



## **SPECIAL 2023 UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION RECALL ELECTION CAMPAIGN RULES DOCUMENT**

### **ARTICLE I: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Campaign Rules Document is to outline the rules that shall govern campaigning during the recall election of UA President David Spicer and to provide the Election Commission with guidelines for dealing with campaign violations, complaints, sanctions, and appeals. Due to the special nature of the recall election, there is no official "candidate." As such, all undergraduates may campaign and require them to adhere to the modified campaign rules described below.

### **ARTICLE II: CAMPAIGN RULES**

- A. Campaigning for this election will be defined as:
  - a. Anything promoting undergrads to vote one way or another in the recall election. This includes, but not limited, posters, chalk, social media, speeches, websites, and in-person events and conversations.
  - b. All campaign material must be clearly and conspicuously attributed to the creator's name.
  - c. You may only campaign on email lists that you are a part of. Blind carbon copying (bcc) is not allowed. Thus, any dorm-spamming for or against the recall is not allowed.
  - d. However, sending emails encouraging people to vote is permitted for as long as you are not providing a side to vote for.
- B. Campaigning may not violate any MIT rule or policy or destructively interfere with the Election Commission's job to run the election and preserve its integrity. All campaigning must remain civil and respectful.
- C. Within a living group (dorm, frat, etc.), campaigns must follow all rules imposed by that living group (postering included). This provision will be enforced by the group's governing body, which may request an Election Commission investigation.
- D. Bribery of voters is not allowed. Bribery is defined as the application of such influences [giving or accepting money or some other payment] in exchange for votes.
- E. All undergraduates at MIT are to be held to the campaign rules. Any campaigning violations can be reported to the Election Commission by any member of the undergraduate population. Official complaints must be emailed to [ua-elect@mit.edu](mailto:ua-elect@mit.edu). Only officially filed complaints will be considered.
- F. A list of substantiated complaints filed against anyone who violated campaign rules shall be available on the online voting system if the complaints are received and investigated prior to 12 hours before voting opens.
- G. If someone is unsure if a particular activity violates election rules, they shall contact the Election Commission for an official interpretation.

### **ARTICLE III: SANCTIONING GUIDELINES**

#### *Section I: General Guidelines*

- A. This article contains guidelines for sanctions based on the level of severity of the campaign violation. These are written only as a suggestion for the Election Commission; the Commission is in no way handicapped or restricted by these guidelines.
- B. Sanctions shall be imposed in such a way that "the punishment fits the crime." The purpose of imposing sanctions is to eliminate any unfair advantage the individual may have gained by committing the violation.

#### *Section 2: Three Levels of Violations*

- A. Level I: Minor Infraction
  - a. Violations at this level do not violate the integrity of the election and give little, if any, unfair advantage.



- b. Examples include minor postering violations such as a poster partially covering part of another poster or accidentally placing two posters on one bulletin board.
    - c. Possible sanctions include an official warning or slightly restricting campaigning rights.
  - B. Level II: Moderate Violation
    - a. Violations at this level somewhat violate the integrity of the election and/or give an unfair advantage.
    - b. Examples include:
      - i. Using a drop poster.
      - ii. Sending a campaign email to a list of which the sender is not a member.
      - iii. Postering improperly to a serious and blatant degree.
    - c. If the individual has previously committed another moderate violation, or the moderate violation committed is on the severe side, the Election Commission might want to consider placing a severe note on the recall ballot.
  - C. Level III: Severe Violation
    - a. Violations at this level blatantly violate the integrity of the election and give a considerable, unfair advantage.
    - b. Examples include:
      - i. Tampering with voting or ballots.
      - ii. Intentionally sabotaging another's campaign.