



*Advisory Opinion 19-01  
Department of Justice  
August 28th, 2019*

By the power vested in the Attorney General by Title VI, Section 107 the University of Mississippi Associated Student Body Code, and, pursuant to Title V(c), Section 113(e;f) of the same, I hereby issue the following advisory opinion and supplementary rationale:

It is the decision of the Attorney General that individuals seeking nomination in the 2019 Fall General Election are permitted to create one (1) campaign planning group message, comprised of a maximum of five (5) individuals (inclusive of the candidate), following the release of petitions and prior to the beginning of the campaign period.

Rationale: In accordance with [ASB Code: Title V(c), Section 113(e)], a group or group message created prior to the campaign period for the explicit purpose of planning for an upcoming campaign is not prohibited; however, in order to ensure that this permission is not taken advantage of in a deleterious way, it is the decision of the Attorney General that these groups should not exceed five (5) people, inclusive of the candidate. As this provision is meant only to allow the candidate to plan for their upcoming campaign, and not to begin building support for their upcoming campaign, the Attorney General has determined that a group larger than five (5), inclusive of the candidate, is unnecessary in the planning stage of a campaign. I will further clarify that a group composed in the aforementioned manner would not be in jeopardy of violating [ASB Code: Title V(c), Section 113(f)]--as supported at the conclusion of subsection (e).

This opinion shall have the effect of Law as stated in Title V(e), Section 122(e)(2) of the University of Mississippi Associated Student Body Code and is thereby subject to appeal and review by the Associated Student Body Judicial Council.

Austin Fiala  
Attorney General