

Election Laws of the Student Government Association

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

Election Laws

Student Government Association

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ARTICLE I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

Section 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish the Student Government Election Laws for Villanova University. Candidates must adhere to all rules and guidelines established not only for the campaign and election by the Elections Commission but also for the University as a whole. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that any campaign activity engaged in by the candidate or on the candidate's behalf will be in accordance with these Election Laws. Any candidate who makes false, malicious, deceptive, or slanderous statements about any other candidate involved in a campaign will be penalized. It is the responsibility of the candidates to make themselves and their campaign team aware of all such rules, guidelines, and other regulations. The Elections Commission shall interpret, execute, and enforce all election rules provided in the Student Government Constitution and these laws in a manner consistent with University policy.

Section 1.2 Definitions

- A. **Party:** any candidate, campaign team, or person acting on the candidate's behalf.
- B. **Days:** defined as calendar days unless otherwise specified.
- C. **Allegation form:** a formal complaint against a candidate regarding Election Law violations. Allegations shall be submitted through the form available on the Elections Commission's VU Groups Page. The link to the Allegation Form may be accessed through the SGA website - villanovasga.org.
- D. **Administrative decisions:** decisions made by the Elections Commission pertaining to the election laws.
- E. **Consequences:** penalties evaluated by the Elections Commission and assigned by the Student Government Judicial Branch to candidates and their parties.
- F. A **run-off election:** a secondary election held between two tickets when no candidate receives the majority of the votes.
- G. **Majority:** defined as the half the number of valid cast votes, plus one.
- H. **Campaign materials** are defined, but not limited to, all materials, resources, equipment and supplies that are purchased or utilized by the candidate. If there is a question whether or not something qualifies as "campaign material," please ask the Elections Commission before making any assumptions.
- I. **Campaigning:** defined, but not limited to, any statement, literature, activity, or deliberate use of materials which has the effect of soliciting for an elected office.
- J. **Campaign expenditure:** defined as any expense incurred by, or on behalf of, a party for campaigning purposes. This includes any form of donation. If a campaign team receives a donation you must find and add the "economic cost" of what is being donated to your expenditures.
- K. **Cyber Campaigning:** defined as any form of solicitation of votes through the use of online networking, social media platforms, and email/instant message communication.
- L. **Instant Messaging:** defined as any form of online, real-time communication.
- M. **Voting Station:** a non-partisan place of voting in a public area, established, setup, and maintained by the Elections Commission.
- N. **Door-to-door campaigning:** is defined as knocking on residence hall doors with the purpose of spreading your campaign message and/or soliciting votes. Door to door campaigning is available to Student Body President and Executive Vice President candidates only.

ARTICLE II. THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Section 2.1 Purpose of the Elections Commission

The Elections Commission is an oversight body designed to enforce the Election Laws in a manner that promotes a fair contest among candidates. The Elections Commission, in conjunction with the Student

Government Judicial Branch, supervises campaign activities of candidates and is authorized to make administrative and punitive decisions for unfair campaigning practices. The Elections Commission, the Student Government Judicial Branch, and the Office of Student Involvement, has final authority over all aspects of the elections process.

Section 2.2 Composition

- A. The Elections Commission shall be made up of members that meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Members must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5
 - 2. Members must be full time undergraduate students of Villanova University
 - 3. Members must not serve in any capacity in the Student Government Association
- B. After initial stage of selection, the Chairperson has no more authority than the other members on the Elections Commission. Each member has an equal vote on all matters that come before the Elections Commission.
- C. If a candidate/ticket wishes to appeal a ruling made by the Student Government Judicial Branch, that candidate/ticket must submit a formal written appeal to the Student Government Judicial Branch Advisor within 24 hours of the ruling.

Section 2.3 Conduct in Office

- A. Members of the Elections Commission may not work or speak publicly for or against any candidate or party.
- B. Members of the Elections Commission may not endorse any candidate by signing his or her petition.
- C. Members of the Elections Commission forfeit their ability to vote in Student Government Elections.
- D. Any member of the Elections Commission who files a petition for any Student Government office shall be immediately disqualified *and* dismissed from the Elections Commission.

