the individuals in question are members of Claudio's staff or not, she and her ticket are still in violation of the Elections Code due to their misleading self-representation as the Empower Executive Ticket.*

*Finally, based on the inappropriate behavior by Charley Claudio, and pursuant to the SGA Elections Code, Chapter 704, Article 5, Section C, which states, "An executive ticket will be held accountable as one entity, and not as individual candidates," the Empower Executive Ticket seeks that immediate legal disciplinary measures be imposed on the executive ticket comprising of Asim Ahmed for President, Charley Claudio for Vice President, and Wesley Tillman for Treasurer.*