

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: Civil Rights of Hip Implant Patients
Date: Sunday, November 07, 2010 8:41:31 PM

TSA Compliance,

I am a weekly traveler through the St. Louis-Lambert airport. In early 2009 I had a medical implant put in my hip. Since that time I have been weekly "wand" and patted down by TSA agents. I have tolerated this invasion of my privacy for the sake of "public safety". Your most recent "feel down" is a violation of my privacy and civil rights. That is the reason for my complaint.

This evening, Sunday, November 7th, I came through security at terminal 2. While the TSA has access to a full body scanner that does involve touching private parts of my body, the TSA official said he did not have enough staff to operate the machine. They had one x-ray line going for viewing personal items. When I asked if I could wait go through the full body x-ray I was told by the supervisor that they did not have enough staff that evening. So I submitted to this humiliating process of having a stranger touch my private, sensitive parts of my body.

Two minutes after I went through this degrading process he opened up another line for scanning personal items. THERE WAS ONLY THREE PEOPLE IN LINE BETWEEN TWO TEAMS SCANNING! So, it appeared that he just didn't want to open up the full body scanner since he obviously had more than enough staff. With this technology available that my ticket taxes are paying for the TSA should have it operating 100% of the time unless there is a mechanical problem.

I will be contacting my US representative, Todd Akin, as well as the Missouri State Attorney Generals office and ACLU to voice my grave concerns about your operation in St. Louis. This kind of invasion of personal privacy when there is technology to more accurately achieve security goals is completely unacceptable.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010 6:20:54 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:36:09 AM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Monday, November 22, 2010 4:42:09 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Monday, November 22, 2010 1:45:45 AM

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCH-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2010 12:46:41 PM

dear Sir/Madam:
TSA scanner should be banned. This is not acceptable.
Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: COMPLAINT
Date: Wednesday, November 24, 2010 1:47:30 PM

Hello,

I did not complain at the time of the incident for fear of being arrested, but with all the news about the TSA procedures, I learned that one could complain without fear of arrest.

While I understand that we need to be safe from airline terrorism, I believe your methods are NOT sensible. Because ONE person, someone from another country on a foreign flight put explosive in his clothing, MILLIONS of innocent people are being subjected to invasive searching. It's just plain stupid, in my view.

For example, I took a flight from Palm Spings to Seattle on November 2. I passed thru the metal detector but one of my bags, a back pack, set off an alarm going through. It was thoughtfully searched and the agent found the offending object, a small metal comb. Yet, I was then subjected to an invasive body search. ("Pat down" is not an accurate description of hands sliding over every part of one's body). That did NOT MAKE SENSE TO ME. Because this object, made of metal, set off an alarm does in no way indicate that I would have explosive concealed on my person.

You need to develop a system whereby innocent people are not subjected to this type of searching.

If I, in person, had set off the alarm going through the scanner, I would more readily understand the reason for the search, but since it was my backpack and the reason for the alarm found, there was NO REASON for the body search.

I think you need to refine your parameters for searching. To me, profiling makes more sense. I am in no conceivable way a terrorist type. The idea is ludicrous.

And it doesn't make sense to answer every complaint about your methods by citing the incidents of threats (the shoe and the underwear bombers). **NARROW YOUR TARGETS FOR ADVANCED SECURITY.**

Don't include the obvious innocent.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](#); [Civil Liberties](#); [TSAComplaints@eff.org](#)
Subject: TSA X-rays and "enhanced" pat-downs.
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2010 8:15:03 PM

I was upset to hear about the TSA's new security policies. A person should not become a suspected terrorist the moment they enter the airport. I believe that it should be a basic right of all people not to have their bodies exposed or be touched against their will. These new policies have been shown not to work, so they humiliate and degrade good citizens without catching potential terrorists. My family and I will not be flying until we can do so with our dignity intact.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) in behalf of (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa.dhs.gov)
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 9:25:52 AM

Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010 8:21:31 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

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From: (b)(6)
To: [CRCL, OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](mailto:CRCL_OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)
Subject: Accosting at TPA
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010 10:28:57 AM
Importance: High

On Friday, November 19, 2010, at 6:00 AM Eastern I went through Security at Tampa International Airport.

I was chosen for a full body x-ray to which I complied. Before I could leave the x-ray area (which was roped off) I was told by a female TSA agent that she was going to place her hands under my breasts and inside the waist band of my pants. Yes, INSIDE.

This is a violation of my personal rights and an invasion of privacy.

After the full body x-ray what more was there to find or see? I have noted other citizens complaining about the full body pat down, but I had not read or seen reports of both and none ever that a TSA agent would be inspecting INSIDE anyone's clothing. And asking me to pull up my shirt in public. And inspecting my breasts with the palm rather than the back of the hand. The gentleman behind me in the x-ray area was so embarrassed he turned his back to me as the TSA agent performed her "duty".

If this is current TSA/DHS policy, please send me a copy of that statute. I have already requested assistance of both my US Senators. I am filing complaints with the TSA and the Department of Homeland Security.

While the x-ray has been implemented without concern about its long term health effects, which is negligent enough, the full body pat down external to one's clothing is personally offensive and more so dependent upon how it is performed. The absolute violation of personal privacy and groping inside my clothing is assault without cause. There is no need to hold me against my will and accost me. There is no reason to assault me after you have x-rayed me down to my core. This is an excessive abuse of power and a violation of my constitutional right to privacy. It saddens me to say this course of action is reminiscent of Nazi Germany.

Were air travel not mandatory for me to perform my job duties I would never travel on a US airplane again while such policies are in place! With all the Homeland Security rules in place, somehow the US doesn't seem able to detect true terrorists as they board planes in the US anyway. Other countries are successful without invading the privacy of travelers. Why don't we try the European method using bomb sniffing dogs?

Kindly respond to my complaint. My hope is:

- I am one of thousands who raise the same complaint based on their experiences in the past 48 hours
- DHS will realize the error of their ways and reverse this policy

Do you realize you have now created the perfect job for sexual deviants?

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: Complain: Tampa, Florida
Date: Tuesday, December 07, 2010 3:29:03 PM

I love to fly. I have always looked for opportunities, no matter how insignificant to take an impromptu flight. I love travel, whether it be personal or for business. When the TSA began installing body-imaging machines, I fully supported the new screening procedures. I have never opted-out of these new processes, and dismissed that those who protested as Luddites refusing to accept a new technology implemented to improve air travel safety.

I have NEVER reversed my opinion or position on an issue so quickly in my life.

I was on a return flight from Tampa, Florida to Chicago, O'Hare on December 6, 2010. (American Airlines flight 1918.) For whatever reason, the body-imaging machine flagged 'additional density in the upper/inner thigh area.' My outbound experience with the Chicago TSA had been identical, and had been adversarial, albeit exceptionally positive. The Chicago agents were courteous, professional, and did an excellent job of keeping an uncomfortable situation from becoming hostile. They were informative, suggested that at times the pockets of the pants worn can trigger a false reading. In a private screening room I simply removed my pants for further inspection, had a residue test performed on my hands, and was cleared to go. Upon completion of the additional screening, both I and the agents involved thanked each other for the mutual politeness and respect. The Chicago TSA should be commended for ensuring the safety of the flying public while at the same time creating a hospitable, professional environment.

I did not meet the same professionalism and courtesy in Tampa. From the moment I requested a private screening room, I was met with an underlying tone of hostility from the TSA Officer who ultimately completed my enhanced security pat-down. Having been through the process before and having been told that the [same] pants I was wearing could be a trigger; I again gave my pants to the officer for inspection. He cleared them and brusquely moved on to the enhanced pat down.

The officer at one point had his hands INSIDE the leg of my undershorts with direct contact of my genitals, which is wholly unacceptable.

I was told several times to "calm down" (a comment which anyone who has been through even the most basic confrontation management training knows actually escalates a situation) despite the fact that throughout the entire process I spoke in a normal, non-raised voice. I was further told to "be quiet" several times. The TSA officer made several other comments, which I felt were almost created to bait me into a verbal explosion. I was threatened that I would not be allowed on the flight, and would be removed from the terminal. I was further informed by said officer that he had been on the New York City police force for twenty years, and that if I wasn't fully compliant to all his demands he would be calling the police. The continued attempt at escalation was solely on the part of the pat-down officer, the secondary officer in the room was professional, courteous, and reasonable.

I ask you: what changed between my exceptionally professional and positive experience with the

Chicago TSA and my overwhelmingly negative, invasive, and inappropriate experience in Tampa? I was still the same person; the only difference was I encountered a TSA Officer with his own agenda. The only reason that this situation did not become a heated confrontation requiring additional support staff was because I didn't take the bait and allow it to happen.

Please open an official complaint regarding this officer's conduct and inappropriate inside the under shorts genital contact. Given that my information was noted in a log at the Tampa Airport, I will assume that the TSA has a complete record of which officers were involved in my secondary screening incident (Dec 6, 2010 between approximately 1:15pm and 1:45pm.)

Regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Friday, November 19, 2010 1:36:18 AM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: ISA.UCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov
Subject: Millimeter wave scanners intrusive and unreasonable.
Date: Friday, November 12, 2010 9:00:10 PM

I strongly object to the recent introduction of millimeter wave scanners at many airports. I feel that they are unreasonably intrusive, and moreover that they offer only an extremely marginal improvement in security. I understand that it is possible to opt-out, but my recent experience is that opting out can result in excessive (and apparently punitive) delays (instances at LAX, November 12, 17:30pm, and SFO October 26, for example). As such I feel that my rights are being infringed: in order to traverse security in comparable times to other passengers, I have to submit to a degrading and unreasonable search.

I look forward to your response.

sincerely,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [undisclosed-recipients](#)
Subject: naked body scanners
Date: Sunday, November 14, 2010 4:48:25 PM

TSA body scanners and pat downs

I intend to boycott all airlines due to my "no fly" policy until these scanners are removed and invasive body "pat downs" are discontinued. This is a violation of rights and privacy, in addition to health questions regarding the safety and use of the radiology, and those operating the machines are not trained radiologists. STOP THE SCANNERS!

Regards

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Friday, November 19, 2010 6:01:50 PM

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: Strip Searches
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 2:41:50 PM

Dear TSA Office of Civil Rights,

The last time I checked the Congress had not ammended the Constitution to allow illegal searches at the airport. I am pretty sure that all the airports in the US are still on United States soil. The Constitution says a United States Citizen should be safe in their person and property unless the government has PROBABLE CAUSE for a search. Because I want to fly to Miami for vacation does not give the TSA probable cause to strip search me.

This is a clear violation of my civil rights. I DO NOT support this flagrant disregard of the laws of this country. Who decided the TSA was above the law??

Best Regards

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Sunday, November 21, 2010 7:15:49 AM

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The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

From:

(b)(6)

To:

[OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)

Cc:

(b)(6)

Subject:

4th amendment violation

Date:

Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:43:25 AM

I am a frequent traveler and will not allow you to put your hands on me or scan me with an xray in fact. I plan on starting a campaign against this, since I am an international journalist. You have purposely or not violated the american public's 4th amendment rights. This must be stopped immediately!

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](#)
Subject: Enhanced Patdowns
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:39:11 PM

My message to the TSA is very clear and simple... The first time any TSA agent touches my privates, I will touch them back and its going to hurt!

The American public has put up with the TSA ignorant policies long enough, but this new process crosses the line!

The TSA claims its to help protect us. I ask this... how is it that the TSA is still letting people though its security points that have knives and other devices... even with the new 'technology' being used.

I think the agency needs to look inward instead of spending all of our hard earned tax dollars on something that DOESN'T WORK!

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010 6:36:07 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Monday, November 22, 2010 9:56:27 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010 3:51:01 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa; [Civil Liberties](#); TSAComplaints@eff.org
Subject: I will not fly until the TSA body scanners & groping is no longer practiced
Date: Friday, November 19, 2010 10:21:30 PM

I will not fly on any domestic or international flights until the TSA body scanning & groping pat downs are abolished.

These new policies are direct full frontal attack on our personal and private liberties as human beings. The officials who instigated these absurd policies have no respect for human life. The majority are being punished daily for the actions of an extremely small minority. I would much rather take my chances with the terrorists than being subjugated to these horrendous new policies- and I say that having been stuck in NYC during 911- I ran from dust and debris in the street before Building 7 collapsed.

If the powers that be are absolutely convinced we need better security at airports, so be it, but there must be a better way- one that does not fray the very fabric of our societies individual liberties and privacy.

Sincerely (b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: Body Scanners
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 7:28:23 PM

Dear TSA,

I'm writing to complain about your new security policies. In my opinion, and in the opinions of countless others, they are a clear violation of civil liberties. I, for one, refuse to submit myself to these security measures. Obviously it will be incredibly inconvenient to refuse to fly. However, that is a cost I will pay to protect my privacy and my body.

Shame on you.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: "Enhanced" security measures
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:34:46 AM

To whom it may concern,

As a US Citizen, I would like to voice my opposition to the new enhanced security measures.

I AM all for increasing security and safety, but I do not believe that these measures are logical, appropriate, or sufficient.

The current digital strip search is ineffective as it will most definitely NOT identify terrorists who swallow explosives or insert them into their body. Both of those methods have been used by smugglers for years and we must understand that terrorists will utilize them. As always, the TSA is looking back at the last attack instead of actively trying to prevent the next attack.

I believe it would make more sense to:

1. Stop shipment of all unrelated cargo on passenger airplanes. This should be done immediately.
2. Use profiling to identify and further search those passengers most likely to be a danger to others. Profiling is both logical and necessary.
3. Secure the borders of the United States to make it harder for terrorists to get into the country
4. Search all cargo coming in from Muslim countries--every container and every box
5. Make sure that all personnel working in secured areas and for the TSA are American citizens

Until you take the above actions, I believe you should stop harrassing law abiding citizens and should discontinue the current procedures.

In the meantime, I will continue to urge my congressional representatives to seek a change in policy, or a change in leadership in the TSA, which I believe does not represent the best interests of American citizens.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance@tsa
Subject: Complaint - Violation of Privacy
Date: Thursday, November 25, 2010 12:09:27 PM

My name is (b)(6). On Tuesday, November 23 I flew out of New Orleans (MSY). I went through security at approximately 10:15 am. I went through the full body scanner and was then told that I needed to have a pat down. I understood that passengers had the choice of going through the scanner or having a manual body pat-down. I never thought I would have to endure both. If the scanners are as sophisticated as they are purported to be, why would it be necessary for any passenger to be both scanned and patted down? I was never told why TSA thought the pat down was necessary. I don't know if the scanner picked up something suspicious in the scan or if I was chosen randomly.

I waited for a female officer to become available to take me to a room. I was patted down and then told that I needed to open my pants so that the officer could feel the front of my genital area. She said she would go get a drape. She returned to tell me that they didn't have any drapes and I could either wait for a drape or go ahead with the pat-down. I agreed to go ahead with the patdown without a drape, for fear that I might miss my flight waiting on a drape. I see this as a violation of my privacy. I thought that the officer would pat me down over my clothes, NOT over my underwear. When I told the TSA officer that I felt violated, she said, "Better safe than sorry" and "This is what it done come to." Of course, they didn't find anything that would prevent me from flying. If I had it to do over again, I would have had the pat down in public instead of in a private room (I was never given the choice) so that other passengers could bear witness to this indignity. I understand that these protocols have yet to discover anything that pose a threat. This is simply a useless exercise for TSA to try to instill a false sense of security.

I fly fairly frequently and appreciate TSA's safety precautions. Until now, I didn't understand the protests about the increased security measures. However, I feel that making me open my pants and being touched in my genital area embarrassing and unnecessary. I nearly cried from the embarrassment. I hope that the United States government will recognize that this behavior is an excessive an unnecessary violation of its citizens privacy.

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: Airport Safety & Health
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2010 3:22:38 PM

TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov

Reply to (b)(6)

Airport Safety and Health

I am very concerned about the results of going too far touching the people.

U.S.A. education for doctors is a very good and long system.
It takes about 12 years to become a U.S.A doctor. And then they touch the people.

The many people working at the airports do not have this type of education.

They should not be touching any part of any person's body. Especially the babies and the elderly.

Also, we do not have enough information to use the Xrays on skin.

You can change things for the better and have nurses, doctors, etc. involved, helping by using a better process.

You can change things for the better to have educated people (college degrees) involved.

A not so quick way to get there buy teaching a special class, perhaps for a month would get us started to be able to do what Israel does.
Begin by profiling everyone.

The college degree U.S.A. people would perhaps be able to have airport jobs.

NYTimes Nov.22.2010

"Both Mr. Carafano and Mr. Hoffman (Professor) said they would advise the administration to revise the screening procedures. Mr. Carafano said limiting the body scans and pat-downs to secondary screening, for travelers who raise suspicions, would be more sensible than expanding the costly scanners to all travelers.

Mr. Hoffman said the administration should move away from adding more layers of security for every passenger in response to every new plot and consider an Israeli-style approach to id passengers who pose a particular risk, based on advance intelligence, questioning travelers and watching their behavior."

"We've had nine years of just grafting security measures one on another," Mr. Hoffman said. "Maybe it's time to step back, take a hard look and look for a new approach."

**Make certain to be on the correct tract: Airport Safety and Health.
Please act quickly and correctly.**

end of message

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: Violation of Civil Liberties
Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2010 2:54:02 PM

I would like to state, in advance of my travels next week, that I regard the TSA's new imaging and pat down procedures as a violation of my 4th amendment rights.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

I am not a criminal and expect to be treated as such. I do not appreciate that I will be subjected to an unreasonable search at various airports around our country.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: Complaint.
Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2010 9:13:36 AM

To whom it may concern.

My name is (b)(6). The reason for this email is to file a complaint against the TSA official at the Detroit airport(DTW). I was purposely put aside after passing through the full body scan for further screening; because of the action I missed my flight to Atlanta; during this process I told the TSA officials that my flight leaves in thirty minutes but instead they made me waited until I missed my flight. it is my believe that I was profiled against because of my ascent and my country of origin. I would like somebody to investigate this incident.

Thank You

(b)(6)

Flight information is as followed;

Detroit (DTW)	to Atlanta (ATL)	595 mi	
Depart 11:41 am	Arrive 1:43 pm	(958 km)	Flight: 168
Terminal NORTH	Terminal NORTH	Duration: 2hr	
TERMINAL		2mn	

Economy/Coach Class (Seat assignments upon check-in  [More Information](#)), Boeing 737-700

Atlanta (ATL)	to Tampa (TPA)	406 mi	
Depart 2:25 pm	Arrive 3:46 pm	(653 km)	Flight: 126
Terminal NORTH		Duration: 1hr	
		21mn	

From: (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:56:09 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance.tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010 5:21:41 PM

TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: hello
Date: Friday, November 26, 2010 1:32:13 AM

today in SFO i walked through security and a metal detector as anybody would, I ran my back pack through and continued out of the international terminal into the domestic terminal.

when i scanned my ticket it would not scan due to apparently me requiring extra screening... Later a TSA guy shows up, does an enhanced pat down on me, and checks my back... makes my flight late and the pat down was quite intrusive. Nobody needs to put their hands or fingers down the top of my pants.

I travel for a living, i started with a very positive outlook on TSA but now I have a very poor outlook for several reasons.

#1 You want to find the "BAD GUYS" Then don't play the odds, pat every single person down.

#2 you are becoming more intrusive day by day... Remember you exist because people are flying... If people stop flying you cease to exist.

#3 your budgets are paid for by tax payers dollars.... The people should be able to decide what you do to them and don't do... seeing one nude on a backscatter radiation or millimeter wave machine is not ok.

#4 and this is so important, I have seen so many underqualified idiots working for TSA, today in sfo i heard a TSA agent talking about a fight of some sorts and his words were "that fool has some feet on his ass" with the stereotypical mexican slang tone to it. I see agents text messaging while standing next to the metal detector. Hire professionals, not 24 year old kids that got a job doing this "because it pay AIGHT" as one TSA agent claimed.

I find it hard to believe you are still in airports with the way people are being treated, I hope people move against you, I hope people speak out, I hope it is made known that the we the public are tired of being trampled on and forced into questionable situations by people that are eventually employed by us.

I can think of 3 or 4 Thomas Jefferson quotes that are quite fitting at this moment, I know i will voice my opinion to every single airport begging them to just take a poll, a questionnaire to see how many people actually want TSA in their airports.

