Boston University | Student Elections Commission Official Statement



April 8, 2014

Appeal, Reference #3

On April 6, 2014 at 10:54 PM, the Student Elections Commission (SEC) received the following appeal for Complaint Reference #3 from Hamilton Millwee of the TrueBU campaign:

To whom it may concern:

You may have been made privy to information regarding us "using a computer" at marsh plaza while campaigning. This is true in one and only one regard. We were using the computer to play music. To be specific, Beyonce.

Any photos you may have of us holding up the computer was by no means meant to "entice" or "coerce" people into voting for us. We were not "offering them up" for people to vote on. We held up the computer because mac speakers are horrible and we wanted everyone to listen to the amazing music sung by such a strong, empowered woman.

You can talk to anyone who heard us campaign, never once did we say they could vote on our laptop.

In all seriousness, this alleged voter coercion upsets us greatly and we would truly appreciate it if you published something saying exactly what it was we were doing, regardless of the removal of the cease and desist order. Again, this is in no way in the spirit of the the election. You might as well ban us from using smart phones because people can vote on those as well.

Obviously non-sanctioned voting stations would be coercive and illegitimate, but that isn't what we're doing. We're not asking you to remove the cease and desist, simply explain what happened on your site. That way, no defamatory, incorrect information is spread.

Much obliged, TrueBU

Findings

The SEC has not said that TrueBU did such activities, but there was a Cease and Desist Order issued in the event that this did happen.

The SEC met in person to consider this appeal. In an 8-0 ruling, the SEC upholds Complaint Reference #3. One member of the SEC was absent for this vote.