Section 2.4 Communicating with the Elections Commission

If you have questions or would like to meet with someone from the Elections Commission, please either come to the SGA Office (Dougherty 206) during the hours designated on the SGA Election Timeline, which may be accessed through the SGA Website – villanovasga.org, or by email at electionscommission@villanova.edu. Allegations should be submitted through the Allegation Form available on the Elections Commission's VU Groups Page, which may be accessed through the SGA website.

ARTICLE III. ELIGIBILITY FOR CANDIDACY

Section 3.1 Student Body President and Executive Vice President

- A. Candidates for President and Executive Vice President must run as a ticket during the election.
- B. Each candidate on a ticket must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5, as provided by the Student Government Association Constitution.
- C. Each candidate on a ticket must be in good disciplinary standing with the University as determined by the Office of Student Involvement.
- D. Each candidate on a ticket must be a full-time student within his or her college and must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Undergraduate students: at least a second semester sophomore, or the equivalent in credit hours, at the time of the election.
- E. The winning ticket must win a majority of votes cast, see Section 6.2.
- F. Candidates may not hold the top position in any other student organization during the term of Student Body President or Executive Vice President. For more information regarding the Multiple Leadership Positions Policy, refer to the Student Organization Manuel, located on the Office of Student Involvement website.

- G. The candidates must not graduate before the end of their term in office. Candidates are not allowed to study abroad during their term.
- H. Student Body President and Executive Vice President shall be available Wednesdays at 8pm throughout the school year for the weekly SGA Senate meeting.

Section 3.2 School Senators

- A. All candidates for school senators must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5, as provided by the Student Government Association Constitution.
- B. All candidates for School Senator seats must be in good disciplinary standing with the University, as determined by the Dean of Students and the Office of Student Involvement.
- C. The candidates for School Senators that receive the highest number of votes will represent their respective colleges in the following manner:
 - Arts Senators: Top two candidates
 - Villanova School of Business Senators: Top two Candidates
 - Engineering Senators: Top candidate
 - Nursing Senator: Top candidate
 - Science Senator: Top candidate
- D. All candidates must not graduate before the end of their term in office. Candidates are not allowed to study abroad during their term.
- E. School Senators shall be available Wednesdays at 8pm throughout the school year for the weekly SGA Senate meeting.

Section 3.3 Class Senators

- A. All candidates for class senators must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5, as provided by the Student Government Association Constitution.
- B. All candidates for class senators must be in good disciplinary standing with the University, as determined by the Dean of Students.
- C. The top 3 vote-getters for class senator will become the three class senators for their respective class (top six for Freshmen class as outlined by the Student Government Constitution).
- D. All candidates must not graduate before the end of their term in office. Candidates may not study abroad during their term.
- E. Class Senators shall be available Wednesdays at 8pm throughout the school year for the weekly SGA Senate meeting.

Section 3.4 Offices

- A. The Student Body President and Executive VP shall be elected as a ticket to serve a one-year term.
- B. Senators from each class and school shall be elected for a one-year term (Freshmen Senators will serve for Fall Semester after the Freshmen elections to the turnover in the spring).
- C. Student Life Senators shall be nominated by their respective constituencies.

Section 3.5 Petitions

- A. Each candidate/ticket must file a petition with the requisite number of physical (not digital) signatures to the Elections Commission by the date established by the Elections Commission.
- B. Candidates for **Student Body President and Executive Vice President** must submit the following:
 1. A petition with 300 physical (not digital) signatures from any University undergraduate student, including a valid email address, major, and class year.
 2. A written submission (minimum of two double-spaced, typed pages) detailing campaign goals, general campaigning methods, and desire to serve on Student Government.
 3. A detailed campaign budget proposal and schedule of daily campaign activities.