From: (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: Complaint
Date: Friday, November 12, 2010 4:04:50 PM

To: TSA Office

I wanted to submit a complaint about an embarrassing and, what seemed to be, a totally unnecessary pat down that I had to endure at the Houston Intercontinental Airport yesterday morning in full public display. I was forced to go through this after I went through the naked scanner.

There was no reason given for this obscene public assault nor was I offered a privacy option. Further, I had taken my jewelry, my belt and shoes off and was wearing a basic black tank top and pants --- and obviously wasn't hiding a thing. (I had pictures taken of me in this basic outfit where nothing was hidden.) This is the second time I have been patted down in under two weeks after a naked scan - although at least in Anchorage, AK the TSA agent behaved more appropriately even though the pat down was, again, not necessary or mandated.

The female TSA employee in Houston rubbed my breasts and my buttocks with both hands -- and went too far in rubbing my upper inner thighs... in PUBLIC!!! She did not tell me why I was being subjected to this abusive scrutiny. This never should have been done at all - let alone in public.

I hope that the TSA immediately drops this abusive policy and offers and apology to those of us who have had to endure this humiliating experience. I believe this is a wrong-headed, ineffective and unnecessarily invasive screening policy.

I would like to know how to file a formal complaint and what redress that I might have in for this incident.

Respectfully,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

You are welcome to visit our blog at:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)
To: OCR-externalcompliance_tsa
Subject: To Whom It Concerns,
Date: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 11:55:51 PM

Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

From: (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)
To: [OCR-externalcompliance_tsa](#)
Subject: Civil liberties complaint
Date: Sunday, December 05, 2010 9:42:48 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to report a violation of my civil liberties. The incident took place on November 20, 2010 at approximately 1:20 pm PST at San Francisco International Airport (SFO).

While going through security to board an American Airlines flight back home to Little Rock, AR, my rights, as granted by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, were violated. The Fourth Amendment reads:

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

With no probable cause I was subject to an unreasonable search. This search meant I was not secure in my person or my effects. I was asked to go through a scanner of unproven safety to allow a government agent to look under my clothes, a virtual strip search. Because I declined I was required to submit to an "enhanced pat-down" where my genitals, breasts and buttocks were searched, and where I was asked to reveal personal medical information to a government agent. During this time, I was not allowed contact, visual or otherwise, with my most important personal belongings.

No probable cause.

I walked through a regular metal detector and did not set off alarms. I am not on a government watch list. I was not acting in a manner that might have led law enforcement to be suspicious of me. No warrant was issued indicating that I was to be searched in this extensive manner.

Unreasonable search.

It is unreasonable to require that the government see me naked or that a government agent touch my entire body so that I can board an airplane. Privacy is a right highly valued by myself and by the American people as a whole. This search destroyed my right to privacy. If this search is considered reasonable, exactly what type of invasive behavior by the government would be considered unreasonable? Had the search been effective perhaps an argument could be made that completely giving up privacy to protect our security is reasonable; however, no information exists indicating that scanner technology or enhanced pat-downs improve security. Quite the opposite, evidence suggests that explosive material allegedly concealed by "the underwear bomber" would not have been detected using either of these methods.

Security in my person and effects.

I had always presumed that security in my person included the security that no government agent would touch me without probable cause. As I did not want to be viewed naked or touched in intimate areas by a government agent, this agent committed battery against me. Without revealing personal medical information, the privacy of which is protected by the government, I also could not feel secure that the government agent would not cause me physical pain during the invasion of my civil liberties.

While I was being unreasonably searched I was specifically denied contact with my belongings. I requested to be able to see my purse, which contained my wallet, medications, and other personal material too important to be trusted to checked baggage, and was told that was not possible, and that cameras were protecting my belongings. I also was denied visual contact with the articles of my clothing which were required to be sent through the x-ray machine. Travelers are not permitted to leave their belongings unattended in any other area of the airport, although I was required to in this instance. This means I was not able to be secure in my effects.

Retaliation.

Because I "opted-out" of the full body imaging technology, which is not proven safe or effective, I was retaliated against in the course of the "enhanced pat-down." Several TSA agents shouted "Opt-out, female opt-out" loudly and repeatedly, more than would be necessary to call an agent to perform the search. I can only assume this was done to humiliate and intimidate me. During the search the agent threatened me, claiming that she would not be able to continue with the search if I called for my husband to be present. Because I am aware that once the screening process has begun a passenger must complete it, and that passengers have been subject to arrest for failing to complete the procedure, I felt I was being threatened with arrest for requesting the presence of my husband. Passengers undergoing this particular invasion of their civil liberties are to be allowed a witness of their choice.

Conclusion.

