



**TEXAS**  
ELECTION SUPERVISORY BOARD

**2026 CAMPUS-WIDE ELECTIONS**

**Resolution 2026-001**

Issued: February 26, 2026

*Ledbetter v. Kratovil & English*

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, & CONCERNS SHALL BE DIRECTED TO [ESB@AUSTIN.UTEXAS.EDU](mailto:ESB@AUSTIN.UTEXAS.EDU)  
SUSPECTED ELECTION VIOLATION? **REPORT IT [HERE](#).**

**Election Supervisory Board Resolution: 2026-001**  
In Res. Prohibition of Bribery

Election Supervisory Board Member, Lauren Pham, delivered the majority opinion of the board:

“In the matter of an alleged improper inducement through misrepresentation of a raffle offer.”

On Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 5:28 P.M. CST, Kaylie Ledbetter submitted a complaint (Complaint ID: 1) against the Executive Alliance, Cate Kratovil and Bailey English, alleging that they violated **Title II, Chapter VII, §7.8 Campus-Wide Election Code.**

***“PROHIBITION OF BRIBERY.** No candidate, agent, or worker, may exchange anything of value or food-related items, excluding campaign material, in return for a promise of a vote at any time before, during and/or after the campaign period.”*

The complaining party, Kaylie Ledbetter, alleged that the Executive Alliance, Cate Kratovil and Bailey English, violated the bribery provision of the Campus Wide Election Code by distributing raffle tickets. Ledbetter asserted that the respondents circulated campaign materials containing a QR code labeled “scan to possibly win Cabo Bob’s,” which directed users to a LinkTree page hosting a raffle. The complainant further argued that prior ESB guidance suggested that raffles promoted via social media could constitute bribery, regardless of whether a vote was explicitly promised. Additionally, Ledbetter maintained that the raffle functioned as a tactical campaign device, noting that it was included in the respondents’ campaign and financial disclosure submissions.

Upon review of testimony and materials, respondent Cate Kratovil explained that their campaign materials had been submitted for approval through the established ESB process and were approved in accordance with standard procedures. The respondents emphasized that the Election Code specifically prohibits exchanges made in return for the “promise of a vote,” and that their raffle did not require, nor solicit, such a promise. The raffle included a clear disclaimer stating that entry was not contingent upon voting for the slate. The stated purpose of the raffle was to build a mailing list and encourage broader civic engagement. The prize consisted of five \$10 gift cards to be distributed after the election, with no voting verification mechanism tied to participation.

The Board clarified that while campaign materials are reviewed for compliance, approval does not extend to a comprehensive examination of every external link or QR code unless they involve protected marks or raise facial violations. Furthermore, during deliberation, the Board noted that while prior ESB communications addressed concerns about raffles, the operative language of the Campus Wide Election Code governs enforcement decisions. The Code’s bribery provision centers specifically on quid pro quo exchanges involving the promise of a vote.

Based on the evidence presented, there was no indication that entry into the raffle was conditioned upon voting for the respondents, nor that any vote verification was requested or required. As such, the activity did not meet the definitional threshold for bribery under the plain language of the Code.

Based on the facts of this case, the Election Supervisory Board has ruled that the Cate Kratovil and Bailey English Executive Alliance did not violate Title II, Chapter VII, §7.8 Campus-Wide Election Code.

In conclusion, The Election Supervisory Board submits its resolution on Thursday, February 26th, 2026, in a seven-to-one majority of the board members who were present at the hearing.

**AFFIRMATIVE VOTES:**

Kaya Miller – (Secretary)

Isabella Herrera

Dawson Nunn

Michael De La Garza

Lauren Pham

Vivek Patel

Samuel Huron

**DISSENTING VOTES:**

Samuel J. Hecht – (Chairman)

2026-001, *LEDBETTER V. KRATOVIL & ENGLISH*, IS RULED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Pursuant to **Title II, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, §4.19 Campus-Wide Election Code:**

***“APPEAL OF ESB DECISION.*** *Either party affected by a decision of the Election Supervisory Board may file an appeal with the entity with appellate jurisdiction within 24 hours after the adverse decision is announced. After the polls open, an appeal must be filed within 12 hours after the adverse decision.”*