4. A 250 word personal statement and optional campaign photograph to be submitted to the Villanovan and published in a campaign news article.
 5. A signed “Candidate Rules Contract” form (see Appendix A).
- C. Candidates for **College Senator** seats must submit the following:
1. Each candidate must submit a petition with 75 physical (not digital) signatures (from any student in the candidate's College), including a valid email address, major, and class year.
 2. Candidates from ALL colleges must submit a written submission (minimum of one double-spaced, typed page) detailing campaign goals, general campaigning methods, and desire to serve on Student Government.
 3. A detailed campaign budget proposal and schedule of daily campaign activities.
 4. A signed “Candidate Rules Contract” form (see Appendix A).
- D. Candidates for **Class Senator** must submit the following:
1. A petition with 75 physical (not digital) signatures (from students within their class year), including a valid email address, major, and class year.
 2. A written submission (minimum of one double-spaced, typed page) detailing campaign goals, general campaigning methods, and desire to serve on Student Government.
 3. A detailed campaign budget proposal and schedule of daily campaign activities.
 4. A signed “Candidate Rules Contract” form (see Appendix A).
- E. Petitions must be submitted to the SGA Office (Dougherty 206) by the deadline established on the SGA Election Timeline, which may be accessed through the SGA website – villanovasga.org.
- F. A University student may sign more than one petition, but each petition only once.

NOTES:

- ***Candidates may not sign petitions on behalf of other students. Students must sign petitions themselves. Signatures filled out by candidates will not be accepted.***
- ***Incumbent and newcomer candidates are responsible for the same amount of petition signatures***
- ***The submission of a typed memo including campaign strategies and budget information is for the benefit of the Elections Commission ONLY. No information will be shared with any other candidate or ticket.***

Section 3.6 General Requirements

- A. It is required that candidates attend a mandatory informational meeting held by the Elections Commission in order to be eligible to run for office. Failure to attend such a meeting by any student involved in the election may make that student ineligible for candidacy.
- B. Candidates shall obtain a copy of the Election Laws and submit a signed copy of the Candidates Rules Contract (attached as Appendix A) to the Elections Commission to the SGA Office (Dougherty 206) by the deadline established on the SGA Election Timeline, which may be accessed through the SGA website – villanovasga.org.
- C. Candidates must have a working Villanova email account. This will be the primary medium of distribution for the Elections Commission, and candidates are responsible for checking their account on a regular basis.

ARTICLE IV. PRE-ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN PROCEDURES

Section 4.1 Campaign Times for All Candidates

- A. Campaign times for all candidates shall be established by the Elections Commission. For specific campaign times and dates, refer to the SGA Election Timeline, which may be accessed through the SGA website – villanovasga.org.
- B. Candidates may begin campaigning at 8:00am on the campaign start date.

- C. Voting will take place within one week of the start of the campaigning period. The polls will be open from noon to noon on the VU Groups webpage for a 48-hour period. This webpage may be accessed through the SGA website - villanovasga.org. The election will be held on the dates established on the SGA Election Timeline.
- D. In the event of a run-off election, the two tickets with the most votes from the original election will be allowed to continue campaigning until the next round of voting, one week from the first round of voting. If necessary, the run-off election will be held on the date established on the SGA Election Timeline.
- E. General campaigning may only take place from 8:00am until 10:00pm.
- F. Door-to-door campaigning, available to Student Body President and Executive VP candidates only, has its own set of campaigning hours set forth in Section 4.6 of Article IV of this document.

