

**Students for Fair Trade
c/o Timothy J. O'Brien
1303 Ruthven Street
Houston, TX 77019-5139
713.739.0011**

Keith T. Kowalka
Director, UC and Associated Facilities
282 University Center
Houston, TX 77004
VIA: Fax 713.743.5281

February 9, 2007

Re: James G. Pettijohn's threats and unprofessional behavior

Dear Mr. Kowalka,

We write to you today to bring your attention to an unfortunate incident that occurred with your staffer and members of our group on February 7, 2007.

A member of our group and I were doing some informational tabling and serving free coffee samples provided by Java City in the UC Arbor, a female UC staffer approached our table and asked if we had a reservation I informed her that in fact Aramark and Dr. John Rudley's office had at the direction of Dr. Jay Gogue, made arrangements for us to use a table to serve coffee as part of our Fair Trade Wednesdays event.

After dismissing our explanation she left and shortly thereafter Mr. James Pettijohn came to our table and repeated the same question about a reservation. Mr. Pettijohn berated us for several minutes while I again tried to tell him of the arrangement that Dr. Gogue's staff had made on our behalf. I had met with Theodore Kelly, special assistant to Vice Chancellor Rudley, before the semester started about this and thought everything was taken care of. I suggested that Mr. Pettijohn call Mr. Kelly to verify this. I asked him to call him from his cell phone right there. He instead berated and threatened us some more and then left. When he returned he said he talked to Mr. Kelly and heard a different story. The entire time he was talking into his cell phone. I asked him to get Mr. Kelly on the phone and let me talk to him. Instead of granting my reasonable request he said "I'm going to call the police right now unless you leave." I informed him that I would leave and go to Mr. Kelly's office and/or Dr. Gogue's office to discuss this.

When I spoke with Mr. Kelly he apologized on behalf of Mr. Pettijohn and we cleared up our mutual misunderstanding about how the Fair Trade Wednesday's event would be arranged. Most importantly he confirmed that if there were no reservations available he would get us a table on the weeks that we don't have one. We currently have reservations for every other week.

We request that you please take action to prevent your employees from threatening us with uncalled for police action that could result in a lawsuit against the university. Normally we get exceptional service from the reservations office in particular Ms. Teresa Crosslin who among others is the utmost professional, helpful and courteous staffer.

We would appreciate a written reply to our concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. O'Brien
President, Students for Fair Trade

Cc: Theodore Kelly
Dr. John Rudley, file