



Election and Disputes Commission Student Government George Mason University

EDC Commissioners: Colin Sapko, Priya Sorot, Jesse Muzzy, Anthony Bedward, Sarah Jenkins, and Kourtney Miller

On April 6th, 2017 the Elections and Disputes Commission met and decided on the grievance filed against candidates Sagar Sharma, David Kanos, and Kelley Dugan. Emily Sexauer, Katlyn Weiser, Caitlin Lively, Brendan Sullivan, Eric Nielson, Kiera Johnson, Clement Lupton, Zhiwei Lei, and Nick Fisch filed a report alleging that Sharma had violated three sections of the George Mason Election Code, being as follows:

- 3.2.1. *Slander shall mean the action of making a false spoken statement damaging to a person's reputation in a tangible way.*
- 3.2.1.1 *Candidates shall not slander other campaigns or candidates, any student, faculty, or staff member at George Mason University, regardless of position. There shall be no slandering of student clubs, student activities, student events, or other bodies associated with the students and faculty/staff at George Mason University.*
- 3.2.5 *Disrespectful shall mean showing a lack of respect or courtesy; impolite.*

The grievances were filled after the petitioners viewed a video on Mason Cable Network in which Sharma is being interviewed.

Katlyn Weiser, Zhiwei Lei, David Kanos, Sagar Sharma, and Anastasia Slepukhova were present at the hearing. Commissioners Jesse Muzzy, Colin Sapko and Priya Sorot, as well as advisor Phil McDaniel.

The vote was if candidate Sharma and the associated Kanos and Dugan executive ticket was in violation of Section 3.2.1.1 for slandering student government and the opposing coalition running for Spring 2017 election, they **should receive one strike**. With a vote of **0-2-1**, the Election and Disputes Commission found candidates Sharma, Kanos, and Dugan not in violation of Section 3.2.1.1 of the Election Code.

Commissioners Voting Aye:

Commissioners Voting Nay: Commissioner Sapko, Commissioner Sorot

Commissioners Abstaining: Chair Muzzy

No vote was required for Sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.5 as they are explanatory sections that help to clarify 3.2.1.1