



Precedent of the Election Committee

Allegation 2021-06

Relevant Constitutional Sections:

Article XV, Section 1(i)(3): Receipts for all election materials purchased or donated must be presented to the Election Committee or Hall Election Coordinator prior to any use of the materials. All receipts must be accompanied by a list of materials purchased.

Relevant Facts:

The alleged party purchased a domain name fourteen days prior to the beginning of the campaign period and submitted the receipts for their purchase on the first day of the campaign period. The website subsequently was made public later that day. The alleging party argues that holding the website domain name prior to submitting receipts constitutes “use” pursuant to Article XV, Section 1(i)(3).

Holdings:

1. The possession of an unpublished website does not constitute “use” under Article XV, Section 1(i)(3).
 - a. Simply possessing the right to an asset or service does not constitute its *use*. One derives no practical use from the possession of an unpublished internet domain if potential voters or other members of the public have no means of accessing it. There is no means, in this circumstance, by which the term “use” can be stretched to extend to mere possession.