

Behavior of DMS leadership - Testimony

Draco

Jul 2020

Incident 1

Testimony from: ANONYMOUS #1

INTERVIEWER:

Hey there... I just learned that you've had some eye witness encounters with [officer 1]?

Looking for a story that might be helpful to shine a light on any verbal abuse at the space.

ANONYMOUS #1:

Yeah I've witnessed 2 actually. The first involved [member 1] . He and another guy (can't remember his name) were transporting a large piece of machinery from the old space to the new space via the car ramp on the large rolling dolly (I believe it is used to hold a car engine up). They had it secured with chains as well as several heavy duty ratchet straps. They were starting to ease it down the ramp when [officer 1] walked up from the par lot. I was sitting on the bench outside with several others. I can't remember exactly who was there but maybe [member 2]? Anyway, he yelled out "What the fuck are you doing?" It startled me because he yelled so loudly. [member 1] explained that he was transporting the machinery (I can't remember what it was called) to the new space. [officer 1] started yelling at him telling him that he couldn't do that. I originally thought he was [member 5] because I couldn't believe someone was speaking that way seriously. I quickly realized he was serious. [officer 1] yelled that it was unsafe. [member 1] explained that was the only way to transport it, that the dolly could hold x amount of pounds and the straps were rated for x amount of pounds, and that the machinery weighed less than half of either of those weights, and that it was properly strapped. [officer 1] continued to yell, telling [member 1] that he couldn't do that, that it was unsafe, etc. [member 1] stayed calm the whole time and just talked to him explaining how it was safe under the circumstances, and

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continued to transport. [officer 1] continued to yell. Us at the table were really uncomfortable (I believe there were 3 of us). [officer 1] finally decided to call a board member. He got on the phone in front of us and made a few calls. He finally reached someone and they weren't present at the space but he told them what [member 1] was doing and kept saying how unsafe it was. By this time [member 1] had the item to the door at the other space.

I don't know how safe that practice was in and of itself, but I do know that the straps were for something heavier than that. No one got hurt and it was transported. I know that [member 1] stayed calm and spoke in a regular tone, explaining how it was the safest way to transport, and [officer 1] acted like a crazy person screaming and yelling, dropping f-bombs every few words. Cussing doesn't bother me and I've been around plenty of yelling, I'm not sensitive to any of that, but I was very uncomfortable. If someone else would have witnessed that, especially a new member or someone too to join, it would have deterred them from the space. Even if [member 1] was wrong and [officer 1] was right, the way he handled that was atrocious. I've seen plenty of disagreements and confrontations at the space and this one was way out of line.

The other instance was with [officer 1] in the office that Stan used to occupy. I was in the new common room on my computer and I started to hear yelling. I looked and saw someone standing in there with him (door wide open) and [officer 1] was yelling at him. I think his name is [member 3]. I was sitting at the far end of the room, right by the door that leads to the front, and I could hear every word [officer 1] was yelling but could not hear the other guy's responses because he was staying calm as well. [officer 1] was yelling about the corporation and that he would get rid of that guy and have him banned. It was coming from a very pompous position of I run this and you don't. Anyone in the common room or nearby would have been able to hear this but there weren't many people there that day. [member 4] might have been in there. Anyway, he tore that guy a new one. I was shocked at what I was hearing because he made it seem like he personally owned the space and that guy was threatening the entire thing. I'm not sure what he did that got [officer 1] so upset but it shouldn't have been handled that way. I was embarrassed to even be there. The crazy thing was that as this was going on, [board member 1], the board member, walked up and stood in the doorway throughout a good part of the verbal lashing and didn't say a word. [officer 1] went on for a good 5 minutes of him just yelling at this guy. Finally, the

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guy left and [board member 1] went in and sat down by [officer 1] and they were laughing about it. I was appalled at the time and at that point I didn't even realize that [board member 1] was a board member. Now that I know that I'm disgusted at the behavior of both of them honestly. I'm pretty tough but I probably would have cried if I were in that guy's position. It just isn't right. I don't know what he did, but regardless of that, he should have been approached by someone in a calm and respectful manner. He was not yelling or raising his voice so why did [officer 1] feel the need to scream at him at the top of his lungs? It really bothered me to see someone get treated that way, and I honestly considered jumping in to try to diffuse the situation. I didn't because I knew that the board favored him and that others who have opposed him have been banned and I did not want a target on my back. I didn't even feel safe reporting it through the proper channels because of that fear.

