



# ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

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Office of the President  
Kevin Ballinger, Interim

February 22, 2019

Adam Steinbaugh  
Director, Individual Rights Defense Program  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education  
510 Walnut Street, Suite 1250  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Mr. Steinbaugh:

Thank you for reaching out to me on this matter. We agree that the Orange Coast College Young Americans for Freedom does have the right to fly the banner in question.

Enclosed you will find the College's response within five days with our apology to the Young Americans for Freedom Club. The Club President has accepted our apology and it has since been flying its banner this week on OCC campus.

I have reached out to the group in order to create a dialogue on the interpretation of the Board Policy that addresses firearms and their facsimiles. I am also working with our Coast Community College District partners to prepare training for administrators at all three colleges on freedom of expression and speech.

I appreciate FIRE's interest in protecting the Constitutional Rights of Americans. It has always been the goal of Orange Coast College to create a safe, inviting, and open learning environment for all its students.

Regards,

Kevin Ballinger  
Interim President

*Enclosures:*

February 17, 2019, OCC's Response, via email, to the Young Americans for Freedom  
February 19, 2019, Young Americans for Freedom Club President's response, via email to OCC