

**Preface:**

(1) All bylaw references will be coded Title (if applicable) ##, Article ##, Section ##, Clause ##, part (if applicable) ##, as “T##A##S##C##P##.” For example, Article 1, Section 1, Clause 1, will be coded as “A1S1C1” for reference;

(2) Any referenced website links may or may not be active by the time future individuals review this write-up.

**Complaint #21-20**

**Petitioner(s):** Elliot Carter (further referred to as “He/Him”, pronouns),

Representing: N/A

**Respondent(s):** Maryam Alghafir (further referred to as “she/her”, pronouns),

Representing Student Action Party

**Allegations (filed February 23rd, 2021 at 5:46 PM):**

(1) Student Action Party violated A3S3C1 of the Election Code:

*“All candidates are held accountable to the provisions of this code, Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws and all other University policies. All candidates, by way of registering and running for office, are agreeing to abide by potential sanctions and policies the Attorney General, Election Commission, Supreme Court, and/or designated lower court deem appropriate based on their interpretation of the Student Code of Conduct and University Policy. No sanction will extend beyond the context of an individual or party’s involvement with Student Government and/or Student Government practice.”*

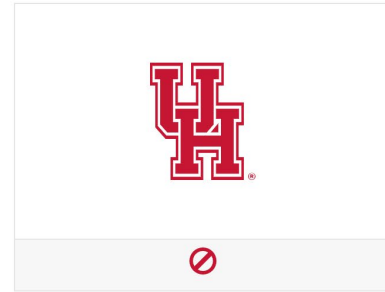
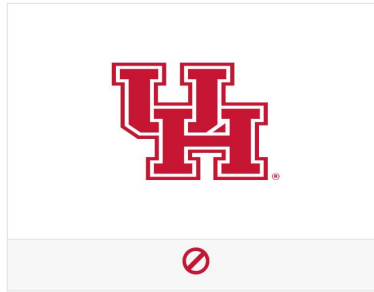
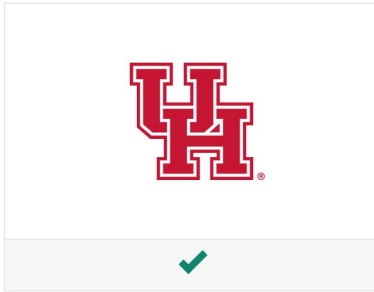
**Defense (filed February 27th, 2021 at 9:43 PM):**

“It is to my understanding that we are not allowed to use the UH logo as that is copyrighted. This link <https://uh.edu/marcom/guidelines-policies/brand/university-logos/> outlines all copyrighted items and logos by UH. The Coog hand symbol is simply a tradition at UH but it is not copyrighted and therefore we are allowed to use it. Furthermore, Rise Up as well as other UH students regularly post pictures and videos with the hand symbol, and UH does not consider this copyright.”

-Maryam Alghafir

**Course of Investigation:** I examined the Petitioner's evidence and reached out for a defense statement. I analyzed the respondent's defense statement as well. I went through the Election Code and identified if a violation was present. After this I had enough to come to a decision.

**Do not distort or alter proportions.**





## PASSIONATE CANDIDATES

Diverse leadership that works  
*While they are still "rising" we are  
taking **Action!***



**Decision (February 27th, 2021 at 11:31 PM):** Elliot's complaint LACKS merit and this IS NOT a violation of the Election Code.

**Sanction:** N/A

**Further Analysis:**

This is a very simple case. There is not a sanction placed because the logo provided by the petitioner is not the logo listed as branding on the website. Therefore, this distortion claim does not matter. What we see in the website is the Cougs paw while the website shows the university logo of the combined U and H. The claim has no merit.

**Conclusion:**

There is very little to say in this case as there is nothing noteworthy about it. There is no clear connection between the logo on the University's website and the logo used by the Student Action Party. Therefore, this case has no basis and will not be heard. There needs to be a deeper connection between evidence.

**Delivered to the Chief Election Commissioner:** February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 11:59PM