

# Boston University | Student Elections Commission

## Official Statement



April 9, 2014

### **Appeal, Reference #14**

On April 8, 2014 at 5:21 PM, the Student Elections Commission (SEC) received the following appeal for Complaint Reference #14 from Yasmin Gentry of TrueBU:

I would like to appeal to the SEC's findings on Complaint #14 on the behalf of TrueBU. TrueBU filed Complaint #14, regarding Push to Start failing to place student group leaders who endorsed their slate on their campaign staff.

The SEC wrote: Individuals are able to speak their minds and endorse candidates and slates at their own accord. It would be too restricting to demand endorsers to be registered campaign staff members for endorsees if their only intention was to endorse the candidates and not actively campaign for the endorsees.

TrueBU respectfully disagrees with the assertion that this would be too restricting. There is a difference between endorsing a campaign as a leader of a student organization and telling the students of that organization on behalf of a slate to vote. When slates ask student group leaders to endorse their campaign, it is expected that those leaders will relay information about said slate to those in their group, intentionally promoting it so that those individuals will vote in their favor. This is a valid definition of campaigning, and according to election code, all who campaign must be registered campaign staff members. Under this interpretation of the election code, TrueBU took the time to register those group leaders as campaign staffers.

We ask that you reconsider the previously listed names of students who openly endorsed Push To Start to their groups as legitimate campaign staff members.

### **Findings**

The SEC met in person to consider this appeal. In a 6-0 ruling, the SEC dismisses this appeal on grounds that no new information was provided. Three members of the SEC were absent for this vote.