## 2. Armando Julian Perez

Updated at Apr 24, 2025

Submission Date

Apr 24, 2025

Complainant Name (Person filing the complaint)

Armando Julian Perez

SacLink Email Address

Please be as specific as possible. Max 6000 characters.

Section Violated:

ASI Elections Code – Article V, Section I.1: "ASI-funded programs, University departments and programs, college departments, faculty, staff, and administration shall be prohibited from endorsing any candidate running for office."

Alleged Violators: Aranjot Kaur & Richard Angulo (Fight for the Hive!)
Presidential Ticket

Aranjot Kaur and Richard Angulo violated Article V, Section I.1 of the ASI Elections Code, which explicitly prohibits endorsements from ASI-funded programs, university departments, or university programs. Despite this rule, the official Instagram account of Sacramento State Combat U (@sacstatecombatu) — a university-backed program — collaborated directly on a campaign video with the Fight for the Hive Presidential Ticket during the official ASI campaign period.

The video was posted as a collaborative reel on Instagram, credited to both the Combat U account and the @fightforthehive campaign account. It was also reposted on Combat U's story, and as of documentation, received over 8,400 views on the collaborative post at time of submission. Combat U is not a registered student organization — it is a university program, as confirmed by its bio, affiliations, and its inclusion in official Sac State programming. Therefore, its visible, collaborative promotion of this ticket constitutes a direct and serious violation of the Elections Code.

This action gave the Fight for the Hive campaign a significant, university-supported promotional advantage over other candidates. The campaign was publicly amplified by a university entity with nearly 4,000 followers on an official university-affiliated account — a resource that is prohibited from being used in campaign promotion. This post directly enhanced the reach, perceived legitimacy, and influence of their ticket in violation of the code's neutrality requirements.

This unfairly affected the election outcome. With the margin of victory being just 496 votes, and official ASI survey data showing that social media and word-of-mouth were two of the top three ways students learned about the election, the impact of this prohibited promotion cannot be ignored. The visibility and reach granted by the Combat U Instagram collaboration likely contributed to voter influence in measurable ways, particularly during a highly competitive campaign period.

Lastly, this was not an unintentional or misunderstood act. During the official candidate workshops and again in writing via an email from Harbir Atwal on February 27, 2025, all candidates were informed that university programs are strictly barred from endorsing candidates. The Elections Code was clearly explained, and the presentation slide included the exact language of this rule.

This was a clear, avoidable, and strategic violation of ASI election ethics.

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The primary evidence in this complaint is the collaborative Instagram reel posted on April 16, 2025, by @sacstatecombatu (Combat U) and @fightforthehive, promoting the Fight for the Hive Presidential Ticket. The reel, which was visibly co-authored by both accounts, featured Aranjot Kaur and Richard Angulo and received over 8,400 views. Additionally, Combat U reposted the video to their Instagram story, further amplifying its reach.

Combat U is not a student club or independent organization — it is a university-sponsored program, as made evident by:

- The official program bio on Instagram, stating its affiliation with Sac State.
- Its operation under the Sac State Athletics umbrella, with its own university-hosted webpages.
- The program being listed in official university promotional materials and campus programming.

This makes Combat U subject to Article V, Section I.1 of the ASI Elections Code, which prohibits "ASI-funded programs, University departments and programs" from endorsing or promoting any ASI candidate.

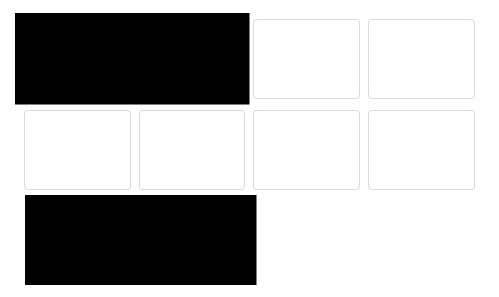
While individual clubs within the Combat U umbrella (e.g., jiu-jitsu, boxing) may have the autonomy to endorse as recognized student organizations, the Combat U program itself is a university entity and may not do so.

Furthermore, all candidates were made aware of this restriction through:

- The mandatory ASI Candidate Workshops, where this rule was presented.
- An email sent by Harbir Atwal on February 27, 2025 at 5:14 PM, which included the official presentation slide explicitly stating that university departments and programs may not endorse candidates.

The visual collaboration between a university program and a campaign — posted on social media, archived by screenshots, and viewable by thousands — is an undeniable example of improper university involvement in student government elections.

The content, origin, and distribution of the video, as well as the institutional affiliation of Combat U, all provide clear and convincing evidence of a violation.



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In accordance with Article X, Section D of the ASI Elections Code, I am formally requesting the disqualification of the Fight for the Hive Presidential Ticket (Aranjot Kaur and Richard Angulo) for committing a very serious violation of the Elections Code — specifically, receiving and engaging in formal campaign promotion from a university-affiliated program, Sacramento State Combat U.

This endorsement was not passive or indirect. It was a direct collaboration with a university-run program, broadcast to a large audience on Instagram, and co-published by both the official Combat U account and the Fight for the Hive campaign account. This partnership amplified the campaign's social media presence with institutional credibility, providing a unique and unfair advantage no other candidate had access to.

With a final vote margin of 496, and ASI ballot survey data confirming that social media and peer-to-peer exposure were major sources of voter information, the improper reach and influence granted by the Combat U campaign collaboration could have reasonably impacted the outcome of the election. This is not a technicality — it is a misuse of university resources that violates the Elections Code.

I respectfully request that the Elections Complaint Committee issue a ruling of disqualification under Article X, Section D.

Submission IP

Submission ID

Last Update Date