

Monday, October 20, 2025 at 1:23:34 PM Central Daylight Time

Subject: Fw: Cornyn Discusses Protests on College Campuses, Applauds UT Austin Response
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 at 4:43:04 PM Central Daylight Time
From: O'Neill, Kathleen E
To: Rutherford, Ryan E
Attachments: image001.png

Pub records request 10/21

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2025 1:48:49 PM
To: Rutherford, Ryan E <ryan.rutherford@austin.utexas.edu>
Subject: FW: Cornyn Discusses Protests on College Campuses, Applauds UT Austin Response

Pub records request #2

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 1:44 PM
To: Rutherford, Ryan E <ryan.rutherford@austin.utexas.edu>
Subject: Fwd: Cornyn Discusses Protests on College Campuses, Applauds UT Austin Response

From: Wyman, Jill (Cornyn) <Jill_Wyman@cornyn.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 5:29:11 PM
To: Watts, Jenna B <jenna.watts@austin.utexas.edu>; Rutherford, Ryan E <ryan.rutherford@austin.utexas.edu>; O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>; Sheridan, Andrea <Andrea.Sheridan@austin.utexas.edu>; Raetz, Kate <kraetz@utsystem.edu>
Cc: Hampton, Abigail (Cornyn) <Abigail_Hampton@cornyn.senate.gov>; James, David (Cornyn) <David_James@cornyn.senate.gov>
Subject: FW: Cornyn Discusses Protests on College Campuses, Applauds UT Austin Response

Good Evening UT Team:

Just wanted to share this little update with you. Jenna, you and I chatted today via text, here are a few remarks. At about the 7:40 mark, Senator Cornyn starts talking about UT Austin. Specifically, he mentions Pres. Hartzell at 8:34.

Let us know how things go tomorrow. Praying for y'all's safety and that of law enforcement.

Jill

Jill Wyman
Central Texas Regional Director
U.S. Senator John Cornyn



JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator – Texas
For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Natalie Yezbick, (202) 224-0704
Tatum Wallace, (202) 224-0704
Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Cornyn Discusses Protests on College Campuses, Applauds UT Austin Response

'There is a clear line between protesting and rioting and an even clearer line between free speech and violence.'

'I'm glad the University of Texas at Austin made it clear that antisemitism has no place on its campus.'

'The right to protest is fundamental to our democracy but... it does not grant anyone the ability to say or do whatever they want without consequences.'

WASHINGTON – Today on the floor, U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) discussed the anti-Israel protests at college campuses across the country, including at the University of Texas at Austin, and highlighted the [letter](#) he sent with 26 of his Senate GOP colleagues to Attorney General Merrick Garland and Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona, urging them to restore order to campuses that have been effectively shut down by antisemitic mobs targeting Jewish students. Excerpts of Sen. Cornyn's remarks are below, and video can be found [here](#).

"Impassioned debate is not a recent innovation, but there is a clear line between protesting and rioting and an even clearer line between free speech and violence."

"In the wake of October 7, campuses have experienced a wave of antisemitic attacks targeting their Jewish students."

"The First Amendment does protect speech, but it protects the right to protest peacefully. It does not give anyone the freedom to riot, to threaten or carry out acts of violence against

other people, or to even violate the rules of their university.”

“Sadly, pro-Palestinian groups are continuing to create a threatening environment by attempting to occupy and disrupt some college campuses.”

“Last week, protests erupted at the University of Texas at Austin, where I live, but I'm glad to say the response there was far different than what you've seen in many other parts of the country. As hundreds of protesters attempted to occupy the campus, the university hasn't wavered in its commitment to preserve a safe environment for all of its students.”

“I'm glad the University of Texas at Austin made it clear that antisemitism has no place on its campus.”

“Given the wave of protests across the country, the Biden administration must do more to combat antisemitism and ensure that every student has a safe place to learn.”

“The right to protest is fundamental to our democracy but... it does not grant anyone the ability to say or do whatever they want without consequences.”

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees.

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Subject: Fw: Anti-Israel Protest Response
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 at 4:46:06 PM Central Daylight Time
From: O'Neill, Kathleen E
To: Rutherford, Ryan E

Public records request 10/21

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2024 1:44:46 PM
To: Rutherford, Ryan E <ryan.rutherford@austin.utexas.edu>
Subject: Fwd: Anti-Israel Protest Response

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 1:27:46 PM
To: Styles, Rhett <Rhett.Styles@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: Anti-Israel Protest Response

Hey Rhett- let me get back to you shortly. Thanks!

From: Styles, Rhett <Rhett.Styles@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 1:26:17 PM
To: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Subject: Anti-Israel Protest Response

Hey Kathleen,

I am speaking to Chairman McCaul about the University of Texas's response to the Anti-Israel protest later today. Is there anything specific President Hartzell would like to flag for Chairman McCaul? or any other information regarding the university's response?

Thanks,

Rhett Styles

Legislative Assistant
U.S. Congressman Michael T. McCaul (TX-10)
Chairman | House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Rhett.Styles@mail.house.gov | Tel: 202-225-2401

Subject: Fw: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 at 4:42:38 PM Central Daylight Time
From: O'Neill, Kathleen E
To: Rutherford, Ryan E

Pub info request 10/21

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2025 1:48 PM
To: Rutherford, Ryan E <ryan.rutherford@austin.utexas.edu>
Subject: FW: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest

For pub records request.

Kathleen O'Neill | Director for Federal Affairs
The University of Texas at Austin
Main Building | 110 Inner Campus Drive | Suite 309
Austin, TX 78712
ph: [REDACTED] | kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Date: Monday, April 29, 2024 at 5:18 PM
To: Julien, Robert <Robert.Julien@mail.house.gov>, Willming, Cody <cwillming@utsystem.edu>
Cc: Pham, Tammy <Tammy.Pham@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest

Hey Robert- what's a good number for you?

From: Julien, Robert <Robert.Julien@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 5:07:26 PM
To: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>; Willming, Cody <cwillming@utsystem.edu>
Cc: Pham, Tammy <Tammy.Pham@mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest

Hi there,

I wanted to follow-up again on this given the ongoing developments. Please advise.

Robert

From: O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 5:55 PM
To: Willming, Cody <cwillming@utsystem.edu>; Julien, Robert <Robert.Julien@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Pham, Tammy <Tammy.Pham@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest

Thanks, Cody. Robert- we will get back to you ASAP. Thanks!

From: Willming, Cody <cwillming@utsystem.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 4:54:04 PM
To: Julien, Robert <Robert.Julien@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Pham, Tammy <Tammy.Pham@mail.house.gov>; O'Neill, Kathleen E <kathleen.oneill@austin.utexas.edu>
Subject: Re: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest

Hi Robert,

Thanks for reaching out. I'm connecting you with my colleague at UT Austin, Kathleen O'Neill, on what information we can provide.

Thanks,
Cody

Cody Willming

Federal Budget and Policy Director
Office of Governmental Relations
The University of Texas System
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20006

From: Julien, Robert <Robert.Julien@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 4:34 PM
To: Willming, Cody <cwillming@utsystem.edu>
Cc: Pham, Tammy <Tammy.Pham@mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Arrests in UT Austin Pro-Palestine Protest

****EXTERNAL MAIL****

This email originated outside of The University of Texas System Administration.
Please exercise caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hi Cody,

Hope you're doing well. Seeing the news coming out of UT Austin and wanted to see what information you can share with us.

- Why were the police called?

- What are UT's rules and regulations on student protests, given first amendment questions?
- Why were students arrested?

Look forward to hearing from you soon.

Many kind regards,
Robert Julien