I am aware of the new TSA policies requiring some passengers to submit to this type of screening to be allowed the right of moving freely about the country. I am not claiming that the agents I interacted with violated the current TSA policies to a particularly egregious extent. My claim is that the TSA policies themselves violate the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. I request that this type of violation of civil rights be stopped immediately.

~~~~~

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa; Civil Liberties](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa@eff.org)  
**Cc:** [TSAComplaints@eff.org](mailto:TSAComplaints@eff.org)  
**Subject:** complaint concerning new security procedures  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:52:14 PM

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To Whom it May Concern -

I believe that the new security measures should be revoked and replaced with other more effective methods.

I believe that the new pat-downs are an invasion of my privacy, and I believe that the x-ray scanners

do very little to increase security. I believe that at best they simply increase radiation exposure for flight

personnel, travelers in general, and particularly those travelers who due to cancer risk are medically required to avoid radiation.

Please use the methods that in other countries have proven effective in guarding against terrorists.

Thank you, and I am forwarding this message to the EFF, which has my permission to use this email in their advocacy and public discussion work.

Sincerely

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov  
**Subject:** Privacy Violation  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 2:25:11 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.png

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On our return trip from Las Vegas, NV to Buffalo, NY on 10/30/10, my wife was asked to go through the body image machine, which she did. My wife has an illeostomy as a result of surgery to address advanced ulcerative colitis and now has an illeostomy bag attached to her abdomen, which apparently showed during the imaging. The TSA agent immediately called for further screening, at which point my wife explained the situation. The TSA agent proceeded to conduct an intimate search in a fully open area in full view of the surrounding passengers. The TSA agent informed my wife that the female agent would only be discretely wiping a swab around my wife's waist just inside the waistband of my wife's pants. However, the inspection was actually conducted by pulling the waistband open and down as the agent circled my wife, revealing undergarments, bare areas of skin and part of the ostomy appliance while my wife struggled to keep herself composed and retain as much of her modesty and dignity as possible under the circumstances. The manner in which the TSA agent handled my wife's ostomy appliance and ostomy area also caused physical pain and discomfort.

I cannot believe that this search was conducted in this manner, fully in the open with no privacy screen and no attempt to shield my wife from the men and other passengers all around her. I also cannot believe that your agents are apparently untrained in how to handle medical conditions without causing pain and physical harm to passengers. My wife is not easily upset by many things, but this incident left her in physical discomfort and feeling extremely embarrassed and humiliated. There has to be a better, private way to conduct these screenings and you need to educate your agents regarding the handling of medical appliances that many people have to wear.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

~~WARNING. This e-mail, including attachments, may contain confidential, legally privileged, or trade secret information. The information is intended only for use by the recipient (individual or entity) named above. We do not waive confidentiality by any transmission in error. If you are not the intended addressee (or authorized to receive for the addressee), any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please immediately notify the sender by replying to this email or by telephone.~~

~~and permanently delete this message. This communication may also contain technical data subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulation export restrictions which prohibit dissemination to foreign persons, in the U.S. or abroad.~~

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:12:23 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:12:17 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Unlawful & Immoral  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 6:01:38 AM

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The sexual assaults committed by the TSA body scanner peep-show and grope-fest are an outrage and direct violation of my 4th Amendment rights!

It's sickening to think of the shame and psychological damage we're releasing upon our nation, especially the women and children. For years it's been taught that your body is your own and nobody can touch it without your permission. "Oh, except for the stranger at the airport who can reach down your shorts and fondle you in public to his hearts desire."

I'm all for protection from terrorists, but it needs to be done in a way that allows us to remain as FREE AMERICANS and retain our human dignity!

And this is not the end of it. So what happens the next time, when a terrorist surgically implants explosives into his buttocks? Then it's MRI's and CT/Scans for everyone? It's a serious questions that deserves a serious answer. I await your reply.

Protect our Mothers, wives and daughters. Stop the madness now!

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Enhanced Pat-Down  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 8:17:21 PM

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I like a number of Americans are not given the option of full-body scans and will be automatically subjected to enhanced pat-downs. In my case I have a below the knee amputation, probably similar to the injury that some of our brave soldiers have received in battle in places like Iraq and Afghanistan, so as a result every time I travel by plane I was already subjected to routine pat-downs by TSA. Although embarrassing I allowed that only to now see that I will be facing the "enhanced" pat-downs. Not being an attorney, I would still feel that this "enhanced" pat-down is somewhat of a violation of the Fourth Amendment and that many security experts feel that the enhanced pat-down is an unnecessary step. Perhaps the TSA Administrator would like to be subject to the enhanced pat-down every time he flies much like I will and military amputees, and the elderly with replacement parts. There must be a better way.

Perhaps my only option is to remove my prosthetic and insulin pump and crawl through the scanner so I can avoid enhanced pat-down. The elderly with their hip or knee replacements won't have that option.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Cc:** [info@charlotteairport.com](mailto:info@charlotteairport.com); (b)(6)  
**Subject:** complaint  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 9:06:00 AM

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On Wednesday Nov 17 my daughter and I traveled through the Charlotte NC airport.

We both were found to have "anomalies" She, because she has a metal spinal support that has been surgically implanted, and me because I have a severe curvature of the spine. We were traveling with a baby and delayed because of the excessive number of passengers that were being pulled for "pat downs" -- by my count 1 out of 3.

My complaint though, is that people with implants or other medical anomalies will be "patted down" all the time, while other people will not be patted down as frequently. I know that I will be subject to a pat down each and every time I fly now. I will fly less. I will definitely avoid Charlotte. This is discrimination at its worst. The TSA should teach screeners to recognize common medical issues. The TSA is reinforcing searching travelers with medical problems instead of focusing on security risks.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 10:05:15 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)

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Dear Sir,

I have had a metal plate in my left knee for 12 years so I have always had to submit to extra security measures. However, the latest pat-down techniques, which I experienced over the weekend, make me feel that seniors with disabilities like me are being discriminated against. Why can't we undergo a one-time, thorough security clearance so we have a profile that allows us to avoid these procedures time after time? I am all for strong national security measures, but we ought to have a reasonable clearance process for people with disabilities who travel frequently. Thank you for your consideration.

(b)(6)



(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:17:29 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Felt Up For Freedom?  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:35:19 AM

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Hello @ TSA,

I would appreciate your forwarding this to John Pistole. This is no **"small measure to prevent terrorism."** If this measure is upheld, terrorism has already won.

If your office is responsible for "upholding all federal laws," why is the constitution being violated every day with illegal search and seizures of all airline passengers, pilots and on-board airline personnel? This is a constitutional right to NOT BE TOUCHED by another person unless they are suspect of some wrongdoing and there is reasonable cause to suspect the possession of a weapon or illegal drug on that person at that moment. Violating not just adults but little children and senior citizens is an insult to all of us as human beings. This will scare our nation in the long run. This will not end well if it is not ended soon.

I know you're just doing what you're told but what you're being told to do is illegal in this country the last time I checked. To discard our constitutional freedoms for protection violates everything this country was built upon. I'm sure you've heard this many times by now in many versions but this is one of the core values of being American. **"He who sacrifices freedom for security deserves neither."**  
**Benjamin Franklin.**

I hope ALL pilots and airline personnel protest this by refusing the search. When all airline activity comes to an abrupt halt, this idiocy will also come to a sudden stop. All airline union members need to UNITE NOW! End the madness! Refuse these illegal searches!

I appreciate the intent of the TSA. I do not appreciate the violation of my rights, freedoms and simple human decency to meet those intentions.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 8:31:03 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa: Ombudsman.TSA](#)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Travel on 10/22/10 from DIA  
**Date:** Monday, November 01, 2010 11:12:54 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I wanted to file a formal complaint with TSA about a troubling experience I had in the Denver Airport ("DIA") on October 22, 2010. I went through the normal screening process at DIA (in the south security screening area) around 10am and the metal detector went off so I had to go through the personal screening process. I thought nothing of this, since I often have to go through the personal screening when traveling. However, it was the most unprofessional, uncomfortable situation that I have ever experienced. Every time I have to go through this personal screening process the "female assist" screener uses the metal wand to detect where on my person caused the metal detector to be alarmed and then pats the area that makes the wand beep (I travel though a variety of airports and this is always the process that occurs, without fail). However, in this instance, the female assist screener did not use the wand, she patted down my entire body with her hands. She did offer for me to go in a private room (the only professional thing she did), but I refused it since I have never needed one before. I was wearing a dress and the screener made me spread my legs apart and she ran her hands up my leg (including grazing the bottom of my butt) and also pressed on the top part of the breasts. I have NEVER had an experience like this.

I have cc'd my travel companion to this complaint, as she witnessed this despicable act. I am sorry that I do not have the female screeners name , but I was so mortified and I felt so violated that I just wanted to get away from the screening area as soon as possible. I am not sure what filing a formal complaint will do, but I hope that (at a minimum) every TSA employee in DIA will have the personal screening process reviewed. My goal in writing this complaint is also to prevent some other unsuspecting traveler to experience what I did. I know the TSA is very busy, so thank you for taking the time to review this complaint

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Senior Investigator

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Cc:** [Civil Liberties](#)  
**Subject:** scanner complaint  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:30:14 PM

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Please find a way to keep airplanes safe that doesn't involve body scans which violate our privacy or invasive "pat-downs".

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:26:37 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Violation of the Fourth Amendment  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 4:30:06 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I write this to you as a citizen gravely concerned about the direction this country has recently begun to take. Since the attacks of September 11, 2001, the American People have steadily had their freedoms eroded. In the world's leading Democratic nation, we the People, had no say in the passage of the dignity defacing PATRIOT Act, and our government has now claimed the right to hear any and everything we say at all times, for sake of "national security".

We were misled about the reasons why our money and our citizens have been wasted on foreign soil, while times in the homeland are excruciatingly difficult. In this we again had no say, as we have no say over where and how our military shall be used. If questions are raised about the country's intervention in the Middle East, the most common assaults are by those who refuse to think over the situation critically upon those who have chosen to.

Now the TSA has again went behind the back of the People, robbing us of our right to vote upon or even get the slightest glimpse of the workings of our government and its agencies. I received no ballot in the mail asking me if I condoned having to condone the violation of my Constitutional right to not suffer unreasonable search or seizure. Yet still, if I am to fly on an airplane, I must surrender to a law I neither support nor was allowed to disapprove of, and allow for the ultimate invasion of privacy by less than reputable people. I ask that you do all in your power to restrict the TSA from stripping yet another of our dwindling rights and stop this blatant sexual molestation that has been presented as vitally necessary.

I ask this of you, if and only if, you have the courage to care.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Non- required Pat down  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:25:26 AM

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On 11/2/10 at Jacksonville International Airport my wife was subject to a pat down following her submittal to a full body scan. Her upper body was frisked including having her breasts fondled. She found this very uncomfortable. This pat down was not performed in an area that provided her any privacy but in full view of other passengers and staff. She explained to me that this appeared to be happing to all the passengers who went through the body scanner.

My understanding is that you submitted to the scan OR Opt out and receive the pat down, not both.

I would like an explanation.

(b)(6)

>>> This e-mail and any attachments are confidential, may contain legal, professional or other privileged information, and are intended solely for the addressee. If you are not the intended recipient, do not use the information in this e-mail in any way, delete this e-mail and notify the sender. CEG-IP2

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Civil Right Violation  
**Date:** Sunday, December 12, 2010 6:30:03 PM

---

I am at the San Antonio airport and was just subjected to your frisk procedure.

I view this as a violation of my civil right to not be subject to illegal searches. Since there was no probable cause and the procedure is invasive, I have reported this outrage to my congressional representatives.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA-ContactCenter](#)  
**Cc:** [TCC-Referrals](#); [TSA OCR-externalcompliance](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Clarification please  
**Date:** Friday, December 10, 2010 1:29:33 AM

---

Dec 9, 2010

I still have not received any response to my request for clarification. Perhaps you all think I'm just making a 'comment', however, I am actually trying to understand the real world implications of refusing to be searched.

I have planned a trip to Hawaii for about a year now, and have found that the airports that I'm traveling through are using the new scanners and pat down procedures. I have no issue with metal detectors, or asking questions about my trip, but I am an American citizen and refuse to be treated like a criminal. Given that I have already booked plane tickets and lodging on my trip, I do plan on attempting to make this trip, although I will not be planning any other trips involving airports again until the TSA comes to it's senses. I will this one time compromise my principles to allow you to look at my nude body in a scanner, but I will refuse to be groped by any government agent, unless arrested for a crime.

So, what are my options? If I 'fail' the scanner (perhaps they won't like my extended middle finger), and refuse to be physically searched, am I going to be subjected to a lawsuit? If this happens in Hawaii, will there be any alternative but to find a boat to the mainland?

This is serious question, and I would appreciate a timely response, as the trip is impending.

Thanks

(b)(6)

On 11/22/2010 8:59 AM, TSA OCR-externalcompliance wrote:

Dear (b)(6)

Thank you for contacting the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA's) Office of Civil Rights and Liberties. Please be advised that, as your concern specifically regards standard protocol and the Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT), we are referring your concern to TSA's Contact Center for appropriate handling. To contact them directly, please email [TSA-contactcenter@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA-contactcenter@dhs.gov) or call 866-289-9673. For detailed information, please feel free to visit the "Resources" section of [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov). For further detailed information, you may wish to visit TSA's Blog at [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) (<http://blog.tsa.gov/>). We hope this information is of assistance.

Thank you,

*Ms. Harleen K. Singh*

Policy Advisor

External Compliance & Public Outreach Division

Office of Civil Rights and Liberties

Office of Special Counselor

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 1:17 AM  
**To:** OCR-externalcompliance, tsa  
**Subject:** Clarification please

We citizens are protected from unreasonable search, and the TSA rules appear to follow the letter of this law by allowing them to opt out of the 'nude' body scans, and humiliating personal body searches. However, it seems the TSA has the authority to sue citizens who assert their rights. This seems like coercion and extortion! How is this even legal?

(b)(6)

Per the TSA blog....

"And finally, the \$10,000.00 question of the day... Will you receive a \$10,000.00 fine if you opt out of screening all together and leave the checkpoint? While TSA has the legal authority to levy a civil penalty of up to \$11,000.00 for cases such as this, each case is determined on the individual circumstances of the situation. "

4th Amendment to the Constitution:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized".

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 6:30:30 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Misconduct Complaint  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 2:48:21 AM

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[TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)

Attention: External Compliance Division TSA Office of Civil Rights & Liberties

To Whom It May Concern;

My name is (b)(6). I am writing to express my complaint in regard to how a TSA agent mistreated me, sexually harassed me, sexually violated me, and publicly humiliated me when I requested a private security screening instead of going through a full body scan machine. This incident occurred today, November 23rd, 2010, at approximately 9:30 A.M. at the Gates 1 & 2 terminal TSA checkpoint of the San Diego airport. I was en route to Southwest Airlines flight 1090 leaving SAN at 9:40 A.M. going to ABQ. When I arrived at the Gates 1 & 2 TSA checkpoint, I had already gone through the Gates 3 - 10 TSA checkpoint and had my documents signed by agents there, and had been subjected to additional screening there. Unfortunately, I had been misdirected to an incorrect gate. When I realized this error, I proceeded to the correct gate and in doing so, had to go through a different TSA checkpoint in order to enter.

As I approached, I realized that the only machine available was a full body scanner, and I did not want to proceed through it. I requested a private screening instead. The TSA agent that I made this request to was a Hispanic male, approximately 40 years of age, medium build with short black hair, brown eyes, and a mustache. He seemed as though he didn't understand my request, so I politely restated it and even apologized, and expressed my discomfort with going through the full body scanner. I was told by him that I would have to wait. So, I stood aside and waited while several people passed through in front of me, approximately 5-7 minutes. He then called over a female agent who seemed annoyed with my refusal to just go through the full body scanner. The two agents exchanged dialogue regarding how unnecessary my need was and disagreement that I needed a pat down. I continued to wait while the female agent attended to other people who had arrived long after I had arrived there. She then came back and said that I could get the pat down but was asked by the male agent if I knew what the pat down would entail; so she then asked me if I knew what the pat down would entail. As I had received many security pat downs over the past several years during my travels, I was under the impression this would be a similar experience, and so I said, "Yes."

The female agent, an Anglo woman of thin to medium athletic build, approximately 5'10" in height, with long straight brown hair that was pulled back in a hair clip, likely in her late 20's, asked me to follow her. She asked me to tell her which items on the x-ray machine belt, were mine. I pointed and gave a description, as she went behind the belt to the side that the operator was on. At that point, I was unsure of what to do. Another male agent told me not to approach the side of the machine that the female agent was on. The female agent got aggressive in her voice tone with me, and ordered me to follow her. I felt very nervous at this point, as one agent was telling me not to go any further and the other was ordering me to follow her. At that point, I froze and stated that I did not know who to listen to and to please tell me what they wanted me to do so that I could comply. The female agent told the male agent that she wanted me to go around to the back side of the belt with her to physically point out my items. She then ordered me to "Come with her," and claim my items without touching anything. After doing so, I was told to follow her.

She proceeded to a metal table and area that was not in the least bit private. In fact, there was an open bench approximately 10-15 feet away from this open area where I was asked to stand, while my items were inspected. As I stood there, a man by the name of (b)(6) an African American man of large build approximately 5'10", that had a shaved head, (b)(6) (b)(6) who had been further back in the TSA line was coming through the scanning machine. I knew his

name because the TSA agent that was checking IDs was an African American woman who said she had a brother of the same name, and had been engaging in a rather loud conversation with man while he was going through the ID check. I overheard this conversation when I was previously waiting for the female agent to attend to my request for the alternative screening. While (b)(6) was gathering his belongings and putting his shoes back on, the female agent began the pat down. I was uncomfortable with the surroundings, as I was literally within 10 feet of 5 civilian men who were sitting on or standing by the same bench that (b)(6) was at, as well, there were the two male agents in close proximity to us and we were in plain view of the very full area of passengers.

At this point, I had been in the TSA checkpoint for approximately 15-20 minutes and my plane was boarding. I explained to the female agent that I was watching my plane boarding and that I am a breastfeeding mother and truly needed to get home to my baby, as I had only left a limited supply of breast milk and the next available flight would not get me back until late that evening. The agent seemed irritated with my comments and informed me that although I had been through this procedure many times she would need to explain it to me, then go through each step and that she could not go any faster and had no control over me missing my flight. At that point I felt compelled to comply with whatever was necessary to get through the screening as quickly as possible so that I could get home to my baby, as the agents clearly demonstrated no interest in my needs, or rights, and had demonstrated aggressive, hostile and discriminatory behavior towards me by that point.

I was told by the female agent that if I wanted to get through the screening I would have to comply with her requests, and that she would tell me what she was going to do before performing the screening, and asked me if that was okay. I replied, "Yes." I responded quickly in the hopes of just getting through the scan more efficiently, and this seemed to annoy her, so she started her questions from the beginning again and went even slower. I felt quite threatened, so I stopped talking at that point and just started using my head and shaking it up and down, as to indicate yes, or back and forth to indicate no, in response to her questions. I complied with everything she requested. While she performed the screening of my body, the five civilian men, watched and made comments about my body. At one point during the screening procedure the female agent told me she was going to feel my legs. She firmly ran her hands up one of my legs. As one of her hands reached the top of my inner thigh, I pulled away because the pressure and speed of her contact, and proximity to my genitals, especially considering the clothing I was wearing (thin, body hugging yoga pants), made me uncomfortable. At this point the men began making lewd remarks. The agent ordered me to stand still and comply or she would not be able to continue with the screening. She also ordered me to keep my arms out to my sides with my hands up, and my legs spread apart. I was afraid and starting to shake at this point. I wanted to get home to my baby, and I felt unsafe, exposed and threatened in the environment I was in. I allowed the agent to proceed with her screening, and what transpired next was nothing less than sexual assault.

The female agent proceeded to strongly grab each of my ankles and run her hands up each of my legs, and instead of stopping at the top of my thigh, her index finger pushed between my labia majora and momentarily applied pressure to my clitoris. This was visible through my spread legs to the men on the bench, and occurred repeatedly, in succession, four times - twice on each side. I cowered and kept my eyes on the floor. The man named (b)(6) exclaimed, "Damn, I bet you didn't know you were being welcomed to the county lock up." One of the other men laughed, and I could hear others commenting unapprovingly of the scene. I was so humiliated and afraid of what was happening that I did not look up. I was quivering as the agent continued her frisking of my body. When I was released, I quickly grabbed my belongings without fully redressing and ran from the inspection area.

I don't believe I have ever been publicly assaulted or humiliated to such a degree. Under the circumstances, I did not feel safe to question the agent(s) or seek identifying information. It felt much more like a Gestapo than an American bureaucratic agency acting in the interest of, "my security." As I write this complaint, I am feeling knots in my stomach and adrenaline surges. I spent several hours after the event in shock, trying to process what had happened to me. I am still coming to terms with what happened to me today and how I feel when the images and sensations replay in my body. This is WRONG! I feel that I must be clear about what happened and make sure that this nature of misconduct is not allowed to continue, for my sake, my children's sake, and for the sake of every person that walks through those TSA check points. This is criminal. I expect a prompt reply to this complaint and want to

know how to proceed in order to remedy this situation.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

A rectangular box with a red border, containing the text "(b)(6)" in the top-left corner. The rest of the box is empty, indicating a redacted signature.

**From:**

(b)(6)

**To:**

[feedback@ustravel.org](mailto:feedback@ustravel.org); [membership@ustravel.org](mailto:membership@ustravel.org); [publications@ustravel.org](mailto:publications@ustravel.org); [povwowreg@ustravel.org](mailto:povwowreg@ustravel.org); [meetings@ustravel.org](mailto:meetings@ustravel.org); [travelcoalition@ustravel.org](mailto:travelcoalition@ustravel.org); [govtaffairs@ustravel.org](mailto:govtaffairs@ustravel.org); [pressoffice@ustravel.org](mailto:pressoffice@ustravel.org); [discoveramerica@ustravel.org](mailto:discoveramerica@ustravel.org); [councils@ustravel.org](mailto:councils@ustravel.org); [research@ustravel.org](mailto:research@ustravel.org); [international@ustravel.org](mailto:international@ustravel.org); [sales@ustravel.org](mailto:sales@ustravel.org); [foundation@ustravel.org](mailto:foundation@ustravel.org); [info@ustravel.org](mailto:info@ustravel.org); [weboperations@ustravel.org](mailto:weboperations@ustravel.org); [TSA-ContactCenter](mailto:TSA-ContactCenter); [HelpDesk@tsa-hraccess.com](mailto:HelpDesk@tsa-hraccess.com); [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa); [Ombudsman.TSA](mailto:Ombudsman.TSA)

**Subject:**

Minor complaint about US travel

**Date:**

Monday, November 22, 2010 4:18:34 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

