

Ruling of the Judicial Commission

JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF THE JOINT ELECTIONS COMMISSION

No. JEC-2024-JC-1

**RULING GRANTING THE JOINT REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION OF A PLEA DEAL
AND ADOPTING THE PROVISION'S THEREIN**

Before: GONZALEZ, Presiding Commissioner; and
KONTE, UBIS, and HELMY, Judicial Commissioners

Issued & Filed April 5, 2024

RULING

PER CURIAM:

With the unanimous concurrence of all four members of the Judicial Commission at its April 5, 2024, meeting, it is SO ORDERED:

1. The joint motion for recognition of the plea agreement dated April 5, 2024 is GRANTED.
2. Subsequently, the Judicial Commission finds the defendant on the matter of unlawful distribution of campaign material, in violation of Section 70611 (a) of the JEC bylaws, for which he has been charged with four (4) counts, GUILTY of THREE (3) counts of unlawful distribution of campaign material for the signatures of the President of GW Desis, the President of GW Esports, and the Vice President of GW Esports which were received before the start of the campaign period. Further, the commission finds the defendant NOT GUILTY of ONE (1) count of unlawful distribution of campaign material

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for the signature of Saahil Shaik, Vice President of GW Desis, and a properly registered authorized agent of Mr. Saleem. Pursuant to Section 70705 of the JEC bylaws the defendant, Daniel Saleem, is assessed one (1) penalty point for each of the three (3) counts of unlawful distribution he was found guilty of.

3. In the matter of the violation of Section 70613 (b) of the JEC bylaws for Unlawful Use of Resources and Spaces in, for which he has been charged with one count, the commission finds the defendant GUILTY of ONE (1) count for use of the Student Advocacy Center. Pursuant to Section 70705 of the JEC bylaws the defendant Daniel Saleem is assessed two (2) penalty points for the single count he was found guilty of.
4. Therefore, Mr. Saleem is assessed a total sentence of FIVE (5) penalty points for this case which shall appear next to his name on the official election ballot.
5. The JEC Judicial Commission orders the JEC Policy Commission to ensure that the assessed penalty points are shown on the official election ballot.
6. The joint request for the written opinion of the court to be substituted with the text of the plea agreement and the text of this ruling is GRANTED and the plea agreement shall be binding upon both parties.

This case is now considered closed and this ruling shall stand as the final decision of the Judicial Commission in this matter.

Signed,

Gabriel Gonzalez

Fatima Konte

Gabriel Gonzalez, *Presiding Commissioner*

Fatima Konte, *Judicial Commissioner*

Michael Ubis

Fatema Helmy

Michael Ubis, *Judicial Commissioner*

Fatema Helmy, *Judicial Commissioner*

IN THE JEC JUDICIAL COMMISSION

JOINT ELECTIONS COMMISSION : CASE NO. : JEC-2024-JC-1
: DATE FILED: 04/02/2024

V.

DANIEL SALEEM

:
:
: **Violations:**

: Section 70611: (Unlawful Distribution of Campaign Material: 4 counts)
: Section 70613: (Unlawful Use of Resources and Spaces; 1 count)

PLEA AGREEMENT

1. This Plea Agreement between the JEC Chief Investigator, Edward Kemelmakher, and defendant Daniel Saleem, and his counsel, Simon Patmore, is made pursuant to the JEC Bylaws § 70602. The parties to this Agreement have agreed upon the following:

Charges in This Case

2. The indictment in this case charges defendant with four counts in violation of §§ 70611(a), (b), and (e), and one count in violation of § 70613. At the Initial Consideration Hearing in this case, the charges were narrowed to four counts in violation of § 70611(a) and one count in violation of § 70613.

Charges to Which Defendant is Pleading Guilty

3. By this Plea Agreement, defendant agrees to enter a voluntary plea of guilty to the following counts of the indictment: Counts One, Two, and Three, which charge defendant with violations of § 70611(a), and Count Five, which charges defendant with violation of § 70613.

Factual Basis

4. Prior to the campaign period, the defendant created four "Official Endorsement Forms" to keep track of any student organizations that agreed to endorse the defendant.

5. Prior to the campaign period, two of the forms were signed by two persons each, for a total of four signatures.

6. One of the persons who signed one of the forms was an authorized agent of the defendant at the time they signed.

7. The other three persons who signed the forms were not authorized agents of the defendant at the times they signed.

8. Prior to the campaign period, the defendant negligently left the forms in the SGA Office.

9. The forms were not recovered until several days later, after the campaign period began.

10. Both showing the forms to the persons who signed them, and leaving the forms in the SGA Office violate § 70611(a) for each person who signed the forms except the person who was an authorized agent at the time they signed the form.

11. Leaving the forms in the SGA Office constitutes "use" of the offices in violation of § 70613.

Agreements Relating to Sentencing

12. The Chief Investigator agrees to dismiss one count violation of § 70611(a) because the Chief Investigator does not believe he can prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the signature of the person who signed the defendant's form while an authorized agent can be the basis for a violation of § 70611(a).

13. The Chief Investigator agrees to recommend that the JEC impose a sentence of five (5) penalty points, and the defendant agrees not to contest a sentence of five (5) penalty points, which the defendant recognizes will be disclosed on the ballot.

14. The Chief Investigator agrees not to file any complaint or recommend any indictment or sentence relating to the acts alleged in this case.

15. The Chief Investigator agrees not to file any complaint or recommend any indictment or sentence relating to the investigation, hearings, or briefings in this case, provided, however, that this paragraph is void if the Policy Commission indicts the defendant on any unrelated matter.

16. The defendant agrees that neither he nor any of his authorized agents will publish or make any public statement related to this case, the actions alleged in the indictment, and agrees not to profess innocence in any of the counts pled guilty to in this Agreement.

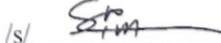
17. The defendant wishes to read the following statement into the record:

I am pleading guilty today because I did violate the election rules. I have come to an agreement with the Chief Investigator of the JEC wherein I take responsibility for my actions. Though it wasn't my intention, it was my responsibility and I should have been more diligent in keeping track of my materials. The rules are there for a reason; they make sure that everyone gets a fair shot at getting elected. I think this agreement is fair and sends the right message—that when you break the rules, there are consequences—and I am committed to re-reading the bylaws to ensure that no rules will be violated in the future. Thank you to the JEC for their commitment to a fair election.

Respectfully submitted this April 5, 2024.

/s/ 
Chief Investigator

/s/ Daniel S. Saleem
Defendant

/s/ 
Counsel for Defendant