ASMSU Judicial Council Ruling 2018- JC-002

Topic: Elections

Record Number: 2018-JC-002

Ruling Date: 26 March 2018

Main Articles:
Election’s Policy Article II Section 2-B
University Policies and Procedures Free Speech Policy – Attachment of Printed Materials

On March 26th, 2018 the Judicial Council unanimously against the Hodges Stutheit campaign cited in submission 2018-JC-002.

Majority Opinion: On a 5-0 vote, we, the Judicial Council for the Associated Students of Montana State University, found the Hodges Stutheit campaign and its operatives responsible for violating the University Policies and Procedures by placing handouts on vehicles in the campus parking garage on Thursday, March 22nd, 2018. Justin Hodges disputed the allegation and indicated that he was at the Republican Senatorial debate so he could not have been the person distributing the flyers. However, he admitted that the only people who would have access to the handouts found on vehicles in the garage would be operatives of the campaign as they were printed that day.

Policy Reference: Election’s Policy Article II Section 2-B “Campaigns must follow all advertising policies established by the University and its entities.”

University Policies and Procedures Free Speech Policy
Printed materials, writing, or other tangible means of expression may not be attached to University property, including sidewalks, trees, walls, or other property (including on vehicles parked on campus), except:

(1) that such materials may be placed on outdoor bulletin boards designated as public bulletin boards—all postings on public bulletin boards will be removed at regular intervals; and

(2) banners promoting a University or ASMSU sponsored event may be displayed at the following locations: On the Wilson Hall bridge upon prior approval from the building supervisor. From the cables inside the atrium on the north side of Reid Hall upon prior approval from the Building Supervisor. Banners tied or wrapped on no more than two columns, on the Student Union Building’s west entry, upon prior approval from the Director of Auxiliaries.

Sanction: The Hodges Stutheit campaign is required to remove their yard signs from campus starting on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 9 AM to Friday, March 30th, 2018 at 5 PM. The Judicial Council reserves the right to amend this sanction pending further review of campus security footage.
Minutes for the meeting held 26 March 2018 can be found on the Judicial Page of the ASMSU Website.

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