This holiday season, I shall be flying domestically from JFK to Miami. If one of your TSA agents so much as comes near my junk, I will do everything in my power to bring your precious little airport to a halt. I will bring in real police officers, and will do everything in my power, including demanding full explanations of procedures and private screening, to slow down the lines. I am not alone on this. We are the people, and we will win this fight against the tyranny imposed on us by the TSA. Your little organization applauds the new "security measures," but me and those who are fighting tyranny through protest with me will ensure that US travel is brought to a crawl. Give us back our rights and we, the people will be willing to negotiate for your dignity back. I want my rights back.

-A Concerned Traveler

PS. I would like to stress that I am not a security threat. I am only talking about non-violent resistance. I just want you to know that we, the people, are fed up with your security theater. If my penis is touched when I fly, I will be bringing in the police for sexual assault though. I just want to make it very clear that I am not interested in being molested. Note, I have sent this to every email on the US travel and TSA webpages in the hope that a single person will one day read this and be reminded that the passenger deserves their dignity.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA-ContactCenter](mailto:TSA-ContactCenter@tsa.dhs.gov); [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa@tsa.dhs.gov); [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: this is what Americans object to.TSA going too far.  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 9:20:05 PM

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While I agree there is a definite need for security at the airports, there also needs to be common sense. The passengers are not the enemy but it appears we are too often treated as such. I do not have, per se, a problem with REASONABLY CONDUCTED pat-downs when it is appropriate. But the following examples certainly prove the TSA has gone far above and beyond reasonable behavior while conducting their invasive pat downs. None of the following behavior should be tolerated by the American public, nor the TSA Administrators, nor the President of these great United States.

The following are not normal pat-downs, or even normal behavior by TSA agents. Is this indicative of the TSA agent training? What has happened to common sense and reasonable search? Stripping down passengers in public? Accosting small children? Removing cancer survivors' prosthetics? It is an affront and criminal to allow any TSA agent to treat ANYONE with such disdain and outright abuse.

If you haven't viewed these videos then shame on you. If you have no idea what these videos show, then you aren't doing your job properly. See what your TSA agents are capable of...they should be held accountable for their actions, just as you would hold passengers accountable.

STOP THE MADNESS and restructure and retrain your TSA. Return Civil Liberties to the people.

(b)(6)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSQTz1bccL4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSQTz1bccL4)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6ByKOhAhsU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6ByKOhAhsU)

**Bladder cancer survivor left covered in urine**

### [Image Source](#)

Thomas Sawyer, a 61-year-old survivor of bladder cancer, was humiliated beyond belief when he tried to board his flight at Detroit International [earlier this month](#). He is unfortunate enough to require the use of a urostomy bag, which must have shown up on the scanner. He was pulled aside for the TSA's new "enhanced" pat-down, at which point he tried to tell the screeners about his condition and the apparatus. They cut him off, saying that they didn't need to know about his issues. His pants, which were sized larger to make it easier for him to wear the bag, fell down around his ankles since they had made him take off his belt to walk through the detectors the first time around. He had to ask *twice* before they would allow him to pull them up. They then made him take his sweatshirt off, at which point he again told them about the delicate bag of *urine* that was under his clothing — but they didn't listen. A screener ruptured the bag with his hand, causing it to begin dribbling and spilling Mr. Sawyer's own urine down his shirt, groin and pants. Sawyer was reduced to tears as he was forced to make his way through the terminal and onto the plane before he could clean himself up and change clothes.

### **Woman forced to remove nipple ring with pliers**

### **Left with pants down due to knee implant**

Leaving people with their pants down seems to be a favorite activity amongst TSA screeners. Robert Perry, a 71-year-old man with a knee replacement, was ordered into the very open and public inspection area by one of them and barked at when he set off the metal detectors. Perry had tried explaining the situation with his knee to the man, but was only yelled at to take his belt off. When the screener went to feel the knee, he did it so roughly that he jerked the pants right off,

leaving Perry looking like an idiot in his underwear for all to see. Perry immediately, and rightly, asked to see a supervisor. The supervisor, a woman, was worse than the screener. Perry, in a news interview, reenacted that supervisor's gorilla-like display of superiority as he mimicked her, beating his chest and repeating the words "I have power." Perry and his wife were threatened with losing their flight, and they were only trying to take a vacation for the 50th wedding anniversary.

## **Security leaves woman roughed up**

Back in 2007, Robin Kassner was trying to take a flight out of Reagan National Airport when she was *physically assaulted* by a mixed group of TSA screeners and Airport police — over a bottle of contact lens cleaner. As can be seen in the airport's own security footage, they grabbed Kassner by the arms, jerked them behind her, then pulled her several feet, slamming her onto the ground (and displacing furniture in the process), all seemingly for no reason at all. Kassner recalls thinking something along the lines of "oh God, I'm being beaten up, and I don't even know why." That wasn't the end of it, either. After they picked her up and returned her to the standing-height inspection table, Kassner's head was slammed into it, hard enough to give her a concussion and possibly permanent brain damage. Kassner was locked up in a holding cell and later released to be charged with obstruction of justice, but she was able to use the footage in a 10 million dollar lawsuit against the airport.

## **Singled out, cuffed, boarding pass destroyed**

Meg McLain recently experienced just what happens when one decides to opt-out of the x-ray scan, *and* object to the groping-laden pat-down that follows such an opt-out. She was surrounded by TSA screeners and airport police, shuffled off-camera in the inspection area to be harassed, and finally forced to sit in a chair and watch as an egomaniacal TSA screener *ripped her ticket in half* right in front of her before having security grab her and escort her out of the airport. She was unable to get a refund for the flight, and even worse, found herself stranded since the boarding pass itself had been destroyed (and the airline would not replace it).

## **Arrested over applesauce**

58-year-old Nadine Hays was arrested, charged with battery, handcuffed, and strip searched back in 2009 over applesauce. It wasn't a case of applesauce being in a container that could be misconstrued as a bomb, nor was it a case of Nadine acting suspicious about her foodstuffs. Nadine was traveling with her wheelchair-bound, 93-year-old mother, and she had fully explained to the TSA screeners that the applesauce was required to feed her ailing mother, and necessary for medication to be given as well. There was also a third, younger woman with them, a full-time caretaker, who was able to vouch for Nadine. While the screener was trying to steal Nadine's applesauce, her cohorts were barking at the caretaker to stand back, while they took their time scaring and fondling Nadine's senile, old and confused mother off-camera. Video footage proves that both TSA and airport security lied, heavily, throughout their reports. [It took a full year](#), but Nadine got the case against her dropped — but her mother had **already died by then**.

## Breast cancer survivor forced to show prosthetic breast

A woman being forced to pull a nipple ring out with pliers is bad; an old man forced to walk through an airport drenched in his own urine is possibly worse, but they may pale in comparison to TSA screeners actually forcing a breast cancer survivor to remove a prosthetic breast and show it to them. Cathy Bossi, a flight attendant of 32 years, was on her way to [work when this happened to her](#). She, like many other flight attendants and pilots, opted out of the X-ray scan because daily use of such a machine would mean daily doses of radiation. She wasn't trying to make a statement, and she certainly wasn't trying to hide anything. She's not alone, either. There are more stories cropping up, every day, about the [TSA humiliating women who have breast prostheses](#).

## 8-year-old on TSA's watch list



[Image Source](#)

It was mildly entertaining and only somewhat inconvenient the first time Mikey Hicks and his family were stopped at the airport terminal and told that their son was on the terrorist watch-list. He was 2 years old at the time, and his parents thought that it would not happen a second time, since incidents like that *must* go on record, right? Over time, it grew less funny. Early this year, Mikey and his family were making a trip to the Bahamas for a vacation. Mikey, now 8 years old, [was stopped again](#). The TSA screeners, apparently literate enough to read the no-fly list and see that young Mikey had the same name as one of the entries, subjected the 8-year-old boy to a frisking. On his way back home, he was put through an even more aggressive pat-down. The boy doesn't understand why anyone would think he's a terrorist, but he took it all with a grain of salt. His parents, on the other hand, weren't as understanding. The TSA holds that its

people were doing a wonderful job, protecting the world from terrorists, and that there are no children on the no-fly list.

### **4-year-old forced to remove — and walk without — his leg braces**

Quite possibly the worst offense on this list, a police officer in New Jersey took his family to the airport to take a trip to Disney World. His son, a developmentally-disabled 4-year-old who could not walk without leg braces, was helped through the metal detector by his mother. The alarm went off. The TSA screener, who obviously saw the boy as a threat to national security, [said that he must take the braces off](#) — *and walk through the detector on his own*. TSA's own regulations state that this is *not* the case. The boy's parent's tried to plead with the screener, but he would hear nothing of it. He insisted that their son, whose leg muscles weren't strong enough to support him, walk through the detector under his own power. When the boy's father, now absolutely furious, demanded a supervisor. The screener's gruff answer when confronted by the father personally was "you know why we do this," implying that his being a police officer meant that he should think it was perfectly OK to force a handicapped toddler to do parlor tricks for a power-tripping security guard.

234diggsdigg  
Share188

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 6:50:54 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** "TSA-ContactCenter"  
**Cc:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint - Sexual Assault Incidents @ Washington Dulles International (11/1 ~6:30p, 11/7 ~5pm) <<#574417-718451#>>  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 01, 2010 3:13:18 PM

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Good afternoon,

It would appear that instead of filing my complaint and investigating, TSA is sending me form letters. This is not acceptable. Administrator Pistole was very clear in his response to Congress that pat downs will be given when either (a) a person opts out of AIT scanning, or (b) a person alarms the metal detector. It is reasonable to also assume that pat downs will occur if you alarm the AIT as well.

However, on both the incidents cited I did not meet those criteria. There was no AIT in use. I passed through the metal detector without triggering an alarm. And then I was detained, and counter to TSA Administrator Pistole's testimony on policy, I was given an enhanced pat down including touching my scrotum and penis in violation of sexual assault laws in the state of Virginia. The starting point of these incidents is the discriminatory actions of your TSOs violating TSA policy on selection for pat down, and the crime that occurred thereafter simply confirms their predatory behaviour.

Please provide a clear response with the complaint reference number and a copy of the complaint. It is highly regrettable that discrimination has occurred, but much more regrettable that so far this complaint is being resisted rather than acknowledged and processed in accordance with discrimination policies.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

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**From:** TSA-ContactCenter [mailto:TSA-ContactCenter@dhs.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 01, 2010 2:56 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Complaint - Sexual Assault Incidents @ Washington Dulles International (11/1 ~6:30p, 11/7 ~5pm) <<#574417-718451#>>

Thank you for your e-mail regarding pat-down procedures conducted at our Nation's airports. At airports nationwide, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is implementing more streamlined, consistent, and thorough pat-down procedures at security checkpoints to provide a higher level of security and increase the safety of the traveling public. Patdowns are one important tool to help TSA detect hidden and dangerous items, such as explosives. Passengers should continue to expect an unpredictable mix of security layers that include explosives trace detection, advanced imaging technology, and canine teams, among others. Transportation Security Officers will conduct different pat-down procedures to resolve different types of anomalies. During the assessment, officers will use revised pat-down procedures in all instances to resolve anomalies. The updated pat-down procedures will address areas of the body

that we know are used as areas to conceal potentially dangerous items, like explosives. TSA Administrator John Pistole has stated that TSA strives to ensure consistency whenever possible for passengers at security checkpoints. As always, all passengers have the right to request private screening at any time during the screening process, and patdowns are conducted by same-gender officers. However, passengers who are not willing to go through the screening process will not be permitted to fly.

We understand and regret the discomfort and inconvenience you experienced as a result of pat-down procedures. Nevertheless, we believe these security measures are necessary and appropriate for ensuring the security and confidence of all air travelers. TSA continues to develop and deploy new technologies to address the explosives threat, and the use of pat-downs provides an additional layer of security at the checkpoint. For more information regarding the pat-down procedures, please visit TSA's Web site ([www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov)).

We hope this information is helpful.

TSA Contact Center

--- Original Message ---

From: (b)(6)

Received: 11/24/10 7:19:27 PM EST

To: "TSA Contact Center" <TSA-ContactCenter@dhs.gov>

CC: "OCR-externalcompliance, tsa" <tsa.Ocr-externalcompliance@dhs.gov>

Subject: FW: Complaint - Sexual Assault Incidents @ Washington Dulles International (11/1 ~6:30p, 11/7 ~5pm)

Good morning,

One November 23rd I contacted TSA's Office of Civil Rights and Liberties because (a) TSA policy was clarified and I had been discriminated against and against TSA pat down policy had been subjected to pat downs on both 11/1 and 11/7 at IAD, and (b) I was sexually assaulted by the TSO who explained clearly how he was assaulting me as he touched my scrotum, testicles, and penis.

TSA's Office of Civil Rights and Liberties has referred me to contact you for appropriate handling as seen in the thread below. While I don't understand how an obvious case of discrimination leading to sexual assault is not within their mandate, I can only proceed with the avenue presented. First I would like to file a complaint for the violation of TSA screening policy. Second I will need help getting the identity of the TSOs from both incidents as well as the supervisor as I neither had the state of mind nor awareness to do so when the incidents occurred. That way I can proceed in filling out the police report. Please let me know how you can help me.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

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**From:** TSA OCR-externalcompliance [mailto:tsa.Ocr-externalcompliance@dhs.gov]

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 9:54 AM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: TCC-Referrals

Subject: RE: Complaint - Sexual Assault Incidents @ Washington Dulles International (11/1 ~6:30p, 11/7 ~5pm)

Dear (b)(6)

Thank you for contacting the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA's) Office of Civil Rights and Liberties. Please be advised that, as your concern specifically regards the standard protocol and additional screening procedures, we are referring your email below to TSA's Contact Center for appropriate handling. To contact them directly, please email [TSA-contactcenter@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA-contactcenter@dhs.gov). To contact the airport directly, please visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) and click on "Talk to TSA" (<https://contact.tsa.dhs.gov/talktotsa/talktotsa.aspx>). You may also wish to visit TSA's Blog at <http://blog.tsa.gov/>. We hope this is of assistance.

Thank you,

*Ms. Harleen K. Singh*

Policy Advisor

External Compliance & Public Outreach Division  
Office of Civil Rights and Liberties  
Office of Special Counselor

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 8:40 PM

To: OCR-externalcompliance, tsa

Subject: Complaint - Sexual Assault Incidents @ Washington Dulles International (11/1 ~6:30p, 11/7 ~5pm)

On 11/1/2010 at approximately 6:30p while going through TSA security to catch my US Airways (2639) flight at Washington Dulles (IAD) I was given an "enhanced" pat down by the TSO including contact with my genitals.

On 11/7/2010 at approximately 5:00p while going through TSA security to catch my Delta (2451) flight at Washington Dulles (IAD) I was given an "enhanced" pat down by the TSO including contact with my genitals.

In both cases I entered the security area, placed my bags and laptop on the X-ray, and stepped through the metal detector.

In both cases I did **\*\*not\*\*** set off the metal detector.

In both cases I was then given an "enhanced" pat down which included touching my genitals through my clothing by a male TSO who described how he was going to touch me as he did so.

On 11/18 in The TSA Blog, the following statement was made:

**"Myth:** The TSA pat-down is invasive

**Fact:** Only passengers who alarm a walk through metal detector or AIT machine or opt out of the AIT receive a pat-down."

On 11/17 Administrator Pistole stated in a Congressional hearing that "The bottom line is few people in the overall scheme of things will actually receive those pat downs." This was also repeated on The TSA Blog. The basis of this statement seems to be a belief that only travelers who opt out of the AIT and set off an alarm on the metal detector will receive an "enhanced" pat down.

If these public statements from TSA and Administrator Pistole are accurate then the TSOs in both of my incidents have arbitrarily selected me for sexual assault without the required alarm or opt out to do so. I'd like to file these as sexual assault incidents, and have my complaint reviewed in light of the fact that on both these days I also noted several other travelers receiving similar treatment - and we did not know that the TSOs were acting contrary to TSA policy so we did not file a complaint at the time.

Given the new security concourses in Dulles appear to have fully functional cameras, I would expect the specialist will find it very easy to identify multiple occurrences of violations by TSOs at IAD. In the meantime I will file complaints with supervisors immediately when I am sexually assaulted by TSOs without the alarm basis as this discriminatory behaviour is particularly predatory and disturbing.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

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## **Reporting Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Complaints**

How can you report a civil rights or civil liberties complaint? There are a number of ways in which you can report a concern. You can pursue any of the following steps.

**During travel:** While you are still at the checkpoint, you can ask to speak with a supervisor about the incident. You can also ask to speak with the Customer Service Manager of the airport. Depending on the time of day during which you are traveling or the size of the airport, the Customer Service Manager may or may not be readily accessible to you at the airport.

**After traveling:** You may contact the External Compliance Division of TSA's Office of Civil Rights and Liberties to file a complaint.

Our mailing address is:

Transportation Security Administration

Office of Civil Rights and Liberties (TSA-6)  
External Compliance Division  
601 S. 12th Street  
Arlington, VA 20598

Our email address is:

[TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)

You may also contact the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties to file a complaint. The Department's procedures for filing and handling complaints can be found at: [http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/editorial\\_0373.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/editorial_0373.shtm).

### **What should be included in your complaint?**

Your complaint should include a description of the incident. The description should include the date of the incident, the approximate time of the incident, the name of the airline carrier on which you were flying, and the name of the airport. The complaint should also explain what happened. The explanation should include why you feel the incident constituted a civil rights or civil liberties violation and why you feel you were discriminated, harassed, or retaliated against by a Transportation Security Officer in this incident.

### **What is a civil rights or civil liberties complaint?**

Civil Rights – include the Constitutional rights to due process, and equal treatment under the law.

Civil Liberties – include the Constitutional freedoms of speech, religion, and assembly.

### **What is discrimination?**

Discrimination – includes treating someone differently or less favorably because of a person's race, national origin, age, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation, parental status or reprisal as compared to someone else under similar circumstances.

### **What will happen with your complaint?**

- A Specialist will be assigned to handle your complaint.
- The Specialist's responsibility is to attempt to resolve your concern. The Specialist may conduct a fact-finding investigation into the alleged discriminatory act or incident.
- If a fact-finding investigation is conducted, the Office of Civil Rights and Liberties will review the available facts and will make findings as to whether or not the incident complained of constituted unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.
- The Office of Civil Rights and Liberties may also recommend measures be put in place, such as conducting additional training, to resolve the concern.

The Office of Civil Rights and Liberties will process external complaints filed up to 180 days after the date of the alleged discriminatory incident. However, the ability to conduct a successful fact-finding investigation is greatly limited when an extended period of time has passed between the date of the alleged discriminatory incident and the date of receipt of the

complaint.

----- TCC Control Number: -----  
<<#574417-718451#>>

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Cc:** [dick@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:dick@durbin.senate.gov)  
**Subject:** Pat down Search  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 2:27:03 PM

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To whom it may Concern at TSA (as if you give a rip);

This is to inform the TSA that I feel that my civil rights have been violated by an unreasonable, unconstitutional pat down search on a recent flight just because I was wearing a sweater. I have never heard of such a ridiculous requirement. I have put up with all of the anti-terrorist security measures for years now, but this is going too far; I will be writing my congressman requesting that all funding for TSA be cut off- it has not been demonstrated to stop any terrorist threats, it only takes away our civil liberties as U.S Citizens. TSA has been proven to be an ineffective agency, the money would be better spent funding the FBI and other counter-terrorism agencies specifically aimed at the TERRORISTS-NOT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Regards,

(b)(6)

CONFIDENTIALITY: This email and attachments may contain information which is confidential and proprietary. Disclosure or use of any such confidential or proprietary information without the written permission of (b)(6) is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and delete this email from your system. Thank you.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 9:01:58 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** enhanced security procedures?  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 10:08:55 PM

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So, TSA has received "minimal complaints" about "enhanced security procedures." Let me say that I am appalled and embarrassed that my government is producing "security theater" instead of actually enhancing security. This is a total sham!

Groping passengers' private parts! Oogling with X-Ray machines! Really!

Pretending is pointless. I do not believe for minute that this is accomplishing ANYTHING except reassuring the enemy that they have frightened us.

My confidence in TSA is nil. Who have you caught?

FYI, this is a complaint!

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Cc:** [TSAComplaints@eff.org](mailto:TSAComplaints@eff.org)  
**Subject:** "Inappropriate Screening/Pat Down Screening"  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 10:53:40 PM

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those who give up liberty for security deserve neither. ben franklin. i do not appreciate or feel anymore secure for having to submit to luggage searches, scans of any kind or personal assaults on my body to travel by air within the united states of america. i will not get on another plane except for emergencies until these anti-american activities are severely scaled back or eliminated!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 7:31:20 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** TSA  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 10:36:52 PM

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If someone really wants to commit a terrorist act, they will find a way. As American citizens, we should not be subjected to treatment as if we are all terrorists and criminals. When TSA, the Federal and State Governments, or anyone else takes away our freedoms, we cease to be a free nation. We should not have to give up our liberty.

Furthermore, we raise our children to believe that if someone touches their private parts, it is wrong and they need to report it to parents, teachers, etc. Now we are to stand by and watch while our children are essentially molested in our presence?! This is insane! None of us should have to go through that.

As far as the full body scanners, immoral, unjust, absolutely an infringement on our right to privacy as GUARANTEED by our Constitution!!! Plus, even though the amount of radiation is supposed to be minimal, radiation builds up in the body and does not leave. It accumulates over the years. To subject anyone to repeated doses of radiation at any level is irresponsible. And to subject children whose development is still in the formative stages is very risky at best. No one knows the long term effects of subjecting our bodies to this kind of radiation assault, and we certainly should not have to go through what amounts to sexual molestation for the sake of maybe catching someone who is hiding a bomb.

These measures will not catch anyone entering the country from an airport outside of the US, as was the case of the underwear bomber. And we already know that these scanners and pat downs are not going to detect anything that is hidden in a body cavity. What's next? Cavity searches? This is absolutely ridiculous!!

We have intelligence in this country. We should use it. We should use common sense. I am increasingly angry and disappointed in the way this country is giving away all of our freedoms and turning us into something much less than a democracy. And it is our own doing! The simple threat of terror has made us a nation of fearful leaders that now want to dismantle everything that our founding fathers built.

Shame on you! Shame on us! I will not be flying!

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:33:28 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:01:28 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa; DHSOIGHOTLINE](#)  
**Subject:** new xray security scan and pat down offensive and inappropriate  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 12:43:25 PM

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To whom it may concern at TSA:

Even before the current firestorm regarding the new (and completely inappropriate) enhanced security procedures, I have been disturbed and offended by the new technology and patdown guidelines. Since October 20 I have been subjected to this new technology three times (in airports in Pittsburgh, Boston, and San Diego); each time I have refused to participate in the scan, and opted instead for the patdown, because the scan is morally offensive and violates a fundamental private right to my body. The patdown itself is also offensive and, as is now being pointed out, something that would be considered intolerable -- illegal, even -- were it conducted by anyone other than the government. I am in wholehearted agreement with the need for security on airlines; this new technology is beyond the pale, offensive, and completely inappropriate.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:**

(b)(6)

**To:**

[OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#); (b)(6)

**Subject:**

BEING VIOLATED DURING SCREENING

**Date:**

Sunday, November 14, 2010 7:48:36 PM

**Attachments:**

[gvc0002.gif](#)  
[stampa\\_qirl\\_line\\_en.gif](#)