Section 4.2 Expenditures

- A. Candidates are not permitted to utilize materials or services valued at more than the amount established by these election laws.
- B. All candidates/tickets will be allotted a certain number of posters, free of charge, from the Student Government Association. See below for position specific allotment of printing. These posters will not count towards the candidate's total budget.
 - 1. Posters must be approved by the Elections Commission prior to printing. This can be done by emailing posters to electionscommission@villanova.edu, or in person at the office hours specified on the SGA Elections Timeline.
 - 2. Posters will be printed in the Bartley Print Center using a Student Government Association account.
 - 3. Candidates must get their posters approved and stamped by the Office of Student Involvement before posting.
 - 4. While candidates are not required to use their allotted posters, these posters will be the only posters excluded from the candidate's aggregate budget.
- C. Student Body President and Executive Vice President
 - 1. The maximum amount of materials and services utilized by any ticket must not exceed **\$300 in total fair market value**. In the case of a run-off, each ticket can spend another \$50.
 - 2. The Student Government Association will pay for 100 posters for each ticket. These posters are not to exceed the size set forth in Article IV, Sec 4.3. The total number of posters posted on campus is not to exceed **100** at any time for each ticket.
- D. Senators
 - 1. The maximum amount of materials and services utilized by any ticket must not exceed **\$100 in total fair market value**.
 - 2. The Student Government Association will pay for 50 posters for each ticket. These posters are not to exceed the size set forth in Article IV, Sec 4.3. The total number of posters posted on campus is not to exceed **50** at anytime.
- E. Incidental items such as tape and tacks will not be assessed.
- F. No candidate or supporter may use the SGA Office or equipment (including phones printers and/or any materials) for campaign purposes.

Important Note to all Candidates about Approval and Copies from SGA:

*Before posing, candidates **MUST** get their posters approved and stamped in the Office of Student Involvement, Dougherty 106, by the Director of Student Involvement.*

Section 4.3 Campaign Materials

- A. Candidates must submit all physical and printed campaign material, including, handouts, buttons, etc., to the Elections Commission via an emailed picture to electionscommission@villanova.edu, in person

or at the office hours specified on the SGA Elections Timeline. This approval is in addition to any approval stamp that is required by the Office of Student Involvement.

- B. The Elections Commission will post office hours during which members will be available to approve campaign materials.
- C. No campaign materials of a permanent nature may be utilized (i.e. spray paint, bumper stickers, chalk etc...) Items such as balloons and buttons are allowed provided that the cost of such items is included in the candidate's total campaign expenditures.
- D. Candidates are restricted as to the quantity and size of the materials to be posted. Individual posters within the size limitations may not be connected to create a poster larger in effect than the size restrictions stated in this section.
 - 1. Presidential and Executive Vice Presidential Candidates are allowed posters up to 11"x17" and are allowed 100 signs at any one time.
 - 2. Senatorial Candidates are allowed posters up to 8½"x11" and are allowed 50 signs at any one time.

Section 4.4 Electronic Communication and Cyber Campaigning Methods

- A. Solicitation
 - 1. Candidates must use caution with regards to electronic and cyber communications. All communications must be respectful and consistent with University/election rules and regulations.
 - 2. All forms of electronic and cyber communications may not be used in excess to constitute a **nuisance or harassment**.
 - 3. All electronic campaign materials/flyers must abide by the rules and regulations of these Election Laws and University Policy.
- B. Release Dates
 - 1. Campaign-related webpages, social media, and all other forms of electronic and cyber communications may not go live or be used before the official start date of the campaign at 8:00am.
- C. Webpages
 - 1. URLs for candidate webpages ***must be specified in the candidate's budget proposal.***
 - 2. All candidates/tickets wishing to use a website during the campaign must have the contents of the website approved by the Elections Commission. Candidates are advised that these websites will be posted on the Student Government Association homepage, and are therefore subject to University policies regarding acceptable Internet content.
- D. Social Media
 - 1. Candidates are limited to one candidate page/account on each social media platform they use.
 - 2. All campaign social media pages/accounts must be public, and settings must be set such that individuals must accept to join the group. Individuals cannot be automatically added to that group.
 - 3. Candidates must add or follow one member of the Elections Commission on every social media page they create related to the election. Names of the members of the Elections Commission can be found on the Elections Commission webpage - <https://vugroups.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/ec>
- E. Instant Messaging/GroupMe
 - 1. Candidates and campaign workers may only send messages to GroupMe chats, and other similar instant messaging groups, with which they have had prior communication.
 - 2. Candidates and campaign workers may only send two messages per chat/group over the course of the entire campaign.
 - 3. Candidates and campaign workers may not send unsolicited messages to students on an individual, one on one, basis.

