Texas State University Student Government

ADVISORY OPINION

TO: Presidential, Vice-Presidential, and Senatorial Candidates

FROM: Joshua Clarke

SUB: Election Board of the Student Government of Texas State University

Date: February 7, 2019

The Election Board has received a request for an Advisory Opinion on the Financial Disclosure From Section D.

First, the Election Board would like to define the word ‘Donation’. A donation is any funding or income from individuals outside and/or within a campaign. An individual outside the campaign is not a listed Agent or Worker. An individual within the campaign is a listed Agent or Worker.

Currently, Section D is under the presumption that only outside donations are to be listed in this section. While Section A is filled with campaign expenses the public has no idea where the funding is coming from.

The Election Board is privy to personal finance information that the public is unable to see. The Board is able to see the receipts, credit card information etc. that matches the expenses made in Section A. To ensure candidate transparency, the Election Board has decided that candidates must list personal funding within Section D. If a candidate, Agent, or Worker spent $5 on paper, it must be listed on Section A and Section D on the Financial Disclosure Form.

All “in-kind” non-monetary donations need to be listed in Section B of the Financial Disclosure. If an outside individual or Student Organization has made a purchase on the behalf of the campaign it must be listed and accompanied with a receipt.

This is an advisory opinion from the Election Board and is appealable to the Supreme Court in the case of the opinion adversely affecting any party.

Thank you,
Joshua Clarke
Election Board Chairman