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I'VE HAD IT WITH THE AIRLINES AND THEIR GESTAPO BUTCH DYKES THAT DO THE ENHANCED SEARCHES, THE PASSENGERS ARE BEING TOTALLY VIOLATED. AFTER THEY PUT ME THROUGH THE PORNO SCANNER TEN TIMES.THEY THEN DID THE ENHANCED SEARCH.I FELT TOTALLY VIOLATED. ALSO, MY JEWELRY WAS STOLEN.I NEED TO FLY TO REACH VARIOUS DESTINATIONS BUT I DON'T WANT TO GO THROUGH THIS GESTAPO M.O.WITH THE NAZIS THEY HIRE TO DO THE DIRTY WORK.I NEED TO KNOW HOW I CAN TRAVEL WITHOUT FEELING LIKE I'VE BEEN RAPED,THERE IS NO DIGNITY OR RESPECT.THESE CRIMINALS CONDUCTING THESE SEARCHES THINK WHO THEY ARE.THEY ARE JUST LOW LIFE PERVERTS AND SHOULDN'T HAVE JOBS. IS THERE ANY WAY WE CAN TRAVEL WITHOUT BEING TREATED LIKE CONDEMNED CRIMINALS? I'M A 63 YEAR OLD LADY, A GREAT GRAMMA AND TRAVEL SHOULD NOT BE LIKE A PUNISHMENT, SOMETHING TO FEAR AND DREAD, DEALING WITH THESE MONSTERS...THE TSA "AGENTS". AT THIS POINT IF ANOTHER AGENT DECIDES TO PUT HIS OR HER HANDS ON MY PERSON I WILL SLUG THEM FOR SEXUAL MOLESTATION.PEOPLE DON'T NEED TO BE SEXUALLY MOLESTED JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE TRAVELLING.THEY NEED TO GET RID OF THE PERVERTED PORNO SCANNERS AND USE THE HAND HELD SCANNERS WHICH WOULD NULLIFY THE PORNO SEARCH.SOMETHING MUST BE DONE ABOUT THIS OUTRAGE!!!AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M VERY ANGRY ABOUT THESE SICK POLICIES.I WOULD NEVER WANT ANY ONE I KNOW OR CARE ABOUT TO BE SUBJECTED TO THESE ABUSES...SUCH AS MY CHILDREN OR MY GRANDCHILDREN, DAUGHTERS IN LAW ETC...THIS HAS REALLY BECOME INSANE!!!



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Not Informed  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:34:44 PM

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I considered writing and I feel this is an important safety issue and needs to be much better addressed. I traveled this morning from BWI and underwent TSA screening at approximately 5:45am. The security was on the right hand side of the SWA check-in and line was the last line on the right hand side. They have the new body image scanners for the line. I asked if it was safe during pregnancy and was told yes it was and I needed to go through. I was not given the option to instead undergo "pat down" which I think should have been offered upon me asking about safety. While the ASR has published that these machines are generally safe, they currently have very limited data. If I, as a pregnant person, do not wish to undergo the potential risk that may not be discovered for another 5 years, I should have the option of saying I do not want that risk. As a physician we are asked to give our patients "informed consent." I argue that as the government is now asking us to undergo testing - however low risk it may be deemed at this time - they need to give us informed consent. Which means that there should be both information of the potential risks and at least a person or signs informing us of our potential options of not undergoing a test that does not have enough safety data, especially for people that are pregnant. While I understand I should have been more firm at the time to not undergo any testing without further data, I am not better informed and will be sure to not undergo the same screening again. What potential harm that may have occurred, obviously can not be undone. However, I hope that you will consider this issue and train your employees and consider additional signs to inform people of alternative options.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Security  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 1:45:12 PM

---

On about June 28th 2010, I took a trip to visit relatives. I am a 76 year old white male. I got felt up and was told something didn't seem right, or words to that effect, so they put me in the scanner. Not a lot of people around me got put in the scanner. I did not have bomb in my crotch or up my rear. That was plain violation of my person. At my age I don't need to be touched by perverts Government or otherwise.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 4:18:39 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Enhanced security screening  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 3:55:15 PM

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TSA staff,

I am writing to express my concern about the full body scan procedure that took place at Reagan International Airport on August 5, 2010 around 1pm Eastern time as I was flying Delta from Washington DC to Detroit. In the security screening line I placed my belongings, took off my shoes and jewelry and was instructed at random to "step through here ma'am, empty all your pockets, and raise your hands above your head". I was not informed that I was about to go through a full body scanner. I was not informed that I had the option of a "pat" down. There were absolutely no immediately visible signs next to the scanner about my rights as a passenger or even what this giant thing in front of me was. If I didn't comply, I was afraid the woman barking orders at me would have my head. So I what she said. After going through the scanner (not knowing what it was until it was done), I felt extremely violated and frustrated that as an American citizen with no history of any criminal behavior on a domestic flight, that I would be subjected to this scan that *seems* to violate my 4th Amendment rights. That is, unlawful search without warrant. What makes this legal?

I feel my frustration with my experience every time I see the full body scan in the news, causing me to read more about the alternative: "pat" downs. "Pat" refers to the "enhanced" procedure that is in violation of anyone's rights as a human being. Yes, I want to be safe when I fly. No, I don't want to be molested, not even by a same-sex screening official. What makes this practice acceptable?

I am planning to fly again in January and would like to be informed of my options if I am again randomly and unreasonably chosen for this "enhanced" protection screening procedure. What happens if I refuse both? How are random searches any more likely to detect things that aren't supposed to be on a plane? What is TSA's procedure for the full body scan? I'd like to know the steps of the process to be a well informed traveler and to keep my privates just that, private.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [undisclosed recipients](#)  
**Subject:** The TSA's recent changes are disgusting  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:26:42 PM

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Right now the TSA is sexually assaulting American citizens.

While going through the security checkpoint at an airport, travelers of all ages, including children, will have a naked picture taken of them by the TSA's full body scanner. This is disgusting. A stranger looking at naked pictures of us is wrong.

You can opt-out of letting them see you naked for what the TSA is calling an "enhanced pat-down." During this process a stranger will touch and rub your buttocks, genitals, and breasts. This is sexual assault. Again, a stranger fondling us is wrong.

It is ridiculous that these items must be stated, however the TSA is oblivious to their blatant violation of our rights. Further, the full body scanners discriminate against transgendered individuals, and the enhanced pat-downs do not account for differences in the flyer's and the examiner's sexual orientations.

Additional information about the TSA's actions:

Rape Survivor Devastated by TSA Enhanced Pat Down  
<http://pncminnesota.wordpress.com/2010/11/08/rape-survivor-devasted-by-tsa-enhanced-pat-down/>

TSA - Sexual Assault  
<http://www.ourlittlechatterboxes.com/2010/11/tsa-sexual-assault.html>

Scientists Question Safety Of New Airport Scanners  
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126833083>

TSA admits to punishing travelers  
<http://www.consumertraveler.com/today/tsa-admits-to-punishing-travelers/>

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Pat down and groping  
**Date:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 7:14:13 AM

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Every time your people grope someone, the terrorist laugh. Having lived in Russia for many years I know what a police state looks like. We are there with this new scanner or pat down. We either have a dose of radiation or get groped. Your leadership should be ashamed.

I am going to work through governmental channels to change this travesty.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Flying less  
**Date:** Thursday, November 25, 2010 6:41:41 AM

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Dear TSA,

I have in the past travelled frequently to the US. As a result of the recent introduction of scanners that effectively disrobe the passenger, and random selection for fairly invasive hand searches as an alternative, I plan to reduce my travelling to the US to an absolute minimum in future.

The well publicised comments on the lack of efficacy of the present general screening program and the absolute resistance of the TSA to introduce more intelligent, selective screening of a kind used elsewhere, should prompt a serious rethink,

Yours sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [Civil Liberties; OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** complaint  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 9:46:20 PM

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Hello:

i was very outraged at what happened to me on october 23rd while at M.I.A on route to san francisco. I was subjected to a very detailed pat down in which they touched my genitals, my breast, and each hair strand in minute detail. I felt so violated. As a frequent travel, i had NEVER in my life, anywhere in the world, experience such violation. To make things worse, they took FOREVER to complete this painful process,making me wait about 5 mins if not more for someone with a very rude attitude to come and touch and initiate this robotic harrassment. I believe this violates the rights of us american citizens. I understand the security concerns that face our nation, but violations like these should not be accepted as a standard at our airports

Thanks very much

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint about full body scanners and extreme intrusive pat downs  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 4:38:37 AM

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I would like to complain about the full body scans so called porno scans for they represent a degradation of human rights and respect for human dignity. I think that security has to stop at some point and that now all means are justifiable to attain even the most respectful and defensible ends.

Since 9/11 we have see specially in the US but also in Europe that governments have been limiting peoples civil liberties and changing the was we used to live, by doing what terrorists want: by terrorising us all, spreading fear.

I think that full body scans, that take a complete photograph of my naked body (interesting the samples on the internet are just the negative, but it can be reversed and the positive images are like a high quality nude picture that reveal every inch of the body) are themselves a terrorist act and I think it is important to use civil disobedience to fight for our dignity rights.

The USA is becoming ever more a police state. I do not want a police state.

Next time a terrorist will put explosives inside his or her body, I am sure that by this absurd reasoning you will soon introduce anus and vagina probing machines and who knows even introducing hospital grade x ray machines - just to be on the safe side.

Shame on you.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Tampa Airport, 12/14/2010  
**Date:** Thursday, December 16, 2010 9:42:57 PM

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The rude and demanding behavior of one of the "security" personnel and the gawking of another during my experience has led me to making this complaint. There were four (4) people at the security checkpoint when I was going through yesterday to get to my flight from Tampa to Baltimore . I had just finished putting everything in the bins, including taking my laptop out of its case. I stepped up to the metal detector, (no other travelers were in line), and this "security" person (female), bolted toward me, grabbing at my arm and said to go around the metal detector and go "here". I asked why. I got no response. I asked why again. Again, no response. She proceeded to tell me to look at the diagram in front of me. Again, I asked why. No answer. I stood there, in your proper position for a long time, while she asked repeatedly if I'd submit to this process. I asked again why. No response. She continued this tirade for about 3 minutes. She said I had a choice. I said what choice. No response. She was trying to get me to say yes that I could be violated without just cause. This process is of no immediate concern to me, except that she was rude, unnecessarily rude, not informative, and combative. I believe she wanted to get me to become upset and refuse the scan. I was extremely angry at this point. After the scan, she said step out. I asked which way she wanted me to step out. I got out of the contraption that had violated me for no reason. I asked to speak to her supervisor and she left the area and did not return. I asked the man who was gawking the entire ordeal and he turned his back to me and walked off as well.

Is this really how the TSA wants US citizens to be treated?? I will NEVER fly out of Tampa again, and if there is an emergency requiring my presence in Tampa , I will drive.

It is absolutely shameful that people that feel they have some kind of authority are allowed to treat others this way. I absolutely felt that I was violated, my rights were violated. It's as if the TSA are old time communists.

By the way, I waited for 20 minutes for a supervisor to show up. Never happened. Rude, very rude

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCB-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCB-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 4:22:46 PM

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I would like to complain about the new security procedures at the airport. I feel my privacy has been invaded and hate that someone I don't even know is seeing a naked picture of me when I go through a scanner. I also hate that if I opt-out of the porn-scan, I will receive an extremely inappropriate pat-down, violating my body and privacy. This is ridiculous and there must be better ways to keep us safe. Use bomb-sniffing dogs if you have to, but please hear the cries of the American people. Would you want your wife/daughter to go through the process?

Thank you for hearing my voice.

(b)(6)

From:

(b)(6)

on behalf of

(b)(6)

To:

[OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)

Subject:

To Whom It Concerns,

Date:

Tuesday, November 30, 2010 3:09:15 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 2:36:09 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Bodyscans  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:09:08 AM

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Its insane to treat americans like prisoners. Life is full of dangers, least of all is the danger of someone setting off a bomb in their ass. Just goes to show how far this once great country has fallen.

*Sent via DROID on Verizon Wireless*

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** airlines  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 5:24:35 PM

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I sent this weeks ago.

A letter to Southwest Arilines

You have wonderful service but I will never fly again as long as I have to deal with the TSA terrorists. I will not risk cancer by having x-rays nor be sexually assaulted by those nasty bureaucrats. Twice in El Paso I was treated so badly that I found the first chair and sat and cried.

I have been taking the Mexican bus where I am treated like your airline treated me, but the government bureaucrats at the airport are just like most of the rest of the bureaucrats that I have ever had the misfortune of having to deal with.

Does the government hire bullies or do they train them?

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [Civil Liberties; OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Airport screening policies getting out of hand  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 8:46:49 PM

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I am writing out of concern for the direction that new airport screening policies are taking.

The forced choice of whole body imaging or enhanced pat down is beginning to move us, as a country, away from foundational sentiments found in the bill of rights.

It is already a questionable move to give up freedom for security. In this case, the security we buy with our freedom is questionable as well. When these body scanners are tripped up by something as simple as creased pants, it is evident that they are not the answer. Indeed, our freedoms must be significantly devalued.

The alternative pat down is tantamount to a combination of sexual assault and violation of the 4th amendment. It is sad that we must enter a constitution free zone just to visit our families for the holidays.

I urge those with some power to step back and question the appropriateness of recent tactics. Do the new policies significantly increase security? If there is a security gain, does it outweigh the inconvenience, humiliation, and freedom violation of the American people?

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1024D/AA1FE38A  
:wq

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 2:46:11 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa.dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** scan or pat  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 5:45:40 PM

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The use of scan technology or an invasive pat down violates the civil rights of all passengers, especially those of us who fly 100,00 miles a year for business. Today, again, I was asked to go through the scanner at ATL, despite the fact that a family of non-US Citizens went through before me without being asked. This happens nearly every time I fly. I refused due to the unjust nature and personal violation of the scan, and of course had to be patted down despite the fact that there was nothing to arouse any suspicion.

In less than a month, I will fly with my wife and three girls for the holidays. I inquired today with a TSA supervisor at ATL if I could expect my daughters to be sexually molested by your staff, as I was today. He said my 5 year old may very well be eligible for additional screening. Has your department lost your minds? Am I legitimately being asked to choose whether my daughter could be scanned and a TSA agent see her genitals, or whether she is to be physically molested by a different agent? HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MINDS? This is an amazing abuse of power, not to mention foolish to highest level. No study has demonstrated that this technology is even helpful. HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MINDS?

Unless this policy changes, I may be forced to choose between having my daughter molested or not joining my loving, faithful, American family to celebrate the holidays. I am outraged. What am I as a father supposed to do.

TSA is doing a wonderful job of stealing our rights and remaining one step behind the terrorist. They are doing a lousy job serving our country.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 9:58:40 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** new invasive security procedures  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 11:57:19 PM

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Dear TSA,

i am a 66 year old american woman who is beginning to consider not flying at all because of the choice between what i consider a humiliating "pat down" or a health risk full body naked scan.

i'd like to know where to make a formal complaint about both of these procedures.

I would also like to know if there is a way for you to investigate me thoroughly in order for you to put me on a 'safe passenger' list.

i feel that what you are doing is just too invasive for me.

i also saw a mother take her child away from the procedure which i completely agreed with.  
i also saw a woman being 'patted down' by a man.

i just think you need to come up with better ways to insure our security.  
this is simply too much.

i will also write to my airline and other agencies until this stops

sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 5:39:42 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 9:15:49 PM

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 3:28:27 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Cc:** [customerservice@southwest.com](mailto:customerservice@southwest.com); [eskvarna@bur.org](mailto:eskvarna@bur.org)  
**Subject:** Overly personal TSA treatment at Burbank Airport  
**Date:** Thursday, December 09, 2010 2:08:53 AM

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To whom it may concern,

TSA agent with a possible attitude or self image issue (poor public relations - Happy Holidays !)

While traveling regularly for business on a flight out of Burbank, CA Airport approx 12:15pm on Southwest Airlines Tuesday December 7, 2010 (Pearl Harbor Day) a middle-aged (40-50 y.o.) female African American TSA officer seems to have gone far out of her way to make an example of me (is this illegal?) - She told me that TSA saw on the X-ray what appears to be a knife in my luggage. I told her I have no idea what she could be seeing and offered to look at the x-ray myself to assist locating it. My offer was refused and my luggage was completely gone through piece by piece. A very valuable piece of my 3D camera audio-video equipment for my company's business was handled by the TSA officer and it startled me that she had no idea how delicate, important and expensive it was. I mentioned why it was packed in it's own case and that I did not check my bag, but rather carried it on due to my concern and asked if I could re-pack it myself. I believe she proceeded to run it through the x-ray again. The unit was being handled with one hand by the TSA officer with it's protective case open, causing my additional concern that it would fall on the floor. I called out that I wish that 'two hands would be used to carry the unit.' The TSA officer returned to me and opened up a camcorder bag and held up a lighter that was found inside and exclaimed that it was prohibited. I asked about the knife...and was told that "the lighter was what she thought to be a knife." I was unsure how she could mistake a knife for a lighter. I mentioned that I was unaware that it was in there, and that I did not want to "surrender it" but would rather throw it away. The TSA officer mentioned that I would need to leave the area and go through security again if I choose to do that. I said "O.K."

Upon returning, the TSA agent apparently called in an 'All Points Bullitin' regarding my immediate return and made it mandatory that I go through a full invasive body search. The male TSA attendant was asking if I had set off a metal detector, which I had NOT. The male TSA agent asked why he was being asked to search me. He asked me "Did you set off the metal detector?" I said "No, but there might be a TSA agent with a bad attitude forcing this upon me." During the scan, I told the male agent that I do not hold him accountable and he mentioned that I had a good attitude...I agreed out loud that I had a good attitude, as he hit one of my testicles with the back of his hand. I saw the middle-aged (40-50 y.o.) female african american TSA officer across the room...pacing and eye-balling me like a predator while the body search took place on me.

Just as I was cleared of the VERY GENITAL - VERY INVASIVE HARD-TOUCH FORCE PRESSURE body search, the middle-aged (40-50 y.o.) female african american TSA officer walked out of the terminal...never to be seen again. That is why I don't have her name/badge number. The remaining agents had a great attitude and even asked me about being a New York Jets fan, and how sorry they were to see the Jets loose to the new England Patriots on Monday Night Football the previous evening.

:(

Had I been a threat, I am glad to see that the invasive search would find contraband...but I feel that I did nothing to attribute such treatment...just that both the system of airport TSA and I were victim of a bitter person who may be unhappy in general, in a position to cause un-due misery to others for her own personal pleasure or self gratification. If you find this to be the case and a pattern with this TSA agent exists or a chemical imbalance or dependency, I hope that you body search her before releasing her to the proper authorities for re-programming or jail time.

Collaboratively,



(b)(6)



Contact Me    

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** RIDICULOUS!!!  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 12:34:43 AM

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Wow, I just returned from a trip to visit family in Medford, Oregon. I traveled with my two children, both under the age of 2 and my husband. My daughter had the flu when we were on our way home so I brought along our children's tylenol and children's ibuprofen. Well for some reason this medicine set some kind of alarm off as it went through a scanner...no idea what that means. Oh and can't you actually test the liquid??? Well since it was "my medicine" I needed to have the "GROPING MY GENITALS" procedure done. Well, that was a bit alarming to say the least! COMPLETELY UNCALLED FOR AND NOT LOGICAL WHATSOEVER!!!! I am appalled. I am sickened. Oh and since my cell phone was back in my pocket by this time since I didn't know I would be groped, I was touched a second time in the crotch after removing the cell phone..wait what! YUP, you perverts. There is no logical reason for this to be done to stop any kind of terrorist act..there are plenty of other ways to get a weapon in...oh maybe in the bum hole. Enjoy that PERVERTS. WHERE HAVE MY RIGHTS GONE???

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Screening experience at TPA  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 11:11:07 PM

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On November 6th at approximately 615 am I was going through Tampa (TPA) international airports screening area (for a flight outbound on Southwest). I was directed to go through a screening area and told to put up my arms. The machine scanned accross and back and I was led into a little corralled area and the man told me I wasn't to move until he got a call on his radio but I could watch my luggage. He then walked away without saying anything and a woman walked over with gloves on and said I had 2 abnormalities and she needed to pat me down. I don't have an issue when security screenings are done to ensure safety however I do have an issue with the way this was performed.

1. I don't mind being patted down if you think I have something on me but I do have an issue being patted down out in the open; no curtain or area set aside.
2. I was felt up not once, not twice but 3 times and this is was it was a feel up not a pat down.
3. When I asked a question, the person was rude.
4. I tried to explain I had surgery which means I have a shunt in my brain and tubing down through my neck and into my stomach. I asked if that could be what they saw and was told no abruptly and patted down/felt up the third time.

Nothing was found on me because I first of all would never carry anything I wasn't supposed to but was brought up as child in the military and know not to argue with the person in authority but I felt as if the staff at TPA need additional training. I don't believe they know how to read the new scanning equipment and I know they weren't given additional staff because after a few of us were put in the corral area, the lines at security backed up. I'm not saying screenings like this shouldn't be performed but the pat down would have been less evasive if I'd have gone in the bathroom, stripped and succumbed to a cavity search.

Also when I returned from my trip, I researched the new scanning equipment and the website showed that this new scanning equipment was optional. At no point in time was I told what would happen or was I given the choice to not go through nor was there signage to that effect anywhere near the security area.

Again my hope is not that security will lessen but that the staff who are performing these tasks perform them as they are intended to be performed.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 7:01:25 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 8:11:45 PM

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(b)(6)

....., WA ....

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 8:26:13 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:**

(b)(6)

on behalf of (b)(6)

**To:**

[OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)

**Subject:**

To Whom It Concerns,

**Date:**

Thursday, December 02, 2010 3:33:07 AM

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Greetings,

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(b)(6)

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 4:15:01 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint about body scanners and "enhanced pat-down" procedure  
**Date:** Monday, December 20, 2010 9:19:50 PM

---

On December 19th, I traveled out of SFO International Airport.

I was directed to the full-body scanner but was not notified of any alternatives, verbally or in writing. Knowing my rights, I opted out and was given the "enhanced patdown."

The specific TSA employee I interacted with was courteous and professional; however I still felt that it was a violation of my civil rights to subject me to an unreasonable search in violation of my 4th Amendment rights, and had I been someone with issues about bodily privacy like a transgender person, trauma survivor, or person with a disability, neither option would have been acceptable. As it was, having my head, breasts, groin, and waistband touched, even by a very professional screener, was physically intrusive and upsetting, despite the fact that I was well-informed ahead of time about what the screening would be like.

This is an unacceptable intrusion on our freedoms as enshrined in the Constitution. It is not OK to force the flying public to choose between a technologically-assisted strip search and a full-body groping.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Pat down procedure & TSA agent behavior  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 2:31:29 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to complain about the rudeness of the TSA agent, and the pat down procedure performed on me and my family flying out of Washington Dulles on 11/13/10 at approximately at 6pm. My family and I were placing our items in the baskets before the screening when the TSA agent mentioned that everyone has to go through the full body scanners and that it was mandatory. I didn't appreciate the tone or manner of this agent and the way he conveyed his message. I said we respectfully decline and will do the pat down instead. He kept insisting that we have to go through it and everyone does. He then kept asking why I don't want to go through it. I told him that I read about potential harmful radiation and the fact that you can see the person literally naked. Also I have a 3yr old daughter and I don't need a stranger seeing her naked on a machine. The TSA agent again said well there is more radiation flying on a plane. I said no lets do the pat down. He then called another agent and said a family of 3 has refused the scanner. I mentioned to him that we have no problem with going through the metal detectors but they didn't make us walk through them.

The pat down was performed on me and the agent explained what he would be doing before he started to pat my body down. He asked if I wanted to go to a private room and I refused. My wife also went through the pat down as well as my 3yr old daughter. The TSA agent said that a the pat down would be done on my daughter everywhere except for the inside of her legs. My concern is that is this type of screening on a 3yr child necessary? It's not only awkward but offensive that someone would subject a 3yr old getting felt all over by some stranger. Outside the airport something like this would be considered a crime. I hope someone in your office reads this and takes this matter seriously. Especially with your techniques on screening children. I also didn't appreciate the tone of the TSA agent and hope that this will be looked into as well.