4. Although members and leaders may vocalize their support of a candidate, clubs, student organizations, and other extracurricular entities as a whole may not endorse a specific candidate.

F. Emails

1. The use of Villanova University Distribution Lists, such as the Wildcat Newswire, is **strictly prohibited**.
2. Candidates and campaign workers may only send group emails to personal acquaintances with whom they have had prior communication.
3. Candidates and campaign workers may send emails to members of groups to which they belong endorsing a specific candidate. Candidates and campaign workers may only send two emails per group over the course of the entire campaign.

G. Class Accounts

1. Candidates may cyber campaign through class Facebook accounts, GroupMe chats, etc. (ex: Villanova Class of 20xx) Communications on such pages may not exceed one per day.

Section 4.5 Posting of Campaign Materials

Only materials approved by the Elections Commission and stamped by the Office of Student Involvement may be posted. Compliance with these rules is required. All rules issued by the Office of Student Involvement must be followed and are incorporated herein by reference. Posters may be placed in designated areas only and never on painted surfaces, glass windows, or doors. In addition, posting in classrooms, computer labs and religious facilities are not permitted. Each building has special requirements as noted below. If you have questions about a particular building, you may ask the Office of Student Involvement, the Dean's office of the building in question (if applicable) or the Elections Commission.

Important Notes:

- Chalk **may not** be used for any reason during the campaign period.
- Sound systems and other amplification devices are prohibited.

General posting guidelines are as follows:

A. Academic Buildings

1. Bartley Hall: Bulletin boards only.
2. Center for Engineering Education and Research: Post on spinning stands in CEER Lobby and on 2nd Floor only.
3. Chemical Engineering: Use bulletin boards in the entrance to the building only.
4. John Barry Hall: Stair wells only
5. Mendel: Do not use department bulletin boards or stairwells
6. St. Augustine Center: no posting permitted.
7. St. Mary's Hall: Post flyers in general areas, not in classrooms, not in Second Storey
8. Tolentine: Post flyers on the non-departmental bulletin boards only
9. Driscoll Hall: Post only on bulletin boards by the elevator on first floor and lower level.
10. Vasey Hall: Stair wells only

B. On Campus Buildings

1. Dougherty Hall: Use of designated bulletin boards or the tiled areas within the hallways. Stairwells are also permitted.
2. Connelly Center: Use of areas specifically designated by Connelly Center personnel – no doors, stairways, or windows.
3. Kennedy Hall: Use of stairwell walls only for posting. No posters/flyers are permitted on the first floor (bookstore) level of this building.
4. Falvey Library: Post on bulletin boards only unless otherwise permitted by library staff.

5. Athletic Buildings: No posting is permitted.
- C. Dining Halls
1. Posting or distribution of campaign materials, of any kind, is prohibited in Dougherty Dining Hall, Café Nova, Donahue Dining Hall, Bell Air Terrace, the Law School Cafe, or St. Mary's Dining Hall. This prohibition includes posting or distribution at the entrances to these cafeterias. The use of bulletin boards near entrances is permitted.
 2. "The Exchange" in Bartley: Bulletin boards only.
- D. Residence Halls
1. Campaign materials maybe posted only on bulletin board areas and other areas in the residence hall designated for posting as long as the posted material does not obstruct other notices.
 2. Candidates may not post or distribute campaign materials on residence hall doors under any circumstance. This includes, but is not limited to, door jambs (the slit between the door and the door frame) and sliding materials under doors.
- E. Restrooms
1. Posters/flyers are allowed in restrooms at the candidate's own discretion, but must be limited to tiled surfaces only. Custodians may remove materials from restrooms at any time.
 - i. Posters maybe placed install doors if they do not obstruct any flyers previously posted.
- F. Open Areas
1. Campaign materials may not be placed on/at the following objects/locations: trees, poles, campus signs, the Oreo, outside building walls, train trestles, underpasses, walkways, and fences.
 2. Materials may not be placed on cars or car windshields. Automobiles are not allowed to be used as campaign vehicles, and may not be decorated as such.
- G. Off Campus
1. There is no posting or distribution of campaign materials in public places off campus.