I'm no longer a member, in part because of these things: feeling like I'm in a war zone, fearing being targeted if I stood up for what is right. Also because of the bans that were made - too many bans! That's before the recent wave of bans which are horrible! Also because of the loss of classes and teachers due to the new rules and conditions. I used the space to learn new skills and hang out with cool people. Those things were being taken away and I no longer felt the investment was fruitful for me.

INTERVIEWER:

Would you happen to have an approximate date that these two events transpired? Exact date is ideal if possible, but even the month or season would be useful.

ANONYMOUS #1:

The second incident happened Oct 7th [2019]

I don't know the date of the first

Testimony from Member 3

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Thank you for sharing ... Do you mind explaining what was going on when [officer 1] was yelling at you in the finance office?

Member 3:

[officer 1] was basically throwing his weight around about being a corporate officer, and that I wasn't. Then he criticized my technical solution in several areas, such as how chemical were stored, which I pointed out were in compliance.

I also explained that I didn't actually store chemical in that manner, but that there was nothing actually wrong with the way were. There were several issues like that. Unqualified and erroneous opinions of the "Corporate Officer" mostly of which I was just one person involved.

INTERVIEWER:

Do you remember who else was there?

Member 3:

[redacted gender] member of the board, someone else.

INTERVIEWER:

Do you remember about when this all happened?

Member 3:

The tone from [officer 1] was overwhelmingly negative, authoritarian and derogative, and I tried to end the conversation in a cordial manner.

Not the date, but I remember in relation to other events. probably around September-October [2019]

mdittenber

Jul 2020

Without names this is just bullshit.

artg_dms Electronics Chair

Jul 2020

Draco:

such as how chemical were stored

Kind of narrows down who all were involved.

Details on this incident and others posted elsewhere.

Playing some kind of anonymous game achieves nothing.

brsims

Jul 2020

With names it'd be bullshit. What else would you expect from Draco?

Draco

Jul 2020

If they wish to come forward, they can. I don't think it is appropriate to. The incident is known but not the outsider member testimony of it. And that is what I wanted to share.

patrickpleez1 Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

May I ask what this has to do with anything? These incidents happened so long ago. What is the

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mdittenber

Jul 2020

I haven't been around that long but it's clear you have an agenda to discredit anyone with integrity. You're playing childish, high school, pansy ass games. If the individuals that were involved were truly upset then they should have filed a formal complaint. If that wasn't done then they and you have nothing to cry about now.

If they did and the complaint was not addressed properly then they might have a leg to stand on. If you want people to take you seriously stop acting like a troll, grow up and engage in healthy conversations.

mblatz Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

What I like about the original post is how well it illuminates the truth behind Mark Twain's adage about how it is sometimes better for some people to keep their mouths shut (or fingers still... whatever).

Draco

Jul 2020

If I told you that someone was threatening you and harassing members, and this person was part of the group that seeks to remove a set of members and you didn't know if you would be next, would you complain to this group or just leave?

mdittenber

Jul 2020

If I told you that you are just a troll, would you complain or leave?

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Draco only wants to name names when it's victim shaming to protect his buddies.

Go ahead Draco, Tell them about the part where you rage quit because you were harassing me on my personal Facebook and I told you there would be consequences for you out the victim of an assault.

It's obvious where you stand, but the rest of decent humanity doesn't appreciate victim shaming.

Here's the screenshot so everyone can see what a classless person you are

Hey, back off with that [redacted] and [redacted] bullshit. [redacted] rage quit on his own and [redacted] is outt for a very serious reason. You want to stir shit about how we run things that's a tree you don't want to bark at. Especially because in one case you will be actually hurting an innocent person by making this a public thing.

OCT 2, 2019 AT 8:30 AM



Let me quit before you make talking a bannable offence .. I will try when another board gets in office .. if there is anything left after this one ... Good Bye

OCT 2, 2019 AT 8:42 AM

I have absolutely no knowledge of [redacted] offence but I do know by not saving that he is either

You've Blocked Draco
You can't message or call them in this chat, and you won't receive their messages or calls.

UNBLOCK DRACO

SOMETHING'S WRONG



I should have filed a harassment complaint against you at the time. Hindsight is 2020.

