

March 2, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Sabrina Conza
Program Officer
Campus Rights Advocacy
FIRE
510 Walnut St., Suite 1250
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Re: February 20, 2023 Letter to The University of Alabama

Dear Sabrina-

Thank you for your follow-up correspondence. I am sorry for any confusion you may be having, but anticipate that the following will provide the clarification you are seeking.

As you conceded in your first letter, the chalking at issue violated the University's Ground Use Policy. Accordingly, any suggestion that the University's investigation into a potential violation of policy is evidence of an intent to "ban the expression of certain views just because some people may find them offensive" is inaccurate. As FIRE closely collaborated with the University in the creation of its speech-related policies, you should be keenly aware that those policies do allow for the expression of offensive views so long as those views are expressed in accordance with the terms of the University's policies. Indeed, contrary to your assertion, UA has never made the statement that "offensive views are unwelcome on campus."

For more information on key aspects of UA's robust and firmly established program that promotes free expression on campus—regardless of content—we would encourage you to visit the links found on this website: <https://uafacilities.ua.edu/grounds-use-permit/>. Thanks again.

Sincerely,



Robin H. Jones
Chief University Counsel