Important Notes Involving Postings:

- All posted materials must be at least one inch away from all other candidates' posters. In addition, posted materials cannot obstruct other notices of any sort already posted.
- Absolutely no campaign material maybe placed under, on, or around any door in any residence hall, as this is a fire safety issue and will be strictly enforced.
- Campaign material may be distributed to on-campus mailboxes with the approval of the Office of Student Involvement, the Elections Commission, and the student mailroom. All material distributed through on- campus mailboxes must be folded by the candidate or supporters.

Section 4.6 Door-to-Door Campaigning

- A. Door-to-door campaigning is available to candidates for **SGA Student Body President and VP only** and is permitted between hours of 6pm and 9pm during approved campaign days set by the Elections Commission on the SGA Election Timeline, subject to the approval of the Director of Student Involvement and the Director of Residence Life. The specific dates allowed will be communicated to the candidates on the SGA Election Timeline. All Candidates and supporters must be out of residence halls by 9pm, including residence hall lounges.
- B. Candidates for Class and School Senator positions are not permitted to engage in door-to-door campaigning. This includes getting petition signatures by going door to door in residence halls.
- C. For specific campaign times and dates, refer to the SGA Election Timeline, which may be accessed through the SGA website – villanovasga.org.

Section 4.7 Slanderous Campaigning

- A. The Elections Commission will not approve campaign materials that contain slanderous, negative, or defamatory statements or information.
- B. Candidates may not engage in slanderous and/or unethical campaigning. The Elections Commission and Office of Student Involvement reserves the right to request immediate retraction of materials or statements of this kind as well as disqualify candidates based on such conduct.
- C. As all campaigning must abide by the Code of Student Conduct, the Elections Commission reserves the right to contact the Office of Student Involvement, who will reach out as necessary to other appropriate offices.

ARTICLE V. VIOLATION OF ELECTION LAWS

Section 5.1 Consequences and Appeals

- A. Violation of any of the Election Laws by a candidate or a supporter of a candidate, with or without the knowledge of the candidate, will subject the candidate to consequences as stated in Section 5.1.C
- B. Anyone wishing to make an allegation of a rules violation by a candidate or a supporter of that candidate must do so before Election Day. Allegations will be reviewed and investigated in a timely manner at the discretion of the Elections Commission. Allegations should be submitted through the Allegation Form available on the Elections Commission's VU Groups Page, which may be accessed through the SGA website – villanovasga.org.
- C. The Elections Commission may deem it necessary to review any allegation of Election Law violations. When matters in question arise, the Elections Commission will notify the Student Government Judicial Branch and SGA Advisor as appropriate. The Judicial Branch will meet with the Elections Commission to review the allegation in question, meet with the candidate running for office, and deliberate to determine responsibility. The Student Government Judicial Branch will assign outcomes if a candidate is found responsible for a campaign violation, as outlined by these Election Laws and/or the Code of Student Conduct.
- D. The following administrative outcomes are available to the Student Government Judicial Branch in the event that the Judicial Branch determines that a candidate is responsible for a rules violation (directly or indirectly). The Elections Commission has the responsibility to classify any reported offenses and implement the appropriate sanctions. Failure to abide by assigned consequences will result in the automatic escalation of offense to the subsequent level. The examples provided below are strictly examples, and offenses are subject to the situation and discretion of the Student Government Judicial Branch. The consequence structure will be implemented as follows:
 - 1. Petty offenses (possible examples, including but not limited to: poster violations, campaigning outside of designated hours) will be dealt within the following manner (including on Election Day):
 - i. First offense: Warning (may include time to fix the problem, for example if two posters were put in illegal places the party would only be penalized for the first and told they have 12 hours to fix any other similar situations)
 - ii. Second offense: mandatory 4 hour suspension and loss of 10% of posters from total number allowed on campus.
 - iii. Third offense: mandatory 8 hour suspension and loss of 10% of budget ceiling.
 - iv. Fourth offense: mandatory 24 hour suspension and loss of 20% of budget ceiling.
 - v. Subsequent offenses: Disqualification.
 - 2. Minor infractions (possible examples, including but not limited to: posting unapproved campaign materials, minor budget infractions)
 - i. First offense: mandatory 4 hour suspension from campaigning and loss of 10% of posters from total number allowed on campus.

