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Ralston, Whitney <whitney.ralston@richmond.edu>
to Maura ▾

Mar 18 ☆



Sorry, there was a lot of autocorrect in that message let me retype it here:

Maura,

Sorry I had to leave immediately after. He received a sanction for admitting to one count of violence - the dragging me across the ground by my ankles because it was proven over text message-, but the sanction is probation. He has broken this multiple times, the police have even been called in once. That time, he was walking around the hallways of my dorm looking at name tags for a total of 3 hours. [REDACTED] on the door. I did come home to find the police waiting for me, which was interesting especially since I had no idea what was happening. Another time, he followed me around on halloween for three hours and I reported it. Dean Benner never called in the witness who was with me the entire time, but called in multiple members of a fraternity for blacklisting him. I even told him not to call in a specific person, - after I refused to give a name-, who had asked to remain anonymous throughout this entire procedure, and he still used housing information to call him in anyway. This was a direct violation of my consent. He called in all the people that lived in the suite to make sure he could get the correct witness [REDACTED] But, based on how my case went, her friends urged her not to report it.

Even during the investigation, I was told that my mental health made me unreliable for a witness, and that my memory couldn't be trusted. Which is illegal. There were witness accounts that reported that the perpetrator had made threats against theirs', my boyfriend's, and my life. But I guess those and other text messages and counts weren't enough to prove my case. The fact that they couldn't prove that he punched me because his text said "i had an open fist" is when I realized my case would not resolve to keep me or other people safe. So no, my situation was not handled appropriately.

This is not an attack against you. In fact, I've been working very hard with several administrators and faculty (I was actually going to set up a meeting with you after a few admin get back to me) to try and improve upon title ix so no one else - victim or respondent- has to go through what I went through. I want to help the system become better, because my case information has appalled and shocked administrators, teachers, deans and police alike. I'm trying to make this campus a safer and more transparent place.

This isn't about my case. I've accepted the fact that I will never feel safe here, but I don't want that to be the reality for other students.

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Smith, Maura <msmith11@richmond.edu>
to me ▾

Mar 18 ☆



I am available next Wednesday morning, Thursday afternoon, and Friday morning.
Let me know a time when you can meet with me to discuss everything below.