

Decision CSU 2022 #7 Re: Voting Solicitation Violation

The attached complaint was received as timely and met requirements of an official complaint under the CSU regulations.

The complaint states that Manbir Singh violated the CSU election policy on “applying pressure, encouragement, or a requirement for a voter to cast an electronic vote in the presence of a candidate, or passing around devices upon which a voter is pressured, encouraged, or required to vote.”

The allegations brought by the member are concerning, but it’s uncertain if a breach of the CSU election regulations occurred. The complainant states that “persons who were... making people vote for Manbir by holding their mobile phones i am attaching that video with this complaint and also had a evidence attached to this who faced the same.”

If this allegation occurred that would be grounds for serious sanction. Indeed, the secrecy of the vote is a primary foundation of any election. As well, the ability to cast ones vote without duress is critical.

In this situation, the complaint lacks compelling evidence to prove these incidents occurred. The complainant includes video of a group of 3 individuals talking outside the CSU Library Lounge with one of them holding a phone. At no point was the phone handed to another individual and there is no ability to hear the conversation, so there is little evidence this had anything to do with the elections. Another witness was provided with that purportedly had other evidence of the same kind of situation. I contacted the witness, but did not receive a response, so no further credible evidence on the matter was received.

Given this lack of evidence, the complaint is dismissed.

I note that the complainant has 48 hours from the time they receive this decision to submit an appeal in the manner set forth in CSU Regulation BD-06.1.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Laufer", is written over a horizontal line.

Ron Laufer  
CSU Election Administrator

## ANNEX 1

### Official Complaint

Complaint Date: 7/10/2022 16:05

Complainant:

When issue occurred: 6/10/2022

Candidate Manbir Singh

Complaint: I have a video of the persons who were forcing the person and making people vote for Manbir by holding their mobile phones i am attaching that video with this complaint and also had a evidence attached to this who faced the same. They said me that their mobile were taken by these guys who were working for Manbir. Afterwards they met me and told me that they didn't actually wanted to vote for Manbir, then I explained them that they can still change the vote. So I believe this is not fair and you can confirm with them too. There are many students facing the same those weren't coming in front as they feared to do so. You can verify it it with CCTV too. With help of cctv you can figure out this easily. Two candidates had exactly same votes at the end and this can be really serious even they received one vote like this but just imagine how many votes they might have secured through this way. I just want strict investigation on this. I want anonymity of myself and the evidence.

Resolution requested: Disqualification

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### RESPONSE FROM MANBIR SINGH

**Manbir Singh**

to me

**Hello Ron,**

**Thank you for giving me right to prove myself after every complaint. And I am afraid that this reply is quite long.**

**If you'll read all the complaints imposed on me, you'll easily figure out that all the complaints are written by same writer although may be submitted by different names. The first two complaints were un-evidenced but now, this one said the complainant has evidence. This is all planning.**

**Due to the fact that I didn't have a campaigner for me, the situation that the complainant describes is not possible. It is complaint that is planned and cooked.**

**The last lines of the complaint, which says two candidates have same number of votes in results, made me suspicious that the series of complaints is from the other candidate who will get benefit if I'll get disqualified. I'm sorry to say but It seems they were focused more on fake complaints and putting the elected candidate down than on campaigning, which is where they should be spending their time.**

**On the day when I submitted the nomination form. Current CSU President, along with two more people came to me in library and asked me to come along with them. They took me to the one of the library entrance door which is near students affairs center (there must be CCTV footages of all four of us). They asked me to withdraw from the position as they were supporting my opponent. They said there are two more candidates who are withdrawing. And Ron, I believe you have the record of withdrawing candidates from VP position, which is forced withdrawal. I never bothered this incident but now I feel that they are going to this extend of fake complaints to disqualify me.**

**The complainant claimed to have video evidence. The video can be fake casted easily. Even I was not present on 6th of oct on campus. Nor I have any campaigners for me. These are just fake campaigners which are showing up in every complaint against me and is made for making/casting fake videotape. Anybody can choose to make such video against anyone who is elected to disqualify them, but I know that planned story is not going to make any difference.**

**These complaints are fake and should be dismissed because-**

- 1. Neither I pressured nor encouraged someone to vote for me.**
- 2. I didn't have a campaigner for me, the situation that the complainant describes is not possible.**
- 3. I didn't gave any name of the campaigner for me because I didn't take any assistance.**
- 4. I came up with some agenda and there are no fake or unrealistic promises. It is a right of every student to raise an issue and work on it.**
- 5. While campaigning, I immediately left the spot after stating my agenda to students.**
- 6. The voting platform, Simply Voting can confirm that all the complainants who claimed that they re-voted actually never revoted in reality, which shows the fake nature of the complaint.**
- 7. I was not present on 6oct 2022 on campus.**

**Sincerely,**

**Manbir Singh  
(Candidate VP equity and sustainability)**