Thank You

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TRAVELING  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010 10:09:47 PM

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Transportation Security Administration  
Office of Civil Rights and Liberties (TSA-6)  
External Compliance Division

Gentlemen: This mostly is asking on how to handle my personal situation on my future travel as I did not have a pleasant experience going thru security the past 25<sup>th</sup> of October in the morning from Houston Intercontinental Airport to Mexico.

Before in went thru the security arch I notified the officer that I recently had titanium and still implant put on my right femur and that I was sure the alarm was going to go off. His rude response was jut go and stand on the side. Then he proceeds to call for two women to check me. I was reprimanded at when I complaint that someone was walking away with on of my unattended items; then the women told me that they were going to touch me all over I ask them why ? When the reason the alarm went off was my femur, she said that was the law. They proceed to do the body search with such a force that I almost felt back various times. I felt so humiliated and violated that I started to cry and everyone watching thinking I perhaps was a terrorist or something. When they finish the woman that was standing next to me said: Well you know this is for your safety and the other passenger do you remember what happen in December? Beside next time ask for the x-ray machine...Sadly that night at my hotel listening to the news they announce about such body search were now taken place.

My question is why that man did not give me the option to go thru the x-ray machine? Why the agent has to use so much force when they touch you body? Why they do not receive more training on how to be more respectful?

I do travel a lot for business and visit family, what should I do the next time? Oh by the way on the way back the machine at the other airport did not even went off... Was their machine broken? I think that is were the security needs to be enforced as the passengers will be getting on a plane to the USA.

I guess this is a complaint.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA full body screening/pat down complaint  
**Date:** Sunday, November 14, 2010 1:11:50 PM

---

I wish to file a complaint regarding a pat down at the Boise, Idaho airport:

On Oct 21, 2010 I checked in for a flight from Boise to Sacramento. At approximately 7:30 I am I went through the TSA screening process. I was directed to the Full Body Scanner – which I did. No alarms went off but for some reason they decided I also needed a full pat down – no explanation was to why was given to me. Since I was running late I chose not to make an issue but I’m sorry I didn’t. I’m a 65 year old, grey-hair white female. I thought these full body scanners were supposed to see everything and eliminate the need for a pat down.

I may never fly again.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Urgent Complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 28, 2010 3:40:28 PM

---

I need to file an official complaint of behalf of my wife.

This morning, as my wife went through the security line at SFO, to catch her Alaska Airlines flight to Seattle, a TSA agent by the name of (b)(6) crossed the line with feeling up my wife.

My wife who is a frequent traveler said this was the most she has ever been violated. (b)(6) pulled back her waistband to feel her skin and looked down at my wives privates. She also took checking my wives between her legs to a whole new level. My wife is extremely upset, and felt as if she was being molested. She immediately contacted a supervisor.

How do your TSA agents get away with this. I understand it is about public safety, but you do not have to molest travelers who come through. This is absolutely absurd, and TSA needs to get their act together. This is only the first of my complaints, especially if i do not here back from whoever gets this notice.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** This needs to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, November 11, 2010 10:37:21 PM

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I would like to file a complaint with the TSA procedures of "security theatre"

The options of 1) either making paying passengers go through a machine which exposes their body and causes possible cancer risk  
or 2) being touched by a TSA officer

are not very appealing to anyone, as you may have noticed with the influx of complaints lately. These procedures are a harrowing experience and my fellow passengers and I detest being treated as criminals for the sake of sniffing out so called "terrorits" which cause less deaths in a year than car accident-related deaths in a week. Perhaps it would be more useful of the TSA to frisk everyone before they got into their car instead?

please, change your policy of these invasive searches, it is a gross violation of privacy and freedom - and might I add, there is little point in extensively frisking pilots and attendants because they *already have access to the cockpit* ! O\_o.

In case you're wondering: I'm a 16-year-old female that lives in the country above yours and *still* feels the need to do something about this issue.

LongStoryShort: You're going to lose a lot of passengers this year, which will make the airlines mad, which will put the government in a tough spot and.. they sign your paychecks! Good ol' Catch-22 here.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** current fear-based security  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:19:00 AM

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(b)(6)

On November 15, 2010, during my four hour shift as a (b)(6) I entered the security area at concourse B. I was directed to the full scanner, instructed to remove my belt. I heard someone say, "He is a (b)(6)." After being scanned, I was instructed to stand on the blue feet on the floor while being frisked full handedly. It was never explained to me why I was required to submit to this disrespectful mishandling. At the same time no one was watching my personal items in the tray on the table after being scanned by the machine. If I were to do a full shift walk through at the airport (four hours on Monday morning), I would need to pass through security four times during the shift. I will not submit to this invasion of my privacy. I am not flying on a plane. I am being of service to airport employees and passengers. I have resigned my (b)(6) position rather than be forced to be degraded by what I consider fear and ineptness.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:46:49 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 9:07:32 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Fourth amendment  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 8:53:38 PM

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I am writing not about a particular experience but about your use of sexual molestation and/or virtual strip searching of the general public in the name of protecting us. We are human beings. Treating us all as criminals demeans our nation and violates the principles on which this republic was founded.

The Fourth Amendment is supposed to protect us against unreasonable search and seizure and give us security of our person. Your current mode of operation violates this concept. I suspect it was precisely this kind of behavior on the part of the British that led to that law's enactment. (There ought to be a law -- oh, yes, there is one.)

Terrorists are already quite capable of inserting materials in body orifices and/or surgical implantation. Are you planning vaginal, rectal and ear/nose/throat exams next?

I understand the Israelis have a different system -- they talk with people, and their listeners are trained to discern likely suspects.

The Fourth Amendment does allow for search and seizure with a warrant issued on probable cause. Your administration is acting like the whole country is criminal and treating us all with less dignity than most criminals would be afforded. As the civil rights division, how would you have responded if an employee came to you complaining of similar behavior by another employee?

This sort of institutional behavior is precisely what leads to things like Nazi Germany == people accept more and more injustice and indignity in the name of protection, and wind up with concentration camps.

Stop. Please think. This is not freedom. It is the action of a police state.

Thanks for listening.

(b)(6)

Fourth Amendment:

*The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.*

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 28, 2010 8:55:50 PM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and include a link to this petition. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 7:31:30 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 2:16:01 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Complaint about Sexual Harassment during TSA Random Screening  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 15, 2010 4:57:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [TSA Complaint.doc](#)

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Please review attached document detailing repeated sexual harassment and inappropriate profiling during TSA Screening. If you have any questions feel free to contact me on my cellular phone.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Full Body Scanners  
**Date:** Thursday, November 11, 2010 3:32:11 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am the CEO of a technology company in New York City. I travel frequently and have begun to notice the trend of installing full body scanners in airports. I believe these scanners violate the privacy of the individuals of those who chose to walk through them and, while I am not an expert, I am concerned with the potential health risks as well.

Please count me in among the many who support the immediate removal of these devices. I will never walk through this device.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint about Screening Policy  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 4:05:30 PM

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I am simply appalled at this new policy. As an abuse victim, I can not stand the thought of someone patting me down or doing this type of scan. Because I live in **Alaska**, I have really no options but to fly when I want to leave the State and, this fact, as well as the policy, makes me feel trapped.

I truly believe this country is going down a slippery slope in taking away our rights for the sake of safety. These intrusive acts toward citizens are humiliating and go against our right to privacy and 4th amendment rights against unreasonable searches. What probable cause do you have to search me?

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

For a government agency to assume the position that people have a choice not to fly and therefore avoid the search is unreasonable and works to violate our basic civil rights.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 1:45:59 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [Civil Liberties; OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:Civil.Liberties;OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 12:35:00 AM

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[civil.liberties@dhs.gov](mailto:civil.liberties@dhs.gov)  
[TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)

I am writing to express my concern that you are grossly deteriorating the quality of life and actual freedom of all Americans who must travel through our airports. Touching the genitals of my family, wife or children is unacceptable for any reason. Taking nude images of my family, wife or children is also unacceptable for any reason. Your organization has shamed America. These methods do not keep us safe. Other proven methods of security are appropriate, and you should not be confused by misworded polls of only 1000 Americans that people approve of your policies and actions. And how much money does Mr. Chertoff make for each pornographic scanner that you purchase? This is the most disgusting act I have witnessed our government authorize for its citizens.

Please hear these words.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Unacceptable  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 4:39:58 PM

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Hello,

I want to let you know that because of extremely rude and invasive TSA scanings and pat-downs, my family and I will not be flying anymore. There is no way I'm going to allow some \$15 per hour pervert to look at my wife and minor-children naked with that backscatter strip search thing. It's only a matter of time before some pissed off TSA guy releases a ton of these photos on the web and mine won't be one of them.

If I ever have to fly again you can be sure that I'll opt out of the back scatter thing and tie up the line with a long pat-down.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Backscatter or Public Molestation: NO.  
**Date:** Thursday, November 11, 2010 7:20:06 PM

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I had planned to shuttle my immediate family to see relatives for the upcoming thanksgiving holiday, and to shuttle a full 40 members of the extended family to our home for Christmas at very considerable cost. However, now that I and my family (containing pregnant women and small children who would NOT be medically exposed to even a mild digital dental x-ray without a lead apron) are forced to choose a medically untenable choice between backscatter full body X-ray radiation, or an invasive intentionally traumatizing genital exam IN PUBLIC meant to scare others into scanners... none of us will be purchasing a single flight. This means we have to stay home for the holidays, but the alternative is absolutely unacceptable. I refuse to pay for the honor of having my children and myself demeaned.

If you think our economy is bad now, do you really think it can support the loss in domestic and international air travel due to unwarranted and deliberately coercive public molestation tactics? If you think pilots rebelling is bad, what about the international community who will refuse to fly here because they will be molested when they try to leave? If your real aim is to utterly cripple the airline industry, this is a solid move. When you hire moron at the security lines who are unprofessional even BEFORE this, how can we trust them, or you at all? None of the security staff I have encountered in more than 6 metropolitan airports have been professional, rather they have been little better than mall cops. I do not trust them to administer x-rays, touch my children, or to honor confidentiality. Put simply, this policy is pure failure.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** You are doing more to terrorize my family than the mid-eastern terrorists.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 9:16:23 PM

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Read this all the way through please. I am appalled and angry as hell about this new level of personal assault you call and enhanced pat-down. I know what you are up against, saying we don't understand the threat or cunningness of the terrorists is disingenuous.

I am an amputee. I get the full-meal-deal, every time - every airport. I don't like it but put up with it. Now you want to assault my wife. She was sexually abused as a child. It took years of counseling and work to help her put that behind her and us. Now, YOUR threat of unwanted genital touching threatens that recovery. We don't have a scanner in Manchester, NH (as of when I left for business). You would understand the ramifications of re-trauma if I talked about a combat vet and PTSD but you ignore this group of law-abiding citizens who have clawed their back from a dark place of trauma.. Why? The TSA now represents a terror threat much more immediate and far more probable than mid-east terrorist. In addition there is the sense of betrayal -this assault comes from our own government - that we pay more for every single year. Don't say, "You don't understand". Don't say its been overblown - you are talking to a guy who gets a pat-downs on a regular basis, she has watched me go through this numerous time and those observations where before you went "enhanced"

I am not a civil rights nut, I am a conservative. I know we need security but there has to be a better way! You are assaulting the wrong people! You are assaulting the good guys. Find another way!

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** No to ineffective and abusive TSA procedures  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:46:01 PM

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I am writing to say that I object to the TSA's use of both full-body backscatter x-ray airport scanners and "enhanced" physical pat downs. Furthermore I do not believe that TSA's procedures deter or control the risk of violent terrorist acts.

I am opposed to the full-body backscatter x-ray airport scanners on grounds of health and privacy.

Backscatter X-ray uses ionizing radiation, a known cumulative health hazard, to produce images of passengers' bodies. Children, pregnant women, the elderly, and those with defective DNA repair mechanisms are considered to be especially susceptible to the type of DNA damage caused by ionizing radiation. Also at high

risk are those who have had, or currently have, skin cancer. Ionizing radiation's effects are cumulative, meaning that each time I or my son or family are exposed we have increased risk of developing cancer. The eyes are particularly susceptible to the effects of radiation, and as one study found allowing the eyes to be exposed to radiation can lead to an increased incidence of cataracts.

The imaging devices allow strip searches to be conducted on a wide-scale level and without any probable cause or legal warrant. That they are automated

and mechanical in no way changes the fact that when a government agent looks beneath your clothing you are being strip searched. These strip searches are being performed without any probable cause or reasonable suspicion, as primary screening. These images are so detailed they are like looking at a person without their clothes. Examples of people being ridiculed, images being stolen

and traded and already accumulating. With the addition of children's images, this could amount to mass government sanctioned child pornography. And again, this is without any cause and without any real benefit to safety.

The "enhanced" patdowns amount to nothing more than a means for TSA to abuse their authority and motivate citizens to submit to the imaging scanner. This is clear abuse of authority and should NEVER be tolerated. The physical groping is the same as would be done to a known criminal but instead it is being

done to supposedly free law-abiding American citizens as a means of INTIMIDATION. American children are being groped inappropriately by Government Officials. Without any probable cause. It is an absolute OUTRAGE.

Finally, these and other procedures by the TSA are completely ineffective at deterring violent terrorist acts. The only approach that is both effective and ethical is to use Intelligence and Profiling. Until we do that we will not every NEVER be even a little but safe. I do not feel any more safe as a consequence of these devices or procedures. I actually feel at more risk because now i am being victimized not only by Islamic terrorists but also by my own Government.

I do not consent to strip searches, virtual or otherwise. I do not wish to be guinea pigs for new, and possibly dangerous, technology. I am not a criminal. I am a consumer of airline service and I do not HAVE to fly. I will not wait for the government to do the right thing. I will simply stop flying until the porno-scanners are history. I will not be abused simply for the privilege of purchasing airline services. I demand the airlines make their maximum lobbying effort in support of their customers', rights and liberties. I am eager to fly again, but only when this invasive threat has been contained.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Law Abiding Free American Citizen

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 9:15:56 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint - airport search system  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:34:07 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am traveling this next month with my family, and have the responsibility to my wife and children to ensure their safety. Part of that safety is to prevent violation of their persons. I believe that the safety system being set in use by the TSA violates their persons, no matter which option (pat down, full body scan) is taken. I therefore object to this system, and request an alternate be found that does not require violations of their persons.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:58:05 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Please outlaw the body scanners and enhanced pat downs  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 7:08:49 PM

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1. Stop assaulting our wives, humiliating our grandparents, and molesting our children.
2. Ron Paul has it right, in that "enough is enough."
3. Recognize that risk is part of life, and we'd rather live free or die.
4. Abolish the TSA, as they lack reasonableness and common sense, then prosecute the TSA for their crimes.
5. Stop treating innocent people like criminals
6. Please recognize that people have difference (survivors of rape, child abuse, religious beliefs, etc.)
7. Please stop one of the most embarrassment moments in our history.
8. Please don't act like better solutions do not exist.
9. Please don't act like this is really about safety, cause if that was the case, the highway speed limit would be 30 mph.
10. Please don't act like the terrorists can't get past any level of security that is ever designed.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:36:15 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Strenuously object to the body scanners and new pat down rules  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 1:04:21 AM

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As a frequent flyer, I strenuously object to these new rules and feel they are a violation of my right to privacy.

If this would guarantee that we would then be 100% safe when flying then I would agree to this invasion of my privacy.

However, we all know that this is not the case since terrorists will just change their tactics in response to yours.

What's next, a cavity search?

Please implement a more rational policy such as profiling.

(b)(6)

PS... In an effort to make it really easy for you to look me up as well as my frequent flying habits, I am including contact information.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 9:19:45 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)  
To: [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa.dhs.gov)  
Subject: Civil rights complaint  
Date: Monday, November 15, 2010 3:35:16 PM

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[http://www.tsa.gov/what\\_we\\_do/civilrights/travelers.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/civilrights/travelers.shtm)

Your page above states, "Quite simply, our policy statement assures travelers they will be treated in a fair, lawful and nondiscriminatory manner."

This is incorrect, and I file hereby a formal complaint against the TSA and its policy of using so-called nude body scanners, "backscatter" imaging devices, at airports, and the so-called alternative "enhanced pat-down". I also formally complain against the enhanced search such as was randomly carried out against me on my last flight: I was patted down, all contents of my baggage were taken out and examined, the contents of my wallet were examined, and so forth.

As a United States citizen with no felony convictions, I reserve the right to fly through public airways, within my state and inter-state, using public airports and public/private air planes on this basis:

First, the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution explicitly forbids both types of searches that the TSA is conducting in this regard: it states that my right to be secure in my person and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures is to be held inviolate, and *if there is probable cause*, then a warrant is required.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Because of my clear criminal history and my citizenship, and no evidence pointing to an intent by me, there can be no probable cause: there certainly was no evidence "in plain sight".

Thus, you clearly broke (and are breaking) the law -- the constitution -- and you should be incarcerated in a federal prison for the same. There is no exception that renders the fourth amendment void in the case of "so people will feel safe." This is not a matter of judicial interpretation, nor is it academic question of philosophy: it is the plain language of the highest law in our land.

The argument that I have heard that "this is not a violation of the fourth amendment because you can choose not to fly" is the same as a political prisoner in China being told that house arrest is not a violation of his liberties, because "you can choose not to leave your home, and in that case you won't encounter our restrictions."

It cannot be argued that being stripped naked, in style of the death camp victims of the holocaust, is *\*not\** a violation of one's person, nor can it be argued that the touching of ones private body parts (frankly of *any* body part) is not likewise a violation of one's person.

Now, I believe that most of the TSA and DHS employees are probably decent people who are "just doing their jobs". But every law enforcement officer ought to calmly refuse to carry out orders that violate the law (and the Constitution is the highest law) that they are sworn to defend.

Frankly, sirs and madams, it would seem that the TSA poses a greater threat to this nation than islamic extremists -- the extremists may sting the skin of our national body, but the corruption that breeds such violations of citizens' rights as this is truly systemic; I hope that you will change your policies as soon as possible.

Please acknowledge by email your receipt of this formal complaint. Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Enhanced pat downs  
**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2010 2:52:06 PM

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On November 20, 2010, our family went to JFK airport to travel to Antigua on vacation. When we went through security, my 14-year old daughter was selected for an enhanced pat down. She did not set off the metal detector but apparently was selected because she was wearing a sweatshirt (a tight-fitting one). As the TSA officer explained to her that they were going to run their hands over her breasts, she began to tremble and cry. I told them that we would like to go through the scanner and was told that that was not an option. I continued to refused to give my permission for them to molest my daughter and ultimately they agreed to have her strip off her sweatshirt instead. This left her basically standing there in the airport in her underwear in front of everyone but that was preferable to her than being touched in an intimate way by a stranger. She was still humiliated and has been traumatized by the experience.

I am vehemently opposed to the new pat down procedure. In my opinion, this screening is public child molestation and I cannot believe that this is allowed to happen in America. I know that I would feel violated myself if this had happened to me as an adult but young teenagers are exquisitely self-conscious about their bodies. We have told our children that they have the right to tell anyone not to touch their private parts. What are we supposed to tell them now? It is my understanding that if you or your child is selected for the enhanced pat down, you do not even have the right to refuse and just leave the airport without facing possible fines or arrest. This is not just a slippery slope, we have already gone way too far towards the loss of personal liberties. What do we hold more dear than the right to control our own bodies?

I have heard people who support the screening procedures say that you have the choice not to fly but the new security procedures were implemented only shortly before our trip, so we did not have a choice. Many people are required to fly for work, so they do not have a choice. But I do have a choice now, and I will not fly again. I am not afraid of the terrorists but I am terrified that I will be forced to stand by helplessly and watch my children be molested. The terrorists have already won if we allow them to force us to be subjected to this humiliation.

My daughter is not even 90 pounds and was wearing form-fitting clothing. No reasonable person would consider it possible that she could be concealing anything or that she is a threat to security. There was a middle-eastern man wearing flowing religious robes and an ornate head turban ahead of us in line and he walked right through security. I understand the arguments against profiling and they are valid but there needs to be a better balance between being politically correct and being effective. We are being asked to give up our personal freedoms and that should not be taken lightly. We have the right to expect that the screening are carried out in a judicious manner where they will do the most good and the least harm.

Respectfully yours,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 8:28:04 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:46:13 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:31:41 PM

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** den"t touch my junk  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:25:47 AM

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Dear TSA,

You do NOT have the right to touch me there. You do NOT have the right to take pictures of me naked. I flew from Boston to Austin yesterday and watched as passengers were groped and porno scanned. It was humiliating to even be witness to such violations of basic human dignity. THEY WERE GROPED IN PUBLIC! If you did that on a subway train you would be maced, pepper-sprayed and arrested!

The culture of fear you thrive on by propagating is noxious and you need to stop drinking your own poisonous kool-aid.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint about treatment of female passengers this past week  
**Date:** Thursday, November 25, 2010 10:25:28 PM

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This week in the news, two outrageous stories surfaced over TSA treatment of female passengers.

One woman was forced to an extensive pat-down in her groin because she was wearing a reusable pantyliner and your \*female\* agents apparently did not know what that was. Here is a record of her story, as she emailed it to the company that makes the pantyliners: <http://blog.gladrags.com/2010/11/24/tsa-groin-searches-menstruating-woman/> Oh, and she was also a survivor of sexual abuse. How do you think she felt?

Another woman was forced to miss her flight and was threatened with arrest for not playing along with the TSA when she asked that her breast milk not be x-rayed: <http://blog.gladrags.com/2010/11/24/tsa-groin-searches-menstruating-woman/> The TSA agents involved actually asked her why the liquid was not clear (I don't know about you, but I've never seen clear milk, nor have I ever seen a functioning adult uneducated enough to ask that question), and then told her that, despite the list of TSA rules she had claiming it was a medical liquid, that it would not be treated as a medical liquid "today."