Draco

Jul 2020

I'm not into victim shaming. But this is not about me.

It is about all the members that have left because of DMS leadership decisions.

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mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

Sure you aren't, you were "just asking questions"...

Spin it however you want, I was there and the evidence is plain for the whole world to read.

The screenshot and your record are clear to see. When you cause harm like that other people suffer needlessly. They have to relieve their tragedy and suffering because of your selfish behavior. You should be ashamed of yourself.

Lampy  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

You sir are nothing but a troll and inconsiderate person. Unless you name the names this is just more of your mamby pamby bullshit! Grow a pair and participate in some meaningful way.

Draco

Jul 2020

I suggest you asks the D&O for the past year about it and then they can come and tell their side of the story.

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

What does that even mean? Ken is on the board. We have told our side. You are the one with the baseless accusations and concern trolling.

But let's get back to my original ask, why don't you tell everyone why you rage quit for being told not not victim shame a member?

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Draco

Jul 2020

mrjimmy:

What does that even mean?

The Officer and Director in the above testimony. It isn't made up and I'm not trolling. Go ask them what happened. I'm sure they will retell events from their perspective. I was just giving you an outsider member perspective. But I would welcome hearing from that Officer and Director. Wouldn't you?

artg_dms Electronics Chair

Jul 2020

Draco:

And that is what I wanted to share

Towards what end???

Assuming this "3rd party observer" exists, would their observation / testimony made any difference in the investigation, proceedings, end results?

Yelling matches do occur. I have witnessed some down right very ugly painful to watch encounters. Such encounters have a tendency to draw attention as in people tend to gather - not only out of curiosity, but also to keep things from getting physical. To the best of my knowledge none of these encounters escalated to that level.

I'll ask again - Towards what end?

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

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COOL story pro...

Now tell us about how you quit because I said you shouldn't victim shame. I was there, but the rest of the membership wasn't. I am sure they want to hear the story.

Unlike your accusations mine has names and evidence.

Lampy  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

He was just mad he could not get in on the "action"

engpin DMS Member

Jul 2020

Can we just removed this post has it's nothing but trolling.

Bernard_Gray

Jul 2020

[@Team_Moderators](#)

Draco

Jul 2020

Before you close the thread, perhaps [@Julie-Harris](#) , [@Scott_Blevins](#) , [@yashsedai](#) or [@PearceDunlap](#) would like to comment?

Lampy  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Why would they need to comment? The only thing to resolve this permanently is for the unnamed parties to file a complaint. If you are concerned that the D & O would have a conflict of interest, a [Skip to main content](#) members can make a determination of the complaints.

This is how you govern! Not just post vague he said / she said / they said BS during an election. If you really cared about this you would have acted on this before now.

Draco

Jul 2020

Lampy:

The only thing to resolve this permanently is for the unnamed parties to file a complaint.

If it were only that simple. It seems the Formal Complaints system under this board is ignored and dismissed when it is one of their own. Several have filed formal complaints with no action or referred to the same people the complaint is about!

This was not the purpose of this thread anyway. It is to show how this board allows this to go on and how people fear filing formal complaints. This person really wanted to and was about to but as they said, they didn't want a target on their backs and didn't think it would do any good. Which has proven correct in more recent times.

It is a pattern that has to stop.

mdittenber

Jul 2020

Draco:

It seems the Formal Complaints system under this board is ignored and dismissed when it is one of their own. Several have filed formal complaints with no action or referred to the same people the complaint is about!

Skip to main content o different things. Please present facts. Not your opinion.

Draco

Jul 2020

One example, some of the complaints are about people with moderator power and referred to the moderators.

https://dallasmakerspace.org/wiki/Board_of_Directors_Meeting_20200514_Special_Meeting

AndrewLeCody Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

And Freddy is no longer a moderator, so what's the problem then?

mdittenber

Jul 2020

Which one? The formal complaint should be part of record along with any evidence or lack thereof?

IanLee DMS Member

Jul 2020

As someone who is new to this drama and reading through the minutes and talk backlog for the first time, to me this appears like the board is properly taking administrative action.

Draco, to an outsider, you look like you're trying to start a war. Is there a reason for this?

Draco

Jul 2020

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MOTION: Dismiss formal complaint by Raffi Rincon against Unknown Moderator(s) due to it

being within the purview of moderators, and moderator action being taken.

