

Cite as: #122-1, Statement of Crenshaw, CJ.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

AARON JORDAN v. VPLA AZIZAH HINAWI, THE SENATE

ON PETITION FOR A HEARING BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SUPREME COURT

No. #122-1. Decided September 12th, 2022.

The petition for a hearing and to be put back on the agenda is **DENIED**
Statement of **CHIEF JUSTICE CRENSHAW** respecting the denial of petition:

Syllabus I: Agenda Timeline

The Plaintiff began their complaint by addressing the fact that the SGA Agenda has not been posted onto the official UNO Website, that had little to do with the situation that occurred within the senate meeting on August 31st, 2022. Senate has very limited access and control over the website to upload things and all the minutes are done by person. It was completely irrelevant to include that as it did not pertain to or contribute to the importance of the case. The laws also don't require legislative branch to post that information immediately.

Syllabus II: Questioning Period

The Plaintiff also included that many questions were asked over the 3-minute allotted time, a motion for extended time was successfully passed and no senator motioned for a second extension of the allotted time. The Plaintiff accused current sitting Vice President of Legislative Affairs of "abruptly and unilaterally cutting them off and not allowing any other senator to extend the time for further round of questioning." This is perjury, VPLA Hinnawi extended time according to the transcripts of the meeting, when by rules of SGA questioning is supposed to cease as soon as time is called. Vice President of Legislative Affairs Hinnawi broke protocol to allow Senator Carbo to finish their line of questioning as well as giving Appointee Jordan more time to speak past the allotted time. Protocol was broken to allow the Plaintiff Jordan to answer more questions as well as VPLA Hinnawi not providing a verbal indication of time potentially being extended. Both the plaintiff and defendant were out of order. Senator Hinnawi allowed time to go over to complete the question and expressed that they did not want to cut off the questioning, a senator could have motioned to extend time as previously done every senator present had the right. The rules and procedures does not give

an exact number of which time can be extended neither setting a limit or a minimum so this claim is dismissed.

Syllabus III: Louisiana Laws Violations

The plaintiff stated that various Louisiana Laws were broken regarding their appointment. Since University of New Orleans is a public institution that receives federal funding, we must adhere to and abide by the laws our state & federal government, but we are allowed to make additions and or alterations to fit the needs of students and our campus since we do not and cannot operate on the same scale as a federal or state law body. Any alterations to fit the better needs and productivity of UNO SGA must have been already added to the UNO SGA Constitution or Rules and Procedures. Most of these concerns have already been covered or met in the UNO Rules and Procedures and thus showing the Plaintiff has no practical or working knowledge of our laws and or procedures.

See RS 42:16, RS 42:17, (b)(i)

All public bodies, except the legislature and its committees and subcommittees, shall give written public notice of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting no later than twenty-four hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, before the meeting.

All bodies except the legislature and its committees shall be required to give this notice. Appointee Jordan included in Specific Violation(s) Alleged "It is important to note for the purposes of the Louisiana Open Meetings Law, the term "Legislature" refers to the Louisiana State Legislature and not any legislative body, such as the SGA Senate." Legislative branch is defined as being made up of the House and Senate. We must adhere to the state laws as a governing body that mirrors Federal and State law therefore the authority and power to determine what is and not included or counted as Legislative body does not fall under the authority of Appointee Jordan.

See RS 42:17 §17. Exceptions to open meetings. A. A public body may hold an executive session pursuant to R.S. 42:16 for one or more of the following reasons:

(1) Discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, before the scheduled time contained in the notice of the meeting at which such executive session is to take place and that such person may require that such discussion be held at an open meeting. However, nothing in this Paragraph shall permit an executive session for discussion of the appointment of a person to a public body or, except as provided in R.S. 39:1593(C)(2)(c), for discussing the award

of a public contract. In cases of extraordinary emergency, written notice to such person shall not be required; however, the public body shall give such notice as it deems appropriate and circumstances permit.

The Plaintiff implies that there has been a violation of their rights because they were not notified of a specific line of questioning regarding mental health, professional competence, and or character. The SGA Rules & Procedures clearly states lines of questioning are crucial to successfully appoint capable and knowledgeable candidates and questions within reason are allowed to be asked. All individuals who participated in line of questioning asked very vital and appropriate lines of questioning that aided in the process of determining if the Plaintiff was a good candidate to hold the position of senator.

SYLLABUS IV: NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

SEE 3.7.10. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

3.7.10.1. The senate shall consider any nominations and appointments as placed on the agenda by the Speaker of the Senate. These nominations and appointments are subject to the requirements laid out in the SGA Constitution. Any senator has the right to question any nominee or appointment in which a senate confirmation vote is needed. Any nominee or appointment shall have the opportunity to speak on the matter if they so choose to. Nominations and appointments can only occur after all New Senate business has been completed or tabled.

The senate All questions regarding these matters were introduced solely by the Appointee Jordan, Senate did not make a conscious or deliberate effort to ask about their mental health, professional competence, and or character. All information given regarding these topics were given by the Plaintiff as per the meeting minutes. The plaintiff's character was brought up in the executive session as it pertains to the plaintiff committing perjury while in the process of being appointed. The plaintiff also participated in the act of self-incrimination by expressing wishes and interest to use SGA funds to sponsor and or financial aid families that have sought refuge from War on Ukraine. This is a blatant disregard to SGA proceedings and shows that the plaintiff was not prepared, educated, or even familiar with the powers and roles SGA plays on campus even going as far as to disregard and bypass questions pertaining to the betterment of students on campus.

SYLLABUS V: Executive Session

The plaintiff stated that rules were broken in that voting and final decisions could not and cannot be concluded in the executive session. But the executive session was concluded when the senate motioned to vote and then proceeded to do a secret vote.

SYLLABUS VI: Final Deliberation

The only rules broken during this session were Vice President of Legislative affair allowing the plaintiff to continue questioning once time had been called. All other protocols were followed and abided by the SGA Rules and Procedures and Louisiana State Laws. None of the evidence or rules listed gives undeniable reasoning for a hearing, thus the request to be added back to the agenda and the petition for a hearing is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Dwayne J. Crenshaw

Dwayne J. Crenshaw (Sep 13, 2022 10:44 CDT)

Dwayne J. Crenshaw
UNOSGA Supreme Court Chief Justice

Date: Sep 13, 2022