

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS STUDENT SENATE COURT OF APPEALS

Mady Womack	)	April 11, 2017
OneKU Presidential Candidate	)	
	)	
Jonathan Ehrlich	)	
OneKU Candidate for the School of Law	)	
	)	
Chance Maginness	)	
Onward Presidential Candidate	)	
	)	
Tomas Green	)	
KUnited Presidential Candidate	)	
	)	Case Number: xxxx
	)	
	)	
Petitioners	)	
	)	
VERSUS	)	
	)	
Harrison Baker	)	
Elections Commission Compliance Chair	)	
	)	
Respondent	)	

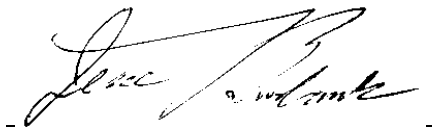
BRIEF OF JESSE BURBANK, FORMER CHAIR OF THE STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS  
COMMISSION, AS AMICI CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS

I write to inform the Court of the previous Elections Commission’s process for verifying compliance with Student Senate Rules and Regulations (SSRR) 7.5.7.1.2, wherein prospective candidates are required to gather twenty-five signatures from students eligible to vote for said candidates in the general election. The previous Commission performed a “spot check” of each candidate’s petition, screening four randomly selected signatures on each against official enrollment data to ensure their eligibility. Further, the Commission interpreted the purpose of SSRR 7.5.7.1.2 as attempting to ensure that prospective candidates express sufficient interest in running for Student Senate, and not as a mechanism for excluding students who approach the petition process proactively and in good faith. To my knowledge, the Elections Commission formed during the 2015-

2016 academic year also adhered to this practice and interpretation.

The institutional legitimacy of Student Senate and the Student Senate elections process rely on the good faith of those involved and the support of the student body. The decision of the current Elections Commission to depart from the established interpretation of SSRR 7.5.7.1.2 and deem over forty prospective candidates ineligible threatens this legitimacy and ignores the purpose of the regulation. I therefore urge the Court to decide in favor of the petitioners and overturn the decision of the respondent.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse Burbank", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jesse Burbank

Former Chair of the Student Senate Elections Commission