

Complaint #26-15

Petitioner(s): Juan Gonzalez Diaz

Respondent(s): Joshua Sambrano and Lundan Sherrod

The following allegations were filed Feb 23, 2026, 11:43 AM:

- **Article 4, Section 4, Clause 1:** Candidates must comply with all Student Government Association governing documents.
- **Article 4, Section 4, Clause 3:** Negative campaigning or 'mudslinging' is not appropriate through any media (including, but not limited to: posters, stickers, email, social media, etc.). Issues may be discussed candidly, but personal attacks on candidates are not tolerated. Candidates should be mindful of their potential liability in making statements that may not be able to be fully supported with factual evidence; the statements could be considered slander.
- **Article 4, Section 4, Clause 6:** No candidate or campaign staff member may make threats towards any individual or group. This includes but is not limited to: physical threats, emotional threats, social threats, or any threat which might prove distressful to an individual or group's physical, emotional, and/or financial well-being.

Decision [02/24/26]: Petitioner's complaint **DOES NOT HAVE MERIT** and this **IS NOT** a violation of the Election Code.

Conclusion: The statement "When you challenge the system, the system pushes back" is a generalized expression of political sentiment and does not target any specific individual with personal attacks or mudslinging. Under Article 4, Section 4, Clause 3, candidates are permitted to discuss issues candidly. Furthermore, the language used does not constitute a threat toward any individual or group as defined in Clause 6, nor does it rise to the level of causing actionable social or emotional distress. The Election Commission views this as a protected form of campaign rhetoric regarding administrative transparency rather than a violation of governing standards.

Sanction: None.

Appeals: n/a

Zainab Khimji

Election Commissioner

February 24, 2026

