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# Office for Civil Rights Discrimination Complaint Form: Submission #736655

## 1. Enter information about yourself

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Best Time to Call You: Day

Primary Phone Number:

Alternative Phone Number:

Your Email Address:

## 2. Who else can we call if we cannot reach you?

Contact's Name:

Daytime Phone Number:

Relationship to you:

## 3. Who was discriminated against?

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Yourself or Someone else Someone else?

If someone other than yourself please include:

Injured Person's Name: (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C)

Daytime Phone Number: (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C)

Evening Phone Number: {Empty}

Relationship to You  
(eg. son or daughter) (b)(6); (b)(7)(A)

Injured Person's Address: (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C)

City: (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C)

State: (b)(6); (b)(7)(A)

Zip Code: (b)(6); (b)(7)(A)

#### 4. What institution discriminated?

Institution Name: The Ohio State University

Address: 281 West Lane Avenue

City: Columbus

State: Ohio

Zip Code: 43210

School or department involved: {Empty}

#### 5. Have you tried to resolve the complaint through the institution's grievance process, due process hearing, or with another agency?

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Have you tried to resolve the complaint? No

## 6. Describe the discrimination

OCR enforces regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin; sex; disability; and/or age.

(You may select more than one.)

On what basis were you discriminated against? national origin

In the space provided below please describe each discriminatory action separately. For each action, you need to provide the following information: I am writing (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C) at The Ohio State University and the hate groups that are being allowed to protest and harass and discriminate on the campus of this public institution. The SJP has been designated a hate group but was permitted to march on campus- calling for Jewish genocide and calling for annihilation of the Jewish people during the school day (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C) Anti-Israeli faculty was allowed to hold a teach-in last week using OSU premises and resources during the school day and teach one-sided hate rhetoric aimed at riling up students and instilling hate against Jews on campus. No alternate point of view was offered. Yesterday, 11/29/2023, SJP students were allowed to protest and to lay down in the student union during the day and pretend they were dead Palestinians- which sparked hate against the Jewish students on campus. As a result of these events- two Jewish students were beat up on campus a few weeks ago. The Hillel was broken into and vandalized. (b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(A); (b)(7)(C) we are told that these groups are allowed to express "free speech." These groups are not expressing free speech. They are expressing hate speech which are fighting words. This is not protected speech and it must be stopped at once.

Do you have written information that you think will help us understand your complaint?

yes or no No

## 7. Your complaint must be filed within 180 days of the discriminatory action

The laws that we enforce require that complaints be filed with our office within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory event. If any of the alleged discriminatory actions took place more than 180 days before the postmark or receipt date of this complaint, you may request a waiver of the 180-day limit. When did

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the last act of discrimination occur?

## When did the last act of discrimination occur?

Enter the date:

Are you requesting a waiver of the 180-day filing time limit for discrimination that occurred more than 180 days before the filing of this complaint?

## Are you requesting a waiver of the 180-day filing time limit for discrimination that occurred more than 180 days before the filing of this complaint?

yes or no No

Reason for not filing complaint before 180 days: {Empty}

## 8. What would you like the institution to do as a result of your complaint?

What remedy are you seeking? We would like the University to ban hate groups such as the SJP from campus. We would like the university to disallow their faculty from using university resources to teach one-sided political and religious rhetoric which instills violence and hate and which are fighting words- without also teaching a balanced view- and we would urge that faculty not be permitted to express political views on campus or to students against any religion as our students have to take classes with these teachers- who they now know hate and despise them.

School resources should not be used to support any political group or one religious group when it invokes hate or fighting words against another group on campus. This is unlawful and non-protected speech.

## 9. Option to Participate in OCR's Early Mediation Process

I am interested in participating in early mediation: Yes



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

1350 EUCLID AVENUE, SUITE 325  
CLEVELAND, OH 44115-1812

REGION XV  
MICHIGAN  
OHIO

January 16, 2024

**Via e-mail only to: [president@osu.edu](mailto:president@osu.edu)**

Ted Carter  
President  
The Ohio State University  
Office of the President  
University Square South  
15 East 15th Avenue, Fifth Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43201

Re: OCR Docket No. 15-24-2043

Dear Mr. Carter:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has received a complaint against The Ohio State University (University). The Complainant alleges that the University discriminated against students on the basis of their national origin (shared Jewish ancestry) by failing to respond to incidents of harassment on the University campus during fall 2023.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, including shared ancestry, by recipients of federal financial assistance. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department of Education, the University is subject to this law.

OCR is opening the following issue for investigation:

Whether the University failed to respond to alleged harassment of students on the basis of national origin (shared Jewish ancestry) in a manner consistent with the requirements of Title VI.

Please understand that opening an investigation does not mean that OCR has made a decision about the complaint. During the investigation, OCR is neutral; OCR will collect and analyze the evidence it needs in order to make a decision about the complaint. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient and addresses the allegation(s), in accordance with OCR's *Case Processing Manual*. The complainant may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

*The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.*

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

Please read the enclosed document entitled “OCR Complaint Processing Procedures,” which includes information about:

- OCR’s complaint evaluation and resolution procedures;
- regulatory prohibitions against retaliation, intimidation, and harassment of persons who file complaints with OCR or participate in an OCR investigation; and
- application of the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act to OCR investigations.

Also, when appropriate, the complaint may be resolved before the conclusion of an investigation when the recipient expresses an interest to OCR to resolve the complaint and OCR determines that it is appropriate to resolve the complaint allegation(s) because OCR’s investigation has identified concerns that can be addressed through a resolution agreement. In such cases, OCR obtains a resolution agreement signed by the university. This agreement must be supported by the evidence obtained during the investigation, and it will be consistent with applicable statute(s) and regulation(s). Additional information about this voluntary resolution process may be found in the enclosed document and on OCR’s website at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaints-how.html>.