- Proposed Brad
- Seconded James
- Vote
 - In favor: Unanimous
 - Opposed
 - Abstained:
 - Motion passed

The moderator in the complaint was Jim Hartnett and there were several complaints against him by Raffi not one.

Lampy  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Draco:

If it were only that simple. It seems the Formal Complaints system under this board is ignored and dismissed when it is one of their own. Several have filed formal complaints with no action or referred to the same people the complaint is about!

You seemed to conveniently step over an idea to handle that. Take it out of the board's hands:

Lampy:

If you are concerned that the D & O would have a conflict of interest, a panel of disinterested members can make a determination of the complaints.

EDIT:

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On and we have already done so:

====

MOTION: A formal Complaint has been filed By Jim Hartnet against Kevin Patel. As both members are on the upcoming ballot, along with three members of this board, and in order to remove even the appearance of impropriety, impanel Luke Olson, Tim Bene, and Jayson Woods, to serve as impartial arbitrators tasked with determining whether a violation has occurred. The sitting board will retain the duty of determining sanction, should such a violation be found.

- Proposed Brad
- Seconded Ken
- Vote
 - In favor Unanimous
 - Opposed 0
 - Abstained 0
 - Motion passed

mdittenber

Jul 2020

What was the complaint? If you're going to make accusations then you need to do the homework. Post the complaint and supporting evidence. Have Raffi come forward. All this looks like at this point is you didn't like the outcome and are crying like little kid about it.

AndrewLeCody Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Wow, I wonder why the Board would just dismiss a complaint by a troll who got himself banned from the forums until Nov 1st for:

2nd Offense, Spam, Subverting Moderator Actions

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- Source: [@raffi](#)'s profile

Clearly this is a conspiracy of the highest order.

brsims

Jul 2020

That simply isn't true. which (sadly) is par for the course with you. The complaint listed "unknown moderators" neither the complainant, nor the board had knowledge of who the moderator in this instance was. Regardless, absent a serious and obvious overstep by moderators, it is the policy of the board to refuse involvement in the moderation of this forum. This dismissal upheld that policy.

Draco

Jul 2020

I suggest you ask the board were the complaints are, they are suppose to be listed in the agenda.

https://dallasmakerspace.org/wiki/Rules_and_Policies#Formal_Complaints

Complaints will be added to the agenda of the meeting, posted on this wiki, without identifying information.

mdittenber

Jul 2020

Draco:

I suggest you ask the board were the complaints are, they are suppose to be listed in the agenda.

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Rules and Policies - Dallas Makerspace

This is your fight. You should have asked it at the time if it meant that much to you. Ask now. Present your evidence that the board is not doing its duty.

Draco

Jul 2020

Sorry that doesn't hold water. Here is one ...
and Formal Complaints are the only way to appeal an officer.

Complaint Against Jim Hartnett

4 messages

Rafael Rincon <raffi@dallasmakerspace.org> Mon, Apr 13, 2020 at 9:05 AM To: DmsBiz <board@dallasmakerspace.org>

Complaint: On Talk, which is our official forum, a moderator closed the thread linked below because "Alright this dead horse has been beaten enough." According to the Talk guidelines, "moderators reserve the right to remove any content and any user account for any reason at any time." While Jim had a right to close the topic, the closure fits into none of the guidelines listed on that page.

This next part is just my opinion. Moderators should enforce the rules, not their opinions. The fact that a moderator has personally heard enough of a topic is not a valid reason for closing a topic and I don't think the membership is served in any way by such an action.

Talk guidelines: <https://talk.dallasmakerspace.org/guidelines> The closed thread: <https://talk.dallasmakerspace.org/t/we-have-the-resources-to-build-ppe-lets-help/70190/112>

Recommended Solution:
Reopen the topic.

Rafael Rincon

This should have been in the agenda per the rules and there are other complaints as well.

Closed on Jul 3, 2020

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Archived on Jul 3, 2020

New & Unread Topics

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
EMT conduit - Powdercoat and bender tool?	3	83	28d
Reminder: Open DMS officer positions	0	107	24d
Please be mindful when using the restroom sinks	3	124	21d
Mitch Cerroni is OK	0	113	16d
Artist studio space at the Space maybe	17	343	13d

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