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To Whom It May Concern:

4-28-9

This is a written appeal against my exclusion from OHSU. On the day in question, 4-22-9, I never refused to leave the building, I was just trying to herd a 2 year old and a 4 year old out of the building with a very inappropriately aggressive officer, Sergeant Walker, making this virtually impossible until another officer who also has a two year old, Officer Schneider, got her to back off.

Sergeant Walker spoke to me as I was leaving the restroom with the kids and asked me to step aside, in a direction away from the elevator. I informed her that I was in charge of two little girls and we were just leaving so that I couldn't see her privately and wanted to head in the direction of the elevator. She told me she could talk to me on the way to the elevator. I agreed. She informed me that the little girls were not allowed to go to the potty at OHSU. I asked her if that meant OHSU would rather have a 4-year-old girl wet her pants than be able to use the restroom. She told me I would have to make other arrangements in the future. She was very loud and aggressive and the 4 four year old got very wound up. The two year old got very clingy because the officer was scaring her.

It's a short trip from the restroom to the elevator, as you know, and the elevator is right by the cafeteria. Because OHSU decided to allow us to enter the building to use the facilities, as I was informed by Gary Granger and Sergeant Walker, I had told the girls on the way in that we might stop and get some vegan soup on the way out of the building. I have been to many education outreach events at the same part of Pill Hill and have always been allowed inside and had no reason to think differently. Preschoolers expectations are extremely important to them so when we reached the cafeteria the 4 year old started repeatedly saying she was hungry and she wanted to eat. During this time, I was trying to convince the child to leave and asking Sergeant Walker if we were not allowed to use the cafeteria as well. She informed me that we are not.

At the same time, two other officers showed up on the scene. Another woman at the event I was attending, who coincidentally accompanied us to the restroom but ended up being quite helpful with the girls, was touched by Officer Habibi on her way to the elevator. She started shouting, "Get your hands off me! You can't touch me!" She is a very slow-moving person in general who was apparently not moving fast enough for Habibi.

The shouting really agitated the girls further as well as Sergeant Walker who started shouting, "Leave!" and pointing at the elevator. I told her I was working on it and that she was taking the wrong tack. I told her that it's not that easy to herd a two and four year old onto an elevator and it's even harder when they are upset. She informed me that they also had stairs to accommodate our exit. I told her she must not have a lot of experience with kids if she thinks there is a big difference between getting them down some stairs or onto an elevator (FYI stairs are much worse). I asked her to back off (considering that she

was practically blocking our path to the elevator) and told her that everyone just needed to calm down so I could get the kids calmly and safely to the elevator.

At this point Officer Schneider intervened and got Sergeant Walker to back off. He told me he has a two year old at home too and that he knew how hard it could be. Once everyone backed off, I calmly and safely walked the girls to the elevator. The four year old was still asking for soup.

I never once informed any of the four officers present that we were staying. I never refused to leave. I asked a few questions about the parameters of the limitations on our use of OHSU buildings, but that was it. I never even so much as told the girls we were staying for soup. Because of your officers' needlessly aggressive posturing (with the exception of Officer Schneider), it took me a bit longer to leave than it would have if they had waited to talk to us until we had left the building, and it was a lot more traumatizing for the kids. Not a single officer followed me out of the building. It was abundantly clear to all of them that we were trying to leave, as I informed Sergeant Walker when she first contacted me.

Sincerely,

Leslie Hemstreet