The regulation implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, at 34 C.F.R. § 100.6, requires that a recipient of federal financial assistance make available to OCR information that may be pertinent to reach a compliance determination.

In addition, in accordance with the regulation implementing the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, at 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(3)(iii), and the Title VI regulation at 34 C.F.R. § 100.6(c), OCR may review personally identifiable records without regard to considerations of privacy or confidentiality.

Accordingly, OCR is requesting that you forward the information below to OCR within **fifteen calendar days** of the date at the top of this letter. OCR asks that you provide the requested information via e-mail or by uploading documents to OCR’s external sharing site (SharePoint) whenever possible. At this time, OCR Cleveland Regional Office cannot accept documents via Google services or other file share links/services. When producing the requested data, please provide all files in Adobe .pdf format with Bates-labels, except for spreadsheets. Spreadsheets should be provided in their original, native format (e.g., Microsoft Excel files). Please contact the staff member(s) identified below to receive information on how to upload data to the external sharing site or if you need any other assistance in providing the requested information.

Please do **not** provide any Social Security numbers in your data response. If any responsive documents contain Social Security numbers, please redact the Social Security numbers before producing the responsive documents to OCR.

1. The name(s) and title(s) of University staff responsible for investigating incidents of discrimination and harassment based on national origin/shared ancestry during the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 academic years.

2. A copy of the University's notice of nondiscrimination. In addition, provide all existing internet links to any notice or policies of nondiscrimination referenced in response to this item. Please also provide an explanation of where and how such notices and policies are otherwise publicized or disseminated to students, faculty, staff, administrators, and others.
3. A copy of the University's policies and procedures, and/or a description of the University's practices and protocols, governing the investigation of complaints of harassment and/or discrimination on the basis of national origin/shared ancestry, including the University's definition of antisemitism. Include a detailed description of the complaint process, including each level of the process, the designated timeframes to complete each stage or level in the process, and the types of records maintained.
4. Copies of all documentation of any formal and informal reports/complaints, including records of oral reports/complaints, concerning alleged harassment and/or discrimination based on national origin discrimination, including shared Jewish ancestry, at the University and/or in any University program or activity during the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 academic years.
5. For each complaint or report made regarding the Item #4 above, please provide:
  - a. the name(s) and title(s) of the individual(s) to whom the complaint/report was made, and the date of the complaint/report;
  - b. a detailed description of the complaint processing procedures employed to resolve the complaint/report;
  - c. the length of the process;
  - d. the name(s) and title(s) of the individual(s) involved in the handling of the complaint/report;
  - e. all actions the University took in response to the complaint/report;
  - f. the University's final determination regarding the complaint/report;
  - g. any corrective action taken; and
  - h. any notice of the findings provided to the complainant.
6. Copies of all documentation related to any complaints/reports identified in Item #4, including but not limited to correspondence, internal and external memoranda, investigative reports, witness statements, logs, forms, meeting minutes, personnel or student file documents, disciplinary documents, remedies provided, and notes generated for each complaint/report, if not provided in response to Items #5.
7. State whether the University conducts trainings and/or holds informational sessions with the student community and/or University staff regarding students' rights under Title VI, how to report possible violations of Title VI, and/or the University's obligation to respond to Title VI complaints. If so, provide the dates of such events, a description of the attendees, and any materials presented and/or distributed.
8. A detailed description of any training regarding discrimination, including harassment, based on national origin/shared ancestry provided to University staff. For each such

training provide the dates of such training, a description of the training, a list of the names and titles of the individuals who attended the training, and copies of any materials distributed during the training.

9. Any other documentation or narrative explanation the University would like OCR to consider in its investigation, including the identification of relevant witnesses. For each individual identified, please provide a name, title, and current contact information.

OCR also may need to interview individuals at the University with knowledge of the facts of this case. If OCR determines that interviews are necessary, OCR will contact you to schedule a mutually convenient time and method (e.g., telephone call, conference line, Microsoft Teams).

The University is also hereby notified that it should retain all electronically stored information and other records, in their originally created format, containing information related to the subject matter of this complaint, including e-mails, word processing documents, spreadsheets, databases, calendars, telephone logs, internet files, network access information, and other media-based information (such as personal digital assistants and digital voice mail), even after it has provided OCR with copies and whether or not OCR has included the information in this initial data request. Please also retain all non-electronic documents and evidence in whatever form, including personal or desk files, calendars, notes, correspondence, drafts, policies, manuals, or other things relevant to the case.

Please be advised that the University must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information, that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

When contacting OCR about this complaint, please include in the subject line of any e-mail correspondence and in any other communication, a reference to OCR Docket No. 15-24-2043.

Upon receipt of this letter, please notify OCR of the name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the person who will serve as the University's contact person during OCR's investigation of this complaint. If you have any questions, please contact Alysa Kociuruba or Beverly Boyle, the attorneys who are assigned to investigate this complaint. Ms. Kociuruba can be reached by phone at 202-987-1837 or by e-mail at Alysa.Kociuruba@ed.gov, and Ms. Boyle



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can be reached at 202-987-1292 or by e-mail at Beverly.Boyle@ed.gov. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Digitally signed by DENISE VAUGHN-BYRD  
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government,  
ou=Department of Education, ou=Office for  
Civil Rights, cn=DENISE VAUGHN-BYRD,  
j.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=91001004235452  
Date: 2024.01.16 10:40:57 -05'00'

Denise C. Vaughn  
Team Leader

Enclosure