When are these abuses going to stop?

With these offenses, and the privacy invasion/health risks of the x-ray scanner, transportation security is becoming a ludicrous joke. Just because, at SOME points in the past, SOME morally bankrupt individuals found ways to harm people on planes does not mean it is the norm. Do we have armed police officers, drug-sniffing dogs and metal detectors at all public schools because SOMETIMES, people have brought weapons to schools? No. I had none of these at my high school. Nor do we have these same sorts of security measures on trains, buses or around malls.

The fact of the matter is that at some point you need to draw the line between actual security and just show. I recently flew from San Antonio to Portland, OR and had a bottle of lotion lying free in my purse, not in the designated quart-size plastic bag (which I also had, but forgot to put the lotion in it). Was I stopped? No. Did any TSA agent even mention it? No. I also think it's completely ridiculous to assume people are going to harm others with more than 3 oz of lotion, but the point is what the TSA is doing is largely for SHOW and is not making us any safer. Case in point: Adam Savage makes it onto a plane with foot-long razor blades: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/mythbusters%E2%80%99-adam-savage-tsa-scanner-missed-my-foot-long-razor-blades.html>

Your agency needs to pay much closer attention to the actions of its agents and to reexamine its policies. None of this behavior is acceptable for a government branch of the most powerful, and up until recently the most FREE nation in the world.

I can assure you that I will avoid flying out of any airport that employs these security measures until you begin treating citizens--especially menstruating women and mothers carrying breast milk--as people, and not criminals. Maybe I'll try

something like <http://www.seaportair.com/>; I'm sure these sorts of airlines will become far more common if the TSA continues its abuses of respectable citizens.

Thank you for reading.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-external@compliance.tsa](mailto:OCH-external@compliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 4:47:37 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 6:18:31 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 4:05:27 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on [Change.org](http://Change.org), viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Denver Airport Security Screening Complaint  
**Date:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 2:33:26 PM

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To Whom it Might Concern,

On November the 30th I was at the Bush Airport in Houston approximately at 8:00 A.M. for my United Airlines Flight 367 leaving at 11:35

I was traveling with my Partner who had a Pat Down and cleared within 5 minutes. I in turn was subjected to both a Body Scan and a Pat Down. I understand the need for security and I am usually very supportive of the work being done by the airport personnel however in this case I was highly appalled and came close to blowing my temper. However because of the touchiness of our security environment I kept my cool. But the more I think about this incident the angrier I become and I feel I was unjustly subjected to a double search.

I was directed to the body scanner without being asked if I wanted to choose a body scanner or a pat down. I was under the impression that I had a choice of either a body scan or a pat down and not both. Once the body scanner was over I was directed by a female officer a few steps over and she proceeded to pat me down with out asking me if it was ok. She proceeded to put her hands into my waist band never acknowledging me. I was never told why I was subject to both I did not set off any alarms as far as I know.

I felt like I was singled out and I had to keep my cool otherwise they would really push the search. I feel that the TSA personnel need to be conscientious of a persons personal space and body and should be cognoscente of giving that person information about what they are being asked to do. I would have been so ok with being body searched or scanned but I was not ok with being treated like cattle with no mind of their own. The crowd at the airport was very light on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and so I can't give the TSA this excuse.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [undisclosed-recipients](#)  
**Subject:** Atrocity!  
**Date:** Sunday, December 26, 2010 4:46:45 AM

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Just read:

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2013733774\\_scanners22.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2013733774_scanners22.html)

This backscatter x-ray policy is just a gross violation of human rights, human decency, human health, this is an absolutely atrocity!

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#); [Civil Liberties](#); [tsacomplaints@eff.org](mailto:tsacomplaints@eff.org)  
**Subject:** flying wed 24 complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:47:00 AM

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I will flying on the 24th and plan to do that opt out. I will not be screened by your x-ray machine and be harmed by its radiation. I do not agree with your pat down either but that is the lesser of two evils. I plan to do this anytime I travel. my father died of skin cancer and I won't get it from your x-ray machines that experts in the field say is dangerous.

your pat downs are intrusive and not right.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** 4th Amendment rights are bieng violated  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:44:10 PM

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You have made mockery the word liberty.

TSA TSA how many tits have you touched to day?

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 5:11:28 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [undisclosed-recipients](#)  
**Subject:** New screening process  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 10:59:33 PM

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I STRONGLY OBJECT to TSA's new screening process! This new screening process amounts to nothing more than sexual assault of the innocent traveling public!

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Disability Complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 28, 2010 7:57:19 PM

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My complaint deals with the procedures I have been subjected to at Philadelphia International Airport. All the issues have occurred at terminal "A" East (American Airlines). The dates have included 11/16, 12/6 and 12/13.

Because of a disability I wear braces on both lower legs and am a frequent business traveler. Due to my disability I can not remove the shoes or braces prior to proceeding through the security areas. Prior to 11/16 I would proceed through the magnetometers with my shoes & braces still on (the braces are primary made of carbon fiber and do not alarm when passing through the magnetometers) and then have the swab procedure done on my shoes & braces **with no pat down procedure** - which I understand & agree with.

Since on 11/16 I still proceed through the magnetometers with my shoes & braces still on but now I have been subjected to both the swab test and the "enhanced pat down procedure". In my opinion I am being selected for the enhanced pat down purely on the basis of my disability which is illegal.

Interesting when I travel through O'Hare airport (both before & after 11/16) I am not subjected to the enhanced pat down procedure - only the swab test.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [Civilrights, TSA](#)  
**Subject:** Inappropriate Screening process  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 2:17:29 PM

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**I originally send a message about this to TSA on 11/10/10 Thy have acknowledged receipt yet I have still not received a response. Complaint (b)(6) regarding the new screening procedure which (1) is not listed on your website (the old procedure is still listed) (2) does not comply with your stated mission statement and core values. This is a degrading process that needs to be changed. I am flying again next week and can't bear to go through this again.**

**In addition, all three airports I was "felt up" by your security personnel, had xray machines available but TSA chose not to use them. Why?**

**FOr your convenience, I have attached a copy of my original email below. Feel free to call me if you would like more detail or clarification. Your prompt response would be appreciated. Thank you. (b)(6)**

**I have 2 metal hips and have been very comfortable with your safety measures in the past. This new strategy is creepy, disgusting and from my perspective, pointless. Therefore I am interested in knowing about your new method of keeping our country safe by touching my groin area 4xs.**

- (1) What is the purpose of getting felt all over and in addition touched in the groin area 4 times?**
- (2) Thank God, I wore pants on my most recent trip. If I had worn a dress, would they have to stick their hands up my dress or pull it up to reach my groin area? I often wear dresses on flights, what's your procedure there?**
- (3) Why don't you check the bottom of my feet anymore?**
- (4) Who came up with this idea?**
- (5) Is this done to passengers traveling with the president to keep the president safe if it is such a great idea?**
- (6) What type of background check do you do on your "agents"? How can I feel assured they are not sexual deviants?**

**I don't even want to fly anymore if I have to be subject to this degradation every time. Your prompt response is appreciated.**

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 1:16:09 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Inappropriate new screening techniques  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 12:24:43 AM

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I am traveling home for the holidays, and I have to fly. I cannot undergo x-rays without medical reason, and I think the new pat-down screening techniques are invasive and inappropriate. Your organization is forcing passengers to choose between a virtual strip search or what is effectively sexual assault. Your new regulations violate American citizens' 4th amendment right not to be unreasonably searched. I am not a criminal, and I do not deserve to be treated as such. Your new screening techniques are humiliating and potentially harmful to American citizens, ineffective against terrorism, and unconstitutional. I implore you to quickly reevaluate your methods, and have some respect for personal rights in doing so.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** tsa  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 7:01:53 PM

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Hello, we are flying at Christmas out of Reno, NV.  
Both my mother and myself have artificial knees. So I am to understand we will both be felt up in our privates in public because of our setting off the metal detectors?  
THIS is a clear violation of our privacy rights and being singled out due to artificial knees.

If this is the case we are seriously considering not flying and just staying home, I find this so unacceptable I would rather wait till we can make the 1200 mile drive.

Someone please let me know, thank you. (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Molested at Check Point  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 11:43:34 PM

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To Whom it May Concern-

I would like to officially express my disgust for your pat-down and body scanner policy. Maybe, and only maybe, it would not be so bad if your people did not treat passengers like criminals in the process, but as it is they do, and this is 100% unacceptable.

INCIDENT TIME: appx 4:30am  
DATE: Nov. 23, 2010  
WHERE: Boston Logan Airport  
AIRLINE: Southwest

**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:**

I was attempting to return home to California from Boston, where I am currently a (b)(6) graduate student. I went through the body scanner because I was not given an alternative. The scanner apparently detected something it didn't like. I was told to go sit in a chair and that I would have to wait because there was not a female supervisor around to grope, I mean pat me down. When I asked if this would affect my flight I was told "probably not". Considering I have been separated from my 18 month year old son, this news made me panic but I sat there waiting, waiting, waiting. In the meantime, I was treated like a suspected terrorist. For example, when I asked to use my phone to call my husband and my lawyer, I was told "no". When I was asked if I "had lost my rights as an American citizen" the supervisor on duty said "yes". At this point I became very, very frightened and I began to cry. It is a terrible, horrible feeling to be treated like a criminal. I think you people should be ashamed of yourselves for treating tax-paying, hardworking, loyal Americans this way. When I stood up out of my chair, a young TSA person screamed at me like a prison guard. I began to cry harder. No one tried to talk to me. Instead, they chatted about break times, the party they had been to the night before and then again about breaks. Break-time seemed to be the only thing they cared about. Finally, the female supervisor showed up and proceeded to touch me in ways that only my husband does. I was shaking by the time it was over. It was molestation, pure and simple. Touching someone's vagina is molestation and that is what your TSA people did. Nobody should be able to touch you like that unless they have a very, very good reason. Nobody offered to show me the x-ray as evidence that something was fishy or suspicious. I just got molested, lost my rights as an American, was treated like a terrorist, screamed at like a criminal, and finally, I was dismissed as though I was not just put through the ringer. I walked away crying and your TSA people began chatting again about breaks.

I am looking into pressing charges against the TSA. I fly all the time and now I am scared to death. I should not have to go through such things. I have no criminal background. I have nothing suspicious about me. The TSA staff is incompetent, rude, uneducated, and cares nothing for the people they hurt. You have failed us all.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Cc:** [Civil Liberties](#)  
**Subject:** "Enhanced screenings"  
**Date:** Friday, November 26, 2010 2:04:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [BackGrnd1.jpg](#)

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I am writing to complain about the so-called 'enhanced screening' techniques being implemented at airports.

I refuse to use the 'naked body scanners' which are dangerous and a gross invasion of privacy. I also refuse to allow someone to grope me in a technique that would be classified a crime in any other setting.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** ?Civil Rights?  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 11:54:50 AM

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To whom it may concern,

Your web page specifically mentions the "traveler's civil rights", but I am afraid – actually scared to death – that you do not understand what this means to certain people.

Last night, I asked my wife, "can we fly, if there is a risk you might have to have an enhanced security pat-down?" And her answer was, "No!"

We don't fly a lot, but we have in the past for special occasions like our anniversary, or special family events.

My wife was molested as a child. It has taken MANY, MANY years for her to get 'past it'. Even today, I could innocently mention the man's name, and she would start shaking. She will NEVER get over it. It is a burned scar in her soul.

Personally, I do NOT believe you understand her 'civil rights' or you would realize that procedures and processes like what you have implemented have a HUGE impact on otherwise law abiding and good 'citizens of the United States'.

So you have without legal process, legal review, act or law of Congress instituted processes and procedures condemning my wife and I to be denied one of the few pleasures we have had in the past. Forever.....

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** patdowns and xrays  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 6:35:24 PM

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As a occasional flier, I am very upset about the incident with the flight attendant who had to produce her breast prosthesis. As a breast cancer survivor with a prosthesis myself, I will be mortified the next time I fly, if there is a next time. Please figure out a discrete way to handle situations such as this.!!

Thank you

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](#); [Civilrights.TSA](#)  
**Subject:** New security procedures.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010 1:55:21 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I have serious concerns about the potential health risks of the recently adopted whole body backscatter X-ray airport security scanners. Additionally, I find the new pat down procedures to be invasive. Both are unnecessary and a violation of privacy, in fact, I would call them unreasonable search and hence, unconstitutional.

It is not acceptable and I'm furious.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Recent Experience at Norfolk Airport Security  
**Date:** Monday, November 01, 2010 4:02:30 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

Yesterday I was traveling from the Norfolk, VA airport and had a very unpleasant and offensive experience with TSA officer (b)(6)

I removed my shoes, liquids, etc and placed them on the conveyor belt. I was traveling wearing only pajama pants and a t shirt. I had no accessories, no pockets, and did not set off the metal detector. Immediately after going through the metal detector I was told a pat down was going to be performed. The officer proceeded to pat me down with no explanation. Her procedure included touching my breast area and rubbing the inside of my pajama pants. The most absurd and offensive part included her cupping each side of my vagina separately. Because my pajama pants were not thick, this meant she had fingers INSIDE my vagina. TWICE during the "pat down"...once for each time she cupped me. I felt molested and taken advantage of after the officer finished. There was no explanation of why such an invasive search was performed.

This was all done only two feet past the metal detector. Since it was the only line open at that time of day, everyone was forced to watch me as they waited for the line to move again.

The experience was humiliating and degrading. Is there someone I can talk to about this experience? Is this type of search part of TSA policy? I understand we need to protect our country and perform random searches, but why was this so invasive? Why was I not given an explanation? Why was I forced to do this in front of an audience of 20+ people?

I am happy to do whatever it takes to get through security. I just want to know what the policies and expectations are when selected for a pat down. With each movement she made, I felt startled! We are all in a vulnerable position as we go through a TSA pat down and there is an understanding that we just let the security guards do whatever they need to do. I'm not able to put up a fuss because I want to be able to get on my plane. This officer was taking advantage of this position. Please let me know what the next steps are in filling a more formal complaint.

Thank you.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 1:08:13 PM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Civil Rights  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:15:17 AM  
**Importance:** High

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Traveling shouldn't mean checking your rights when you're checking your luggage. Yet, more and more, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is asking Americans to sacrifice their privacy for an illusion of security. I strongly urge you to put in place security measures that actually make us more secure without compromising passenger privacy. You have said that "Advanced Imaging Technology" scanners are "safe, efficient, and protect passenger privacy." But, the truth is that the GAO and experts have raised serious questions about the effectiveness of these machines and whether they could possibly justify the invasion of privacy involved. Authorities at DHS say you can opt out of the naked scan. But doing so will subject you to new and highly invasive manual searches of your body, including your intimate parts by TSA officers. In addition, DHS has claimed the right to search and seize the laptops and other electronic devices of international travelers. Never before have customs officers been able to routinely pore through a lifetime's worth of letters, photographs, purchase records and other data without any basis for suspicion. I am calling on you to rein in these invasive searches, and to implement security measures that respect passengers' privacy rights. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** new security machine, pat-down  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 3:56:29 PM

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I just want to offer my comment about the new system. I tried to remain neutral before going through the procedure, but now that I have been through it (FLL, November 23, 8 am), I completely understand why there is so much resentment and anger.

It's quite uncomfortable to hold your arms over your head for as long as they ask you to and I did not relish the exposure to the radiation, or to the scrutiny of the men. Having done that, I still needed a body search, although I cannot even begin to guess why. It was as bad a procedure as "everyone" has been writing about, specifically, it knocked me off balance - literally - so badly that I thought I might fall down.

If I sent this to the wrong email address at TSA, please forward it to the correct one. You may contact me for more info if it will help you decide to modify your procedure to something both secure and respectful.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:36:46 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 8:41:43 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Full body scans and enhanced pat-downs  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 8:55:43 PM

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I have two teenage daughters and I would like to be able to travel with them. However I don't see how, in good conscience, I can subject them to the "enhanced security procedures" that they may encounter.

In fact, I don't see how these enhanced security procedures can be considered anything other than child molestation. Nobody but their doctor has the right to see them naked or touch them in private areas. Security is important, but pushing it to these limits is excessive. The incremental security improvements are tiny, and the process is vile. For children, women, those with prosthetics and ostomy bags in particular the experience is outrageous. Piled on top of the inconvenience of not being able to take a bottle of water from home to the plane it is just too much.

In addition, since these procedures will inevitably continue the process of continuing to push people from planes to cars, these procedures are responsible for a significant number of automotive fatalities.

America is a country that stands for freedom and liberty and civil rights, but the TSA seems willing to throw these out in order to defend us. If we throw away those rights then we have lost. To use a now trite phrase, if we continue with these enhanced security procedures then the terrorists have won.

Please reconsider. This is too much.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Security Pat Down BOS  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 8:11:05 PM

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Hello

**TSA Security Pat Down Procedure, Boston Logan**

I consider the degrading, aggressive pat-down by your staff at BOS to be construed as a sexual assault.

If have consulted my lawyers having taken their names and numbers which will be furnished to you but I fully intend to pursue a private prosecution along with serving an international arrest warrant for the operatives' immediate detention - and I have asked my lawyers to seek this as soon as possible. My lawyers believe there is scope and justification for doing so.

I will NOT tolerate being sexually assaulted simply because I have to travel to and from the United States - and those responsible will face the full due process of the law which I will not be satisfied with until they are detained and charged under the criminal code for sexual assault.

Your comments appreciated - and those staff at Boston-Logan will be held to account - no matter what.

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:06:30 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:**

(b)(6)

**To:**

[OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)

**Subject:**

searches

**Date:**

Sunday, November 21, 2010 9:07:59 AM

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I just want to know what are you going to do when the first bad guy  
Gets on a plane with 3 lbs of c4 up inside his colon.  
Then will everyone attempting to fly be subject to full cavity searches.  
Including babies, nuns, 80 year olds and frequent business flyers?  
When are we going to wise up and start searching for terrorists and not weapons?  
Political correctness will be our undoing. This situation is nutz.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** COMPLAINT & expected resolution  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 7:40:21 AM

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On 11/20/10 at about 2:50 pm, I went through the TSA security screening checkpoint at CVG airport. I could not have been treated more rudely and in fact unconstitutionally.

Please note that I am not the most modest person. I've been around the block, I've had surgeries and cancer with difficult therapies all of which throw your modesty out the window. Yet after what I went through at the security screening checkpoint at CVG, I feel uncomfortable talking to my wife about this.

Having had three surgeries, all of which have placed metal into my body, it was not surprising that the metal detector went off. Being an experienced flier, I wasn't surprised. I was identified as a "male assist."

The TSA "agent" was clearly full of himself. He talked loudly and presented himself in a commanding "look down on you" kind of way. Multiple times while waiting in line before and after the screening while I was putting my clothes and shoes back on, I saw him grab some small bottle of something, march up to the front and announce to people, "Listen up people, carry on liquids MUST be three ounces or less!!"

Anyway, the first thing he tells me is that I could avoid the enhanced search in the future IF the body scanner machine was working. I have been wanded umpteen times and I had heard about "enhanced patdowns" so I was prepared, BUT NOT FOR WHAT THIS AGENT DID TO ME. He certainly did a full patdown, including running his hands up my inner thighs (both front and back) until he examined my scrotum and he made no effort when patting down the front of my pants to avoid my penis. I remember thinking about being a smart ass and asking him if he detected a hernia, but chose to keep my mouth shut. Quite honestly, I was startled at this point. I tried to catch his badge number but didn't get it.

Reluctantly, I decided I better file a complaint. I was sent to the security station where the supervisors "on high" sitting a good few feet higher than me were seated. I spoke with Supervisor ST50 (b)(6). She said she would take my complaint and correct the agent. She came down from her perch to talk with me. I explained to her very clearly what I explained above. I asked the name and badge number of the agent and pointed him out. She refused to give me his name or badge number and insisted that she would correct him. She also insisted that she was sure his actions were unintentional. Well, I asked her how she could possibly know that and she had no answer. Clearly they were intentional. But it doesn't matter intent. She claimed that the patdowns were how he was trained. Like that makes it alright. So I asked her what reasonable cause (I am an unassuming 57 year old white guy who presented no threat) that resulted in him invading my privacy and my fourth amendment rights. Again she had no answer, which quite honestly, is even a bit more disturbing than being groped, because it shows we have a TSA force that has no concept of the Constitution and personal liberty.

The airports "threat advisory" was orange Saturday, the same level that it was the last time I flew, yet I was singled out to be abused because I happen to have metal implants. I heard on the radio today that the TSA has announced that only people who set off metal detectors will be subject to the enhanced patdowns. So that true terrorists just have to be metal free to sneak their non-metallic explosives on board on their bodies? I don't have much confidence that TSA does much to prevent terrorism. The fact that enhance patdowns will be done on only those setting off a metal detector just tells that my confidence is well founded.

I would like some concrete feedback about this complaint to know that this agent has been disciplined or terminated. If you can find no record of this incident, I will make the trip to CVG and point out both the supervisor and the agent and review the incident again. I fly out of CVG on November 29<sup>th</sup>, again going through Delta's security screening and am a bit worried about it. In fact, I probably would just cancel the flight if not for the fact that I am accompanying my 84 year old mother back to TPA because she recently had her hip replaced and she doesn't like traveling by herself. I am sending on this complaint to my congressperson as well as Delta.

I am looking forward to your response

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov  
**Subject:** Civil Rights violation  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 03, 2010 6:10:57 PM

---

Airport: Nashville flight Delta #3839

I am completely appalled by the security check I just went through at the Nashville airport. I was touched inappropriately and treated unfairly. I feel discriminate against, because I have a hip implant. The individual who screened me was extremely slow and simply did not need to touch me where she did.

I want to understand my rights as a passenger. I should not have to be subjected to this level of touching and scrutiny.

Please contact me at:

(b)(6)

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** ORD Terminal 2 - Officer Cook Sunday 11-21 7pm CT  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 9:04:02 PM

---

I would like to file a complaint against (b)(6) and the team leaders working in Terminal 2 at OHare airport this evening.

(b)(6) selected me to go thru the imaging station because I choose to stay put in the first line rather than go to the second line (hers) when she asked if someone would move over to the second line. After I pushed my things on the belt she started yelling at me all the way over from the other line saying I had to go thru the imager. She was not even the officer assigned to the imager or metal detector!

