

*Rosemarie Maldonado
Assistant Vice President and Counsel*

*899 Tenth Avenue
New York, NY 10019
T. 212.237.8911
F. 212.237.8607
rmaldonado@jjay.cuny.edu*

Jethro Eisenstein
Profeta & Eisenstein
45 Broadway, Suite 2200
New York, NY 10006

December 12, 2012

Dear Mr. Eisenstein:

Set forth below is the College's response to your December 5, 2012 request under the New York Freedom of Information Law for a copy of statements made by the College concerning media reports that an NYPD informant conducted surveillance of the Muslim Student Association at John Jay. The following documents are attached:

- October 23, 2012 Statement issued by President Jeremy Travis
- October 25, 2012 Statement issued by President Jeremy Travis

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

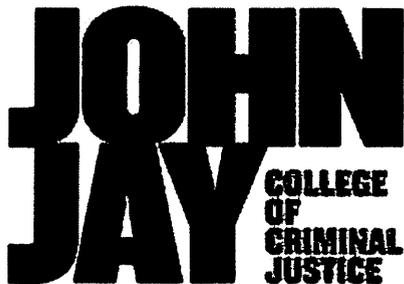
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosemarie Maldonado". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosemarie Maldonado

Statement of Jeremy Travis, President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice

John Jay College recently became aware of allegations that John Jay's Muslim students and public events sponsored by the College's Muslim Student Association have been the subjects of surveillance activities. We have not been informed by law enforcement of any such surveillance activities on our campus. As an academic institution, we are committed to the free expression of ideas and to creating a safe learning environment for all of our students. We are working closely with our Muslim students to affirm their rights and to reassure them that we support their organization and freedom to assemble.

10/23/12



*Jeremy Travis
President*

*899 Tenth Avenue
New York, NY 10019
T. 212-237-8600
F. 212-237-8607
jtravis@jay.cuny.edu*

To the John Jay College Community:

You may have read the recent Associated Press story and subsequent media reports regarding allegations of surveillance on our campus. I write to share my thoughts on this important matter.

John Jay is firmly committed to fostering an academic environment that vigorously promotes freedom of expression and protects the free exchange of ideas. As an educational institution dedicated to the ideal of justice, John Jay is particularly committed to creating a community of mutual respect where our members can voice a diversity of opinions without fear. Any surveillance practices that interfere with constitutionally protected activities such as free speech, freedom of association and the free exercise of religion must be considered inconsistent with the mission and values of our College.

Earlier this month, representatives of the John Jay Muslim Student Association (MSA) came to my office to report a Facebook posting by a student from another college claiming that he had been, but no longer was, a police informant assigned to monitor John Jay's MSA students and speakers at MSA events. The College had not been informed by law enforcement of any such surveillance activities and I was very concerned to hear of these claims. We immediately assured MSA that the College supported their right to assembly and free speech, and with the club's consent, provided additional security for an MSA event the next evening. Following this incident, Student Affairs and Public Safety have continued to work closely with MSA to respond to their concerns and support their activities.

I was deeply troubled to read a recent press report in which an NYPD spokesperson confirmed that the student involved in the Facebook assertions had in fact been an informant. I trust that you would agree that, in certain limited circumstances it is appropriate for law enforcement agencies to use informants to uncover criminal activity. There is no evidence, however, that this is the case at John Jay and we have not been advised otherwise. We have faith in our students and it is particularly important that John Jay's students, the bright leaders of our future, can engage in freedom of expression. We will continue to promote these values and to protect the central role of academic institutions in our society. In the near future, I will convey these concerns to the NYPD on behalf of our community.

Jeremy Travis
President