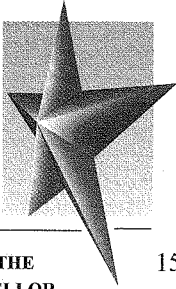


# Tarrant County College District



OFFICE OF THE  
VICE CHANCELLOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICES

1500 Houston Street • Fort Worth, Texas 76102-6524 • (817) 515-5242 • Fax (817) 515-5150

May 20, 2008

Mr. Adam Kissell  
Director, Individual Rights Defense Program  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education  
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Mr. Kissell

This is to acknowledge your letter of April 24, 2008 to Ernest L. Thomas, President, Tarrant County College, South Campus. You expressed your organization's concerns about the decision rendered to the request made by South Campus student, Mr. Brett Poulos. Mr. Poulos requested a permit to stage an "Empty Holster Protest" on the campus.

Mr. Poulos was granted a request to protest in the College's designated Free Speech Zone. I am not aware of the conversation between Mr. Poulos and Mr. Garcia concerning t-shirts.

We understand that the College's decision to limit this protest to the Free Speech Zone may not be acceptable to your organization; however, the College made its decision based upon an evaluation of current circumstances facing our students and employees. We think the decision is within College policy as established in "Forum for Communication" Policy GF (Legal) in the Tarrant County College Policy and Regulation Manual. You may refer to the policy at [www.tccd.edu](http://www.tccd.edu). The policy is cited here for your convenience.

#### FORUM FOR COMMUNICATION

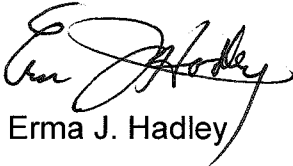
The College District may create a public forum of a place or channel of communication for use by the public at large for assembly and speech, for use by certain speakers, or for the discussion of certain subjects. *Perry Educ. Ass'n v. Perry Local Educators' Ass'n*, 460 U.S. 37 (1983); *Chiu v. Plano ISD*, 260 F.3d 330 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2001)

Mr. Adam Kissell  
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The College District is not required to allow persons to engage in every type of speech when the College District establishes a limited public forum; the College District may be justified in reserving its forum for certain groups or for the discussion of certain topics. The College District shall not discriminate against speech on the basis of viewpoint, and any restriction must be reasonable in light of the purpose served by the forum. *Good News Club v. Milford Cent. Sch.*, 533 U.S. 98 (2001); *Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free Sch. Dist.*, 508 U.S. 384, 113 S. Ct. 2141 (1993)

Tarrant County College stands by the decision rendered to Mr. Poulos' request.

Sincerely



Erma J. Hadley