

The Student Court of The George Washington University

Complaint Form

_____)	
_____)	Plaintiff(s)
_____)	
v. _____)	
_____)	
_____)	Defendant(s)
_____)	

FILED ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20_____

I. JURISDICTION:

The plaintiff(s) brings this action against the defendant(s) in the Student Court of the George Washington University: (check one)

- pursuant to Article III, §4(A) of the Student Association Constitution, to resolve a dispute between parties within the Student Association regarding the constitutionality of any action or inaction by the Student Association or any of its respective parts.
- pursuant to Article III, §4(B) of the Student Association Constitution, to appeal a decision of the Joint Elections Committee pertaining to Student Association elections administered by the Joint Elections Committee, and plaintiff certifies it has served the NOTICE OF APPEAL to the Joint Elections Committee.
- pursuant to Article III, §4(C) of the Student Association Constitution, to appeal a decision of the Joint Elections Committee pertaining to Program Board and/or Marvin Center Governing Board elections, to the extent that the constitution of the Program Board and/or Marvin Center Governing Board permits, and plaintiff certifies it has served the NOTICE OF APPEAL to the Joint Elections Committee.
- pursuant to Article III, §4(D) of the Student Association Constitution, requesting the Court to exercise jurisdiction to finally adjudicate cases and controversies not otherwise specifically provided for by the Student Association Constitution, provided that the parties involved agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the Court, and provided that the Court shall choose to assert such jurisdiction. Checking this box certifies that the party filing this complaint submits to the Student Court's jurisdiction and will recognize and follow any order, decision, judgement, or injunction issued by the Court.
- pursuant to Article III, §4(E) of the Student Association Constitution, to adjudicate a funding dispute among or between registered student organizations receiving Student Association monies.

II. STANDING:

The plaintiff(s) hereby certify that he or she has standing to bring this claim before the Student Court: (check all that apply)

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(A)(1), as Senate member(s) or Executive Officer(s) challenging the constitutionality of any action or inaction on the part of any Student Association Executive Officer(s), a majority of the Senate membership, any Senate Chair, or the Joint Elections Committee.

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(A)(2), as an enrolled student(s) of The George Washington University challenging the constitutionality of any action or inaction on the part of any Student Association Executive Officer(s), a majority of the Senate membership, any Student Association Senate Chair, or the Joint Elections Committee, who alleges direct injury to themselves caused by the challenged action or inaction.

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(B)(1), appealing a decision of the Joint Elections Committee which eliminated or excluded the plaintiff from a Student Association election.

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(B)(2), appealing a decision of the Joint Elections Committee which levied a fine upon the plaintiff for an alleged infraction allegedly committed by the plaintiff during a Student Association election.

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(B)(3), appealing a decision of the Joint Elections Committee which improperly decided an issue pertaining to a Program Board or Marvin Center Governing Board election under the applicable constitution of the respective organization.

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(C)(1), as an individual or group challenging a funding decision of an auxiliary or secondary funding body established by the Student Association.

_____ pursuant to Article III, §6(C)(2), as an individual or group challenging the constitutionality of a funding decision by the Student Association Senate.

III. REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW:

Leave this section blank if normal Court procedures are to be used in this case. Initial below only if expedited review of this matter is needed, and *attach a separate written explanation* as to why your motion for expedited review should be granted. Requesting expedited review does not guarantee that the Court will grant such review. If a request for expedited review is granted, the Court will schedule a hearing or trial within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving this complaint, and all time constraints and notification requirements in the Student Court Bylaws and Procedures will be suspended. (See Article III of the Student Court Bylaws.)

I believe that this case should be granted expedited review, and have attached a separate written explanation stating why expedited review is necessary. I agree to abide by the decision of the Court in granting or denying expedited review. _____

IV. REPRESENTATION:

A. Pursuant to the Student Court Bylaws Article I, §B, the plaintiff in this action recognizes that all parties have the right to have an advisor present at any Student Court hearings and/or trials, but the advisor may not address the Student Court without the Court’s permission. The plaintiff hereby notifies the Student Court: (check one)

_____ that the undersigned plaintiff will represent himself or herself before the Court.

_____ of the plaintiff’s respectful request that the Court grant its motion to allow the following person(s) to serve as its advisor(s) before the Court. The undersigned advisor(s) hereby affixes his/her signature swearing to abide by the regulations of the Student Court, any and all rulings made by the Court during Court proceedings, the Student Association Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws, and all relevant provisions of The George Washington University Guide to Student Rights and Responsibilities and the Code of Student Conduct. The undersigned advisor(s) swears that any and all information the Court may choose to allow the undersigned to present will be truthful, accurate, and authentic.

Name of Counsel:

Address:

Home Telephone Number:

Cellular Telephone Number:

E-mail Address:

Signature:

(Photocopy this page for additional requests.)

B. If you are a student organization instituting this action, please identify a member of your group who will serve as your group’s representative before the Court for all purposes pertaining to the case. Note that this in no way precludes you from also having an advisor represent you, as outlined in Article I, §B, if you so choose.

Name of Group’s Representative:

Address:

Home Telephone Number:

Cellular Telephone Number:

E-mail Address:

V. FORM OF PROCEEDINGS:

The undersigned plaintiff hereby certifies its understanding that all proceedings of the Student Court are open to the public pursuant to the Student Court Bylaws, Article II. With this knowledge, the plaintiff hereby: (check one)

_____ agrees to conduct all affairs in accordance with the open-hearing policy of the above referenced bylaw.

_____ respectfully requests that the Court grant the undersigned plaintiff’s motion to hold closed proceedings in this matter, and attaches a separate written explanation as to why the proceedings should be closed. In so requesting, the plaintiff acknowledges that the Court must deny this motion unless ALL parties named in this complaint, and all the Judges on the Student Court so concur to hold closed proceedings.

VI. STATEMENT OF THE FACTS:

The plaintiff attaches to this complaint a STATEMENT OF THE FACTS surrounding the dispute involved in this case. The statement of facts should consist of numbered paragraphs, with each relevant fact having its own paragraph. The statement of the facts may be stated in general terms, but must constitute sufficient information on which the Court may discern a cause of action.

The STATEMENT OF THE FACTS must therefore contain:

1. the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of each and every party to the claim;
2. the relevancy of each party to the claim;
3. the relevant dates pertinent to this claim;
4. a nature of the injury the plaintiff seeks remedied; and,
5. a numbered, paragraph-by-paragraph, SUMMARY of the facts surrounding the actions of all parties with respect to the injury complained of therein.

VII. RELIEF:

Whereas the cause of action set out in the STATEMENT OF THE FACTS has resulted in the violation of the rights of the plaintiff and/or has caused substantial injustice to the plaintiff, the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendant, attaches a separate statement of the relief he or she seeks, and respectfully requests that the Court grant such relief.

VIII. REQUIREMENT OF TRUTH:

By signing this complaint, the petitioner swears that all allegations made herein, within the STATEMENT OF THE FACTS, and within the statement of requested relief are true and understands that any misrepresentations with respect to the facts is grounds for dismissal of this action by the Student Court and/or disciplinary action under §11(f) of the Code of Student Conduct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____