

## Complaint #22-08

**Petitioner(s):** Eduardo Moeller - Conscious Coogs

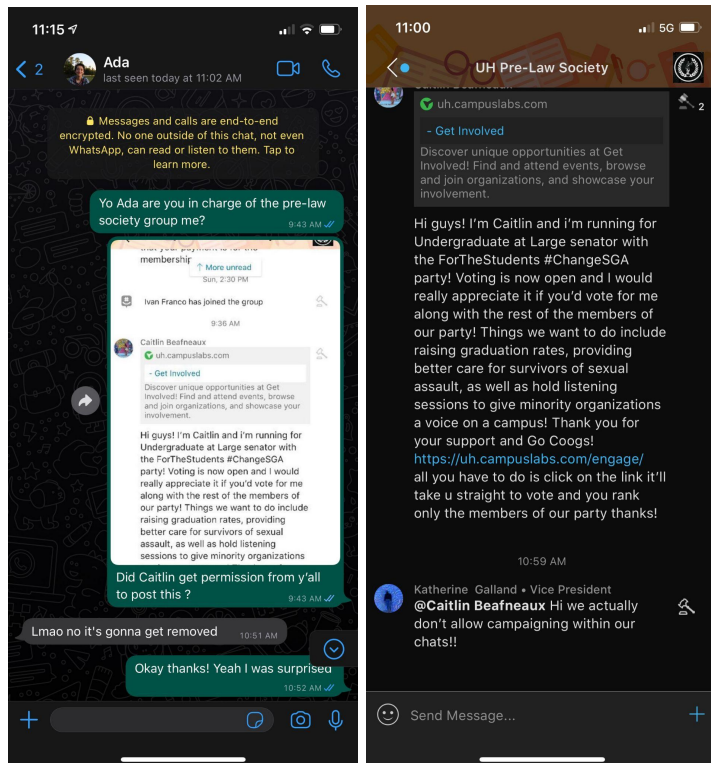
**Respondent(s):** Caitlin Beafneaux - For The Students #ChangeUHSGA

**The following allegations were filed Feb 28, 2022 9:54 AM:**

*Article 4, Section 2, Clause 1 of the UH SGA Election Code. All campaigning is subject to the authority of entities or individuals that have jurisdiction over the location in which campaigning is occurring. If any complaint is filed concerning whether campaigning in a certain building is permissible, the filer must prove a prohibition on campaigning within said building is (1) in writing and (2) well-communicated to students/candidates before the alleged violation took place.*

