



Referral regarding Langston Bouma

Chief Justice Hoversland delivered the Majority Opinion of the ASUW Judicial Council on April 27th, 2022, in which Associate Justices Otuya, Salazar, Sankey, and Schweisberger joined. Secretary Cloud did not take part in this decision. Associate Justice de Meillon did not partake in this decision.

Background

On April 26th, 2022, the Judicial Council was referred the name of Langston Bouma, who was a candidate for Senate in the April 2022 ASUW general election, by Accountant Schaef (Addendum A). Mr. Bouma's name was referred to the Council because he failed to comply with the 2022 ASUW Elections Code and submit a financial expense report. The Council notified Mr. Bouma of this complaint against him within its 24-hour requirement and absent a request for a hearing, deliberated on the matter in private.

Ruling and Sanctions

Elections are an important matter in any government, including ASUW. Therefore, it is imperative that the rules of elections are followed closely by the participants in said election. It is quite clear to the Council that Mr. Bouma failed to follow the rules prescribed by the 2022 ASUW Elections Code, which states that "financial expense reports are due for all candidates by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th, 2022." While Mr. Bouma did not immediately win election to the office which he was seeking, the ASUW Senate, he still failed to comply with ASUW rules, as every other candidate and ticket in the race did.

This disregard for the rules of ASUW is not to be brushed off. As such, the Council is giving Mr. Bouma a firm warning to submit an expense report within the next three academic days, even if he did not incur any expenses during the campaign season. If Mr. Bouma does not comply with this warning within those three academic days, he will be placed at the bottom of the list of remaining candidates to fill Senate seats should a vacancy in office occur. When this occurs, another three academic day period will ensue for the candidate to comply with the request to submit a report. If this newest timeline is not met, Mr. Bouma will be disqualified for holding any office in ASUW for the 2022-2023 academic year.

It is so ordered.

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Stephen H. Hoversland
Chief Justice

Addendum A

Hello,

We have one elections candidate that did not turn in their elections expense report – Langston Bouma. Per our elections code, I am notifying the Judicial Council so that they can consider any further actions.

Thanks,

Shelly Schaefer
Accountant
ASUW