- ii. Second offense: mandatory 24 hour suspension from campaigning and loss of 20% of budget ceiling.
- iii. Subsequent offenses: Disqualification
- 3. Major infractions (possible examples, including but not limited to: tearing down opponent's campaign material, gross budget violation, slanderous campaigning) The Elections Commission has the authority to impose severe consequences for major violations, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. 48 hour suspension from campaigning and loss of 25% of posters from total number allowed on campus
 - ii. Loss of potential votes gained through major infractions (not to exceed 10% of total votes)
 - iii. Lowering of candidate's/ticket's budget ceiling
 - iv. Suspension of campaigning on Election Day
 - v. Disqualification

* If a candidate/ticket wishes to appeal a ruling made by the Student Government Judicial Branch, that candidate/ticket must submit a formal written appeal to the Student Government Judicial Branch Advisor within 24 hours of the ruling.

ARTICLE VI. VOTING PROCEDURE

Section 6.1 Qualifications

Any full-time and/or part-time student who wishes to vote may do so by web registration.

Section 6.2 Procedure

- A. A student may vote only once via VU Groups. A link will be e-mailed to the student body. This webpage may also be accessed through the SGA website - villanovasga.org.
- B. Once a student has cast his/her vote, the vote cannot be undone.
- C. Candidates and their supporters may not maintain voting stations. All voting stations must be manned by an Elections Commission Member, a non-partial SGA Executive Board Member, or faculty advisor. Candidates and their supporters may not approach students with a computer and advise them to vote.
- D. The winning ticket for the Student Body President and Executive Vice President must receive majority of the total votes cast for President and Executive Vice President.
- E. In the event that no ticket receives majority of the total votes cast, a run-off election will be held within one week of the original election. The run-off election will be between the two tickets that received the two highest totals of votes cast in the original election.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTION DAY RULES

Section 7.1 Election Day Rules

- A. Election Day will last 48 hours, from noon to noon. The specific dates will be set by the Elections Commission and the SGA Executive Board at the start of the Spring Semester of the election.
- B. A candidate and his/her supporters will remain under election laws throughout the election process. A major infraction may result in removal of the candidate from the ballot. Therefore, a candidate maybe disqualified while voting is in progress. Furthermore, a decision for disqualification maybe made after the closing of the polls.

APPENDIX A CANDIDATE RULES CONTRACT

Candidate Rules Contract

I, _____, acknowledge that I have read the election laws and agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this document. I realize that failure to obey the rules set forth for this election could result in disqualification and forfeiture to all fees associated with the election. With this in mind, I agree to conduct my campaign in an ethical and respectful manner in the fine tradition of Villanova University.

Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Villanova cannot disclose any information contained in the student's educational records without the student's written consent, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. Students may grant any third party permission to access his/her educational records by completing this form.

I hereby authorize the University to release any information contained in my educational records, including disciplinary information, to the Office of Student Involvement for the purpose of my involvement with the Student Government Association. I acknowledge that this release is valid until I have completed my current degree program at Villanova University. I understand that I may revoke this permission at any time by notifying the Office of Student Involvement in writing.

I understand that campaigning does not begin until the date and time established on the SGA Election Timeline (which may accessed through the SGA website - villanovasga.org) and until that point I will not engage in any campaigning and act in full accordance with Article 4.4 Section B of the Election Laws which states: "Campaign-related webpages, social media, and all other forms of electronic and cyber communications may not go live or be used before the official start date of the campaign at 8:00am."

Name

Villanova ID

Email

Signature

Date