

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTSCESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL BUILDING
1244 SPEER BOULEVARD, SUITE 310
DENVER, CO 80204-3582REGION VIII
ARIZONA
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March 19, 2025

Via e-mail only to: jtorchinsky@holtzmanvogel.com, jcycon@holtzmanvogel.com,
edavidson@holtzmanvogel.com, mark@jewishadvocacycenter.org,
ben@jewishadvocacycenter.org

Jason B. Torchinsky
John Cycon
Erielle Davidson
Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak, PLLC

Mark Goldfeder
Bencion Schlager
National Jewish Advocacy Center, Inc.

Re: Colorado College - OCR Case Number 08-25-2062

Dear Jason Torchinsky, John Cycon, Erielle Davidson, Mark Goldfeder, and Bencion Schlager:

On August 23, 2024, the United States Department of Education (the Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received the complaint you filed against Colorado College (the College). Your complaint alleged that the College discriminates against students on the basis of national origin (shared Jewish ancestry) by failing to respond to ongoing harassment and threats since October 7, 2023. OCR originally assigned this complaint Case Number 08-24-2369. After the parties were unable to resolve the complaint in mediation under Section 201(a) of OCR's [Case Processing Manual \(CPM\) \(February 19, 2025\)](#), OCR assigned the complaint a new case number, OCR Case Number 08-25-2062.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*, and its implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination based on race, color, and national origin by recipients of federal financial assistance. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department, the College must comply with Title VI and its implementing regulations.

OCR evaluated this complaint in accordance with its CPM and has decided to open the complaint for investigation.

OCR will investigate the following legal issue: whether the College has responded to an alleged hostile environment created by harassment of students and threats on the basis of national origin (shared Jewish ancestry) in a manner consistent with the requirements of Title VI.

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Please note that opening an investigation does not mean that OCR has made a final determination with regard to the merits. During the investigation, OCR is neutral; OCR will collect and analyze the evidence it needs in order to make a decision about the complaint. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient in accordance with OCR's CPM. Please note that you may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

Recipients must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information, that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

OCR will communicate with you periodically during its investigation. When contacting the office about your case, please refer to the case number at the top of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact [REDACTED], who is assigned to investigate this complaint and can be reached by telephone at [REDACTED] or by e-mail at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Jennifer Weiser Bezosa
Designated Team Leader