



University of Maryland, College Park
Student Government Association (SGA)
Elections Commission

April 7, 2026

Case: 9.03/04/26 JusticeUMD v. RollTerps

Petitioner: JusticeUMD

Respondent: RollTerps

On Monday, April 6th at 3:00 PM, the SGA Elections Commission convened to deliberate whether RollTerps was responsible for their alleged violations of Ticket Collusion in bad faith, violating Article VI, Section 2, Subsection B, Line 1a(xii)i. With a unanimous vote, the Commission has ruled that RollTerps is responsible. The Commission has determined the following point penalties and sanctions:

- 100 points
- Disqualification (Roll Terps Tickets: All Members & Affiliates)

The Commission ultimately ruled that the aforementioned violation occurred based on the preponderance of the evidence.

Please refer to the report on the following page for an in-depth description of the Commission's rulings.

Elections Commission

Head Elections Commissioner – Leonard Fomin

Deputy Commissioner of Publicity – Sofia Perez

Deputy Commissioner of Campaigning – Emilio Difilippantonio

Deputy Commissioner of Candidacy – Hannah Resnick

Deputy Commissioner of Election Education – Maahe Kunvar

Staff Advisor – William R. Post



FINAL REPORT:

Reported Violation:

- Summarized, a candidate/ticket chair of RollTerps reached out to a candidate of the JusticeUMD ticket with the following text:
 - “I want to figure out a way to keep [REDACTED] eligible to run if yall really really didn’t know what was happening, but I need to talk to you about it”

SGA Rule in Violation:

- **Art. VI, Sec. 2, Subsec. B, Line 1a(xii)**
 - “Ticket collusion done in bad faith.”

Final Decisions:

- **Ticket Collusion Definition & Occurrence:** The Elections Commission defines ticket collusion in bad faith as a deliberate unlawful action by a ticket, individual candidate, or ticket(s) to collaborate/conspire with another ticket, individual candidate(s), or ticket(s) to subvert the Elections Rules or Regulations. Whether the action is successful or not, the mere attempt of coordinating unlawful activities to undermine the campaigning environment, voting process, or other election-related activity constitutes a violation.
- In the case before the Election Commission, the respondent, in full knowledge of the rules, contacted candidates of another ticket with a desire to collaborate on keeping certain candidates “eligible to run”. This statement indicates an attempt to manipulate which candidates are and are not eligible to run, which is not a power that a ticket, candidate, or affiliate can or should exert. The respondent wished to unfairly and improperly control the outcome of the election. Such actions, by their very nature, can only be done in bad faith. Even if only one attempt was made, such action indicates severe malintent and disregard for the democratic election process, which can and should be punished accordingly, and certainly constitutes a Class A violation, as directly undermining the outcome of an election is the most extreme action a ticket, candidate, or affiliate can take.
- The respondent attempted to orchestrate the aforementioned actions with members of another ticket; thus, there was an attempt at collusion. Once again, even a single attempt to collude with another ticket constitutes an attempt at collusion, which can not and may not be overlooked by the Elections Commission.
- Taken together, the evidence clearly indicates an attempt at collusion with (members of) another ticket done in bad faith.



- **Sanction Rationale:** Pursuant to Article VI Section 2 Subsection B, 1 a. xii , “Ticket Collusion done in bad faith” is a Class A violation, where the only available sanction is “Disqualification”. In determining the appropriate sanction, the Elections Commission considers severity, intent, and ability to be upheld. With regard to severity, the Elections Commission considers egregious impact of an attempt to overpower the Elections Commission enumerated powers in determining candidate eligibility. A candidate who attempts to assume the powers of the Commission is inherently undermining this authority of the elections activities, campaigning environment, and administration. With regard to intent, the petitioner’s language in the text and the admission in the provided responses underscore the intent in this case. With regard to the ability to be upheld, the Elections Commission will be able to enforce this sanction given that results have not been verified and violators can be removed.
- **Addressing Petitioner’s False Statements & Misconceptions:**
 - The purpose of this section is to provide context to some of statement made by the petitioner to explain how the specific “communication” in this case with the respondent and appropriate members was not allowable.
 - **#1** “EC has made it clear that submitting violations – without attempting to resolve a conflict in good faith – is discouraged, and I wanted to have a conversation with members of JusticeUMD to ensure [REDACTED] safety.”
 - The Elections Commission has never informally or formally issued any such guidance. In fact, the Commission have repeatedly encouraged tickets, candidates, and affiliates to immediately report any potential violations to the Elections Commission to ensure the sanctity of the elections process.
 - **#2** “It was in the election process’s best interest that [REDACTED] discussed the safety of the campaigning environment as soon as possible, as it was outside of the Elections Commission’s scope at this escalated point.”
 - The texts didn’t mention the “safety of the campaigning environment.” All of the texts were aimed at discussing candidate eligibility. To claim otherwise directly contradicts the evidence.
 - The candidate has no authority to determine what is “in the best interest of the election”. This perspective is a self-fulfilling prophecy is in stark contrast to how SGA Elections are conducted. Pursuant to the SGA Bylaws Article IV, Section 3, Subsection B, 1 a. b. d., the Elections Commission is sole investigator, enforcer, and administrator of the Elections Rules & Calendar, election process as a whole, and violations proceedings and sactions.



- #3 “My exact words were used to communicate the severity of the situation without getting into specifics to protect [REDACTED]’s privacy, but still provide [REDACTED] with an incentive to respond.”
 - This is contrary to what is stated in the text message. Any affirmative response to engage in the desired actions by the receiver of the text message would have implicated them in the text message as well. The invitation to respond may have resulted in further disciplinary action against the receiver.
- **Disqualification of a Ticket Rationale:**
 - Pursuant to Article V, Sec. 2, Subsec. A, 7 & 7a
 - In regard to both the campaigning and endorsement of an SGA election ticket, all events and actions held and performed by ticket members and undergraduate students at large, shall be undertaken in good faith.
 - In the event that a campaign has not been campaigning in good faith [...] or otherwise hurting the legitimacy or sanctity of an SGA election, a ticket and its constituent members can and shall be punished fairly and consistently for violations thereof at the discretion of the Elections Commission.
 - Given that the petitioner represents and campaigns on behalf of a ticket (RollTerps), the actions taken, whether favorable or not, impacts the ticket as whole in a favorable or non favorable.
 - Any actions taken by a candidate on or affiliate of a ticket reflects on the ticket as a whole. That is the purpose of giving tickets points and sanctions as a whole and why affiliates must be registered. The election rules, especially regarding violations, are entirely structured around the actions by members of a ticket reflecting on the ticket as a whole. This is more than just a precedent (one that has been followed by every Elections Commission, including the 2026 EC): it is fundamental to the purpose and operations of the elections rules. To rule otherwise would contradict all precedent and reason.

Sanctions:

- Sanction
 - Class A Violation: Disqualification (All members & affiliates of RollTerps)

- ticket) ● Points
 - 100 Points

Remaining budget of ticket: ●
N/A

Total points of ticket:
● 100 -
Disqualification

