

Dear Senior Program Officer Greenberg,

Thank you for your letter of March 7.

As Hanover Police Department Chief Dennis notes in his letter to Ms. Conza, the Police Department relayed to the College that the information they received (through multiple channels including law enforcement sources) was credible and caused them concern for the safety of those on campus – those attending the event, those protesting the event and other community members. We have a close working relationship with the Hanover Police and the utmost respect for them and other law enforcement agencies that they work with. So, we take seriously any information about threats to our community that they bring forward to us.

In this case, we also took note that the Police Department's assurances on effective handling of the event and protest came with the qualification that Chief Dennis notes to Ms. Conza: "as best we could".

In addition, we asked the College Republicans to provide 9 students to staff the event: 3 for logistics/entry to event, 2 moderators, and 4 crowd managers. This request was based on a number of factors, including past experience with similar events, additional support needed to manage entry to the event to comply with the current visitor policy, and appropriate staffing to manage potential disruptions during the event. We shared this expectation with the College Republicans 4 days before the event. The morning of the event, the College Republicans told us that they only had 4 students available to work the event. We discussed the expectation again and reminded them that this was necessary to manage the event. At noon, we followed up with the College Republicans asking for an update and list of names by 3pm. We received no response.

By way of background, there are many events that require higher levels of student staffing in order for the event to proceed. Some examples include: the Polar Bear Swim during Winter Carnival, Programming Board Green Key Concert, Powwow, and Greek concerts/events with alcohol. In cases where the staffing levels have not been met, the events have not been allowed to proceed.

The safety of those within the Dartmouth community and those who visit our campus is of the utmost importance. So we were pleased that the College Republicans were able to hold the Andy Ngo event safely and without harm coming to any person on our campus. Contrary to what you say, this is an outcome that prizes and defends free speech *and* the safety of our community.

Thank you again for your input.

Phil