ASUCI JUDICIAL BOARD

"The Judicial Board has final judicial authority for ASUCI, which extends to all cases arising under the governing documents of ASUCI, all official actions of ASUCI officials and staff, and any matters delegated to the Judicial Board by the Senate or Student Advocate General."

JUDICIAL RULING ON Alkhatib V. ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Justice Shantharaj writing of the majority, in which, Vice Justice Disney, Justice Lopez and Justice Akinwole join.

The Judicial Board has reviewed the appeal of the Elections Commission brought by plaintiff Sarah Alkhatib, submitted on April 25th, 2018. The Judicial Board convened on Monday, April 30th and held a Preliminary Hearing with both the plaintiff and Elections Commissioner Georgina Danial.

Upon reviewing the information gathered from the appeal and the investigatory hearing, the Judicial Board reached a decision on the appeal later the same day, on April 30th, 2018.

In the case of *Alkhatib v. ASUCI Elections Commission,* petitioner, Sarah Alkhatib has requested that the Judicial Board overturn the decision made by the Elections Commission to disqualify her from running in ASUCI's Spring 2018 Election for the Special Interest International Senator seat. The plaintiff argues that it was not made clear to candidates that any who did not spend any money on their campaigns would still be mandated to submit Financial Disclosure forms, reasonably in advance of the 5:00pm deadline on April 20th, 2018.

The Judicial Board finds that the the Elections Code is somewhat unclear on this matter. It was brought to light in the investigation that though it is not explicitly stated that even candidates who do not spend money on their campaigns are required to submit Financial Disclosure forms, it is stated in Article XIV, Section D of the ASUCI Elections Code that "All candidates and slates shall be responsible for meeting all deadlines of the Elections Timeline and the deadline to turn in a financial statement." Furthermore, information regarding the process of filling out the Financial Disclosure form was verbally communicated in a meeting of candidates in the ASUCI Spring 2018 Elections, which took place on April 3rd, 2018, the method in which someone who did not spend any money in their campaign would complete the form.

The Judicial Board finds that the ultimate responsibility for understanding the ASUCI Elections Code, and the included rules that apply to candidates in any election, falls to the candidates themselves. Because of this point, the Judicial Board has elected to rule against the petitioner, Sarah Alkhatib, and to uphold the decision made by the Elections Commission.

Utilizing the powers vested in the Judicial Board by the ASUCI governing documents, we hereby declare the decision of the Elections Commission constitutional.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Suchith Shantharaj, Chief Justice

Yesenia Lopez, Associate Justice

Reece Disney, Vice Chief Justice

John Akinwole, Associate Justice