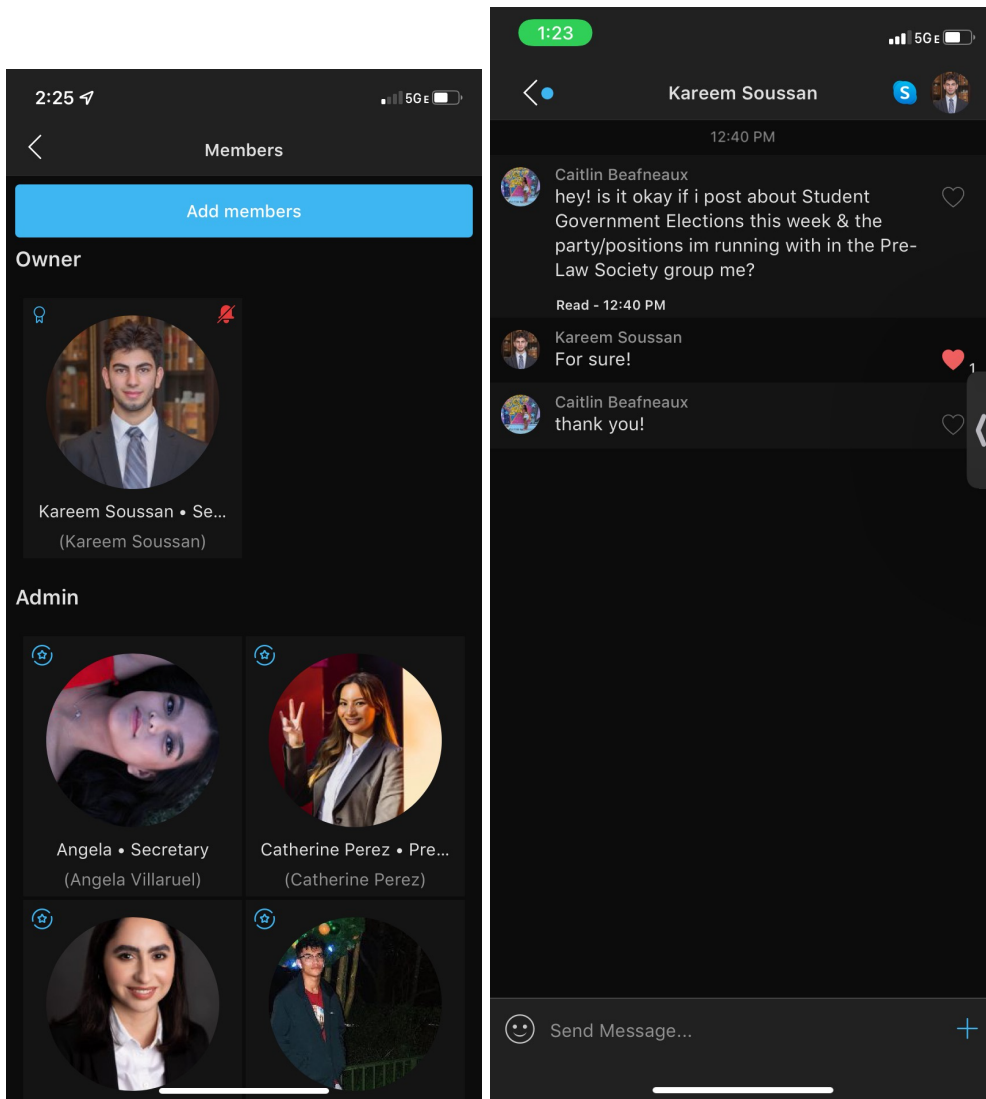
***The complaint states:***

*Caitlin Beafneaux posted a message in a UH Organizations GroupMe, that being the Pre-Law society, without the express permission of any of the officers, or administrators of the GroupMe. The Vice president of the organization has asked for the message to be removed and it has not been removed. Attached are screenshots of the violations and communications between officers of the Pre-Law society asking about why the message was posted.*



***Reached out to the respondent for a defense. the following was provided 2/28/22 at 2:37PM:***

**[DEFENSE]:** Caitlin Beafneaux got permission to post in the UH Pre-Law Society groupme. Once again this is a premature assumption made by the “Conscious Coogs” party. Once again we view this to be a complete waste of ours, the attorney generals’ and all other relevant parties time. We will now continue to build our movement to make the University of Houston the best campus it can be.



**Decision [2/28/22 2:50PM]:** Petitioner’s complaint **LACKS** merit, and this **IS NOT** a violation of the Election Code.

**Conclusion:** Evidence has been provided that shows permission was granted to send messages in the groupme, therefore this complaint lacks merit.

It is my understanding based on the evidence provided that there was miscommunication amongst the owner of the Pre-Law Society's groupme, and the executive team. This has been seen in other complaints [22-05, 22-07], where the respondent did receive permission but it was not communicated by the owner of the group to other executives. I am continuing to remain consistent in my rulings that if evidence is provided to show permission is granted, the complaint will lack merit.

However, I urge all candidates going forward that if an organization's executive requests a message to be deleted, please respect the request if it is within the time-frame GroupMe allows one to do so, and provide the executive the proof you received permission in a separate private message.

**Sanction: N/A**

Respectfully,

**Nadiia Hutcherson**

**Attorney General**

**Sent to the Election Commissioner at 2:55PM on 2/28/22.**

This complaint will be shared and made public on SGA website for transparency and archival purposes.