I travel frequently (80-90 percent for work) and have never been yelled at before by a officer. She was unprofessional, rude and seemed to make up her own procedures based on personal bias. I asked to speak with her supervisor but they did not witness what happened and covered for her.

I am very angry and feel violated. This is the 2nd time I have been patted down in the past two weeks and the first time I went thru the imager and was patted down anyway.

What is the point?! If the imaging machines don't work why should passengers get exposed unnecessarily. Also if firearms and explosives are expected why aren't wands or detectors being used?

(b)(6)  
Concerned frequent flier who may opt to drive...

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 4:41:40 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 2:26:42 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 5:51:45 PM

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Suggestion  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:18:55 PM

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Instead of patting people down, and submitting them to naked X-ray photos, why don't you build a bomb proof box and have all passengers step in. If they are carrying any explosive devices, the box automatically detonates them. Poof, problem solved, on to the next passenger.

Subjecting all to prevent the passage of some is not smart. IN the past I have not minded the taking off my shoes, going through the scanner, etc. as I have nothing to hide and would not be ever carrying anything from anyone else. I'm lucky to get my stuff to the counter to be checked. Therefore, let the crime fit the punishment. If they are going to try to blow up a plane, they should be eliminated at the spot and not subject the rest of us to indecencies. No problem to let them know in advance this is going to happen and that all people will be going through the box. No ones rights are compromised as everyone knows it is coming. Most people don't carry explosives anyway. Those that do deserve to be eliminated for what they are planning for others who are totally innocent.

Thank you, please consider this, seriously!

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Cc:** [show@btls.com](mailto:show@btls.com)  
**Subject:** Civil Liberty Complaint addressed to TSA.  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 8:32:52 AM

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Hello TSA;

From your website: "Civil Liberties – include the Constitutional freedoms of speech, religion, and assembly." What about the 4th Amendment? I don't have the right to that?

You guys are despicable, heinous, pre-cursor to this country's SS. I'm done flying, and others are too. I could set up many links through here of either actions in progress, actions that have occurred in the past and other future concerns; but flatly, this institution is a major violation of the Constitution at large and at the very least the 4th Amendment in particular.

Thieves?

<http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/investigators&id=7447038>

Violation of Privacy/Sexual Assault/Juvenile Behavior?

<http://gizmodo.com/5692583/woman-suing-federal-government-after-tsa-screener-exposed-her-breasts-to-entire-airport>

Touching Kids?

<http://www.wbtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13526724>

Employees that are pedophiles/lack of employee screening?

<http://www.winthroptranscript.com/2010/03/10/winthrop-man-charged-with-statutory-rape-victim-is-14-years-old/>

Suing people who stand up for their rights and refuse to be molested/scanned and want to leave, who have done nothing wrong?

<http://nyletterpress.wordpress.com/2010/11/16/john-tyner-to-fight-tsa-persecution-and-11000-civil-fine/>

Not applying the same standards to your own employees, who are at risk for coercion due to low pay/lack of background screening/blackmail/etc?

<http://wewontfly.com/tsa-exempt-own-security>

Where is your decency? What are you protecting us from? The statistically insignificant chance of a "terrorist" being on our plane and hijacking/turning it into a missile? By definitely stealing from us, sexually assaulting us and our children and violating our rights? Suing us if we don't want to go through it, you know, innocent American citizens, being treated as if we're guilty of some crime, being treated like we're on our way to prison or Gitmo without any provocation or probable cause? Should I start saying 'Heil Hilter!' now or do you want to wait a few more years, let the frog simmer a bit longer?

TSA's motto should be:

**We are at war with Eurasia. We have**

**always been at war with Eurasia.**

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Flight screening procedures and ionizing radiation  
**Date:** Thursday, November 11, 2010 9:04:45 PM

---

Dear TSA,

I flew to from SFO to IAD on the evening on Friday October 29, 2010.  
I was asked to step inside a machine and raise my arms.

I'm now very concerned about what I'm reading in the news that I could have been exposed to an additional dose of ionizing radiation, the same material known to cause cancer.

Given that I was already screened for metal, and did not have any, and removed my shoes and belt and all my belonging were screened, what is the justification for dosing travelers with more ionizing radiation?

If health problems arise in the future relating to additional radiation exposure, who do we contact at the TSA for redress?

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** U must be kidding me  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 2:20:44 AM

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You people make me sick. How dare you try to humiliate the flying public. It's agencies like yours that bring shame to our country. Hey Janet how much have you invested in these scanners? I thought you said there were no terrorists, so why the machines. You better buckle up for the bumpy ride. I thought the Bush admin was lame. Well sister you and your voyiers take the cake. America is watching and we care.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 4:41:50 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complain - Full Body Search  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 01, 2010 11:37:13 AM

---

Hi,

My name is (b)(6)

On November 18, 2010, I traveled for work from Baltimore Washington International (BWI) airport to Boston.

I did not want to go through the full-body scan because of my concern that the level of radiation might be high. After waiting for about 10 minutes a lady came to conduct the full body search. She explained to me what is going to do at first.

After she finished with her search, I felt so bad. I felt extremely violated. This was an unnecessary extensive search touching sensitive areas. For three hours I felt depressed and I decided that in my return, I will select the radiation exposure over the humiliating full body search. This eased my emotional trauma so I can go on with my business trip.

Please be advised that this full body search is extremely invasive emotionally. Please make efforts to revise it to an acceptable level.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** x-ray machines = I fly from else where  
**Date:** Sunday, November 14, 2010 4:53:46 PM

---

Hello,

I would like to inform the TSA, that these machines, and the recent videos shown on the internet or TSA xray machines and new pat-down procedures have caused me not to fly within the United States anymore.

Get padded down to the point where people's breast and pelvic areas are fondled, is pointless. You claim you are protecting the general public from terrorists yet, at the same time you are terrorizing the general public and subjecting them to harmful x-rays. Granted, the dosage may be low, but for frequent flyers that will add up.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Sunday, November 14, 2010 11:56:33 AM

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To whom it may concern:

This letter is to register a complaint regarding my treatment by the TSA during a flight from ORD to DFW on November 11, 2010.

Here is a description of the events:

I entered the security line near the American Airlines ticket counter between 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM. After removing my shoes, placing my laptop in a bin, and similar activities, I was selected from line for the "backscatter" scan. I was escorted into the machine, told to place my hands behind my head, etc. The scan completed and I was instructed to step out of the machine and wait.

The scan operator informed the agent that I had something in my shirt pocket. The agent then informed me he would be conducting a pat-down. He then rubbed my chest area on the right side from shoulder to beltline. This rubdown was NOT where the shirt pocket was located – envision a standard men's dress shirt with pocket on the left. He then proceeded to rub my left side, again from shoulder to beltline, including the pocket area. He then asked me to remove what was in my pocket and show it to him. It was a Passport Card (i.e. my Photo ID), frequent flyer card, and boarding pass. He then proceeded to rub my left chest area again, and again from shoulder to belt. During each of these three rubs, enough pressure and was use to be irritating to my nipple area.

After this sequence the agent told me that I could collect my things from the X-Ray belt.

At all times during this process, the TSA agents present conducted themselves in a professional manner. I believe I did so as well.

That is the end of the factual description, now for my complaint:

There was no reason to rub ANY area of my body beyond the size and shape of my shirt pocket. That is the ONLY area that was in question on the scan. Being rubbed, groped, whatever word we want to select, in other areas did not contribute to security in any way. Being rubbed in the breast area, after being backscatter scanned and seeing that area is

clear, even for a male, is unacceptable.

There is currently debate as to whether a backscatter scan violates the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment to the constitution. That debate will be settled in the courts and is therefore beyond the scope of this letter. However, it cannot be debated that a scan of an area of the body that proves nothing is concealed, followed by a rubdown of that area, is duplicative, invasive and a clear violation of my rights. The fact that the areas in question included secondary sexual characteristic areas, namely the breast and nipple, makes this invasion particularly egregious.

That is the end of my formal complaint. The following is my opinion:

The TSA has done more harm to freedom in the USA than any terrorist action. Not the front-line agents (which is why I did my best to treat them well), but the policy makers at the TSA. You have terrified me. You interfere with my freedom. Please know that I am an (b)(6) (b)(6) employee and lost a lot of friends on 9/11. Still, the impact on my life from your actions is deeper and more profound than the attacks of that day.

Further, there is every indication that the vast majority of things the TSA policy makers do amount to "Security Theatre". 4 ounces of liquid is the limit, yet quart/litre bottles with a handwritten label stating "Saline Solution for contact lenses" are allowed? Get real. There are so many examples that I must stop now, to hold this letter to a reasonable length.

Back to the complaint: There is no reason to "pat down" areas that have already been scanned. That cannot contribute to security, and violates my rights to protection from unreasonable search and seizure.

Thank you for your attention to this complaint,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** "Enhanced" Screening Techniques  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 4:52:52 PM

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This is to inform you that as a tax payer and not an infrequent business traveler, I deeply resent the TSA's screening techniques, most especially the so-called "enhanced" techniques recently put into effect: the full-body scanner and the enhanced "pat-down".

While I keep hearing stories in the news where TSA spokespeople say that these enhanced screenings only affect a small percentage of the flying public, no one has mentioned the plight of those who, like me, have had certain medical procedures which will automatically cause me to be non-randomly selected for screening. I had a heart valve replaced 3 years ago, and metal staples were left in my sternum. These staples routinely set off the metal detector. And if they don't, then the titanium hip prosthesis I has implanted 2 years ago during total hip replacement will set it off. So, in my case the likelihood of my being selected for enhanced screening is 100% every time I pass through a security checkpoint where these enhanced techniques are in place. In my case there's nothing "random" about it.

Why can't the TSA get it together and come up with a way to pre-screen business travelers like myself, do a thorough interview or something and then upload our names and biometric info to their data base so that the airport staff can call up our name and verify that we have been pre-screened? It amazes me that with all of the money being thrown at TSA, they aren't able to figure this out in a more efficient and less intrusive way.

(b)(6)

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa)  
**Subject:** Your scanners are a violation of our rights  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 4:37:07 PM

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I am writing to strongly oppose the use of these new airport scanners and enhanced groping pat downs. I think it completely infringes on our rights and on human decency while not making us any safer. Also as my partner and I are both victims of sexual abuse these procedures are a horrifying experience that make us relive very unfortunate experiences.

The President recently commented that TSA says there is no other way but even ordinary citizens with just a few minutes of research know there are absolutely many other ways to insure our safety at airports without sacrificing our basic human rights and dignity. I am saddened by that statement and I believe much of this has to do not with the safety of Americans but with the profit of the people making these machines, some of which are politicians.

As far as the encroachment on our liberties goes I believe a recent commenter on a news article about this issue put it best. - "My problem with what's unfolding at our nation's airports runs a lot deeper than the misfortune of genital encroachment," adds James Poulos at Ricochet. "My problem is that we're racing down an inherently absurd road. Set aside for a moment the dismaying way in which every new advance in security measures involves a retreat for civil liberties and traditional definitions of decency. Our logic of escalation appears to mean that every new solution actually creates a new and dramatically worse problem — one which calls, of course, for dramatically more invasive and comprehensive countermeasures. Where does it end? As a matter of logic, it ends with a free people dehumanizing themselves in a way their own enemies cannot quite manage to do."

I and my family will not be flying until this assault on our civil rights is rectified and if for some reason I am forced to fly and I experience this horror I will be filing suit against the TSA and any other agency responsible. I although though I hope it does not happen, I hope the first people who get cancer from repeated contact with these so called safe machines will also sue their makers out of existence.

I apologize for the strong words but I feel very strongly about this issue and I will be supporting dismantling the TSA if they do not take a stand for the rights of everyday people over the profits of a scanning machine company advocating its rights infringing device as the only way we can protect ourselves from harm.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, December 04, 2010 12:30:32 PM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa@eff.org); [Civil Liberties](http://CivilLiberties.org); [TSAComplaints@eff.org](mailto:TSAComplaints@eff.org)  
**Subject:** Molestation at MSP 10/30/10  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 4:39:34 PM  
**Importance:** High

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I had a flight from the MSP airport on October 30th. I am not sure about the checkpoint, but it was during the 2 o'clock hour for Delta flight 1664 to Washington/Reagan.

I was wearing running pants with zipper pockets on the side and at the foot openings. I complied with the body scan machine, yet still had to endure the molestation TSA calls a "pat down". If these machines are better, why is copping a feel necessary? Why was the metal detector wand not used first? I am not kidding about the use of the molestation to describe the experience. The TSA employee was touching my labia. You have no right to have a TSA employee put their hand into my private parts, period. Speaking of periods, if I have been wearing a sanitary napkin, would I have had to remove that to demonstrate it was not a bomb? Will TSA/DHS be issuing travelers pre-screened replacement bladder control and feminine hygiene products?

As most victims of such an offense, I was in shock and did not complain at the time of the occurrence. I did not get the name of the officer nor speak with a supervisor. There was another larger woman with short dark hair and glasses (I believe) that seemed to be instructing the person who inappropriately touched me. The instructor told the officer to concentrate on my upper legs as I also had zippers at the bottom of the pant legs. The officer had long blonde hair that was pulled back that day.

I and a male passenger were the only two non-TSA people in the check point area. The machine failed in that we were both subject to the physical search.

This is not acceptable! What will it take for you to realize this? American citizens preferring to take their chances with the external terrorists? Or you, your mother, your daughter, your loved one being molested as well?

God help us! (b)(6)

Been there... Raced that!

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.UCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.UCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Detention  
**Date:** Sunday, November 14, 2010 9:03:17 PM

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To whom it may concern,

On November 14th, 2010 at 2:50pm, I was traveling on a flight from Orlando, fl to Washington, DC and when as I entered the gate I was detained. I asked the TSA agent why I was being detained and she refused to answer only told me she was calling a supervisor, the supervisor did not even speak to me and I was subsequently patted down by hand, I feel the detention without communicating to me why I was being detained was a clear violation of my civil rights.

Respectfully,

(b)(6)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 3:07:10 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Pat Downs  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 12:11:37 PM

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As a law abiding citizen, I am extremely displeased with the new pat down policy. I have had hip replacement surgery and always set off the metal detector. Now I am forced to undergo a pat down, including my crotch, at every airport. I'm sure that the chief of the TSA does not have to undergo such a pat down, nor do members of the plane crews or security officials. What makes them special?

I travelled from DIA after 9:00 PM and they had closed down the scanner because it required four people to operate it. How is this making us more secure? How is this cost effective?

Is there anyway for me to obtain a security pass that can let me avoid these embarrassing and unnecessary procedures?

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 8:18:51 PM

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:**

(b)(6)

**To:**

[ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)

**Subject:**

I will never fly again. I will not be scanned or hand scanned.

**Date:**

Monday, November 15, 2010 5:18:38 AM

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 7:18:45 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Body Scan Complaint/Rights Violation  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:12:34 PM

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To Whom It Concerns:

I was traveling from LAX to JFK on November 5th via flight 30 American Airlines, (departing LAX at 11:45p), when my rights were violated by TSA Agents at the security checkpoint.

I was scanned normally and immediately after told to put my hands up and face a specific directions. Little did I know, I was facing a large blue box structure and subject to a full body scan. None of the TSA Officers that were present informed me that I was about to be full body scanned. It all happened so quickly, I didn't realize until after the fact what just happened. I have to right to refuse a full body scan and wasn't not afforded that opportunity by the TSA

TSA Officers should announce and inform the every passenger that they are about to be body scanned. It's a must that a person know they are about to be scanned and viewed completely naked by another person. It should be a choice. Had I been informed, I would have opted for a full pat down instead. I do not want anyone seeing my body under my clothes without my permission.

Please contact me and let me know why I wasn't informed of the full body scan and how to resolve this problem.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Your choice: The porn scan or the grope  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:43:59 AM

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The 4th Amendment: 'The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.'

SECURE in their PERSONS. Their PERSONS. Their PERSONS.

GOT THAT?

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Please STOP looking at my NAKED BODY!  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 4:14:56 PM

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I would like to add my voice to those against the use of full body imaging technology and invasive pat downs.

I am an extremely frequent flier. I make about one to two round trips per week. I am a global entry certified traveler.

I have never filed a complaint about any product or service before. But, this new invasive procedure has gone too far! There is FAR too much anatomical detail that can be seen on these machines.

Please consider the fact that anyone with any "anatomical differences" will find those images incredibly revealing of things that are normally only known to people with whom the bear themselves naked. That is surely NEVER a TSA employee by choice.

My privacy IS being violated. Please STOP using these machines, and procedures.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 12:46:07 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** XRay & Pat Down Complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 6:31:38 AM  
**Importance:** High

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I travel fairly regularly for work and understand the need for security in airports. However, I resent the new x-ray screening and opt out pat downs. This is an outrageous violation of individuals civil rights to be forced to go through x-ray screenings (with its inherent health risks) or be subjected to an extremely intrusive pat down in a humiliating manner. As bad as it is to go through this personally, I will NOT have my family go through this process. We will find alternate means of transportation.

I am extremely disappointed that a program like this was rolled out with what appears to be no input from the public or appropriate groups such as the airlines, pilots or travel industry.

I will be contacting my congressman and senators about this to express my extreme displeasure.

Regards,

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Against Invasive Screening  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 3:40:40 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am opposed to invasive airport screening including full body scans and the alternative "pat downs". While I believe that security is important, I don't believe that these are justified and I have safety concerns about radiation.

thank you,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Your going too far  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:57:53 AM

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I fly nearly every week and carry airport badges in several cities. You know plenty about me and I will file a law suit if anyone touches my private parts or anyone in my family. It's unacceptable to put known flyers with no criminal background through this not to mention my children.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL**

~~Legally privileged and confidential information may be set forth herein. This transmission and any documents attached are intended only for the use of the addressee named above, and no other person may use or rely upon it. Any other use, publication, duplication, or dissemination is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify the sender (b)(6) and delete the transmission and all attachments from any storage units you use or control.~~

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 5:36:48 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 5:06:10 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** civil rights violation during pat down this morning  
**Date:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 4:28:02 PM

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12/2/2010

Bradley International Airport, Hartford CT

5:30 am

Flying on USAirways

An agent motioned me to walk through something, I think it was a metal detector, so I did. I did not hear an alarm. He said "Female assist!" And asked me to wait. Then a female agent came over and told me I would undergo a pat-down due to my bulky outfit. (I was wearing a light cotton dress, ending above the knee) I had not objected to a body scan, or set off any alarms. Towards the end of the pat-down, as she was finishing moving her hands up the back and inside of my legs, she kept her right hand in my genital area, and pressed her pointer finger on my clitoris. What was she looking for there, exactly? I was too shocked, humiliated, and in a hurry to even think of complaining, plus I was afraid of retaliation, or not being allowed to board. I feel this constituted a violation of my civil rights, because I should not be sexually molested in order to fly on an aircraft. I am thoroughly disgusted by her actions, and would like this female employee to be subjected to corrective action.

Thank you,

(b)(6)







**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 6:56:18 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:09:35 PM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices) To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 2:07:35 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 6:32:18 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#); (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Airline Travel and the TSA  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 6:32:51 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I have been on over 100 flights in the last year, mostly on Delta Airlines. I have walked through the Security Screening areas many times, mostly at the Charlotte NC airport. I've experienced your new "Enhanced" Screening procedures recently and they could not have been any more negative. I've complained about the new Body Scanners in Charlotte prior to this email and my experiences there.

I flew out of Raleigh NC this last Monday (Sept 8th) and was again asked to empty my pockets, wallet, jewelry, belt, shoes etc, walked through and was asked what was in my left pocket, it was a business card. I was patted down in the most personal of manners. This is not in any way acceptable to me. I'm going to keep writing these emails to show my displeasure and suggest to every passenger I can to do the same thing.

The attempted Somalia bombing was in UNSCREENED CARGO, not a person. There is some risk in everything that we do, I would suggest that our Security Screening procedures take into account this with some measure of the impact on the flying public. If this Draconian patdowns continue, I promise you I will STOP flying altogether. They dont do this on Trains, Bus's or other means of public transportation, why is that?

My background is Security, I have worked in many places in my life, including the World Trade Center and the three airports in NYC. A little common sense could go a long way here, maybe some in airport infrastructure \$\$ instead since 20 - 25% of my airline tickets are taxes...

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** New Screening Procedures  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:58:07 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am having excessive anxiety about flying this week out of Ft Lauderdale airport to visit family for the holiday. It's to the point where I am considering canceling my flight on Thursday. I do not wish to be subjected to the humiliation of a full body scan, nor am I looking forward to being fondled in front of a crowd because I choose to opt out.

I am a frequent air traveler and have been selected for random screenings in the past and have never complained. However the news reports I've been hearing lately have me seriously concerned regarding the professionalism of TSA agents & your new policy which encroaches on my reasonable expectation to uphold my right to privacy.

While it is understood your agents have an important job to do, it should not be done at the expense of my comfort & civil rights.

Best,

(b)(6)

This message contains information from (b)(6) that is confidential and may be privileged and protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please be advised that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying is strictly prohibited. If you think you have received this message in error, please contact me immediately. Thank you.

From: (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
To: [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
Subject: Complaint against TSA agent  
Date: Saturday, November 13, 2010 12:15:17 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Coptic Orthodox Christian priest, and today I met my greatest challenge with a TSA agent at LAX. When I travel, since (b)(6) I wear my cassock or tunic. It is a traditional garb that drapes my body. Since 2008, I have always been respectfully "patted down". Today, November 12, 2010 at 6:00 AM, before I boarded my Continental flight to Houston, I was groped and fondled by an agent named (b)(6) at LAX.

First he told me he was going to pat down my "sensitive areas with the back of [his] hands." He began feeling my arms and body and then went to my back. He spent what seemed to be 30 seconds on my butt, pushing on it with his hands, seemingly trying to figure out what on earth could be those small circular objects on my back pockets. (Of course they were clothing buttons.)

Then he frisked my legs from behind. He began at my groin with a whack to my testicles. Then he went to my other leg with another whack to my testicles. Then he asked me, "Do your pants have extra padding or something?" I asked him, "What are you talking about?", perplexed by the aggressiveness of my search, and then with embarrassment and anger, I lifted up my cassock to my waist and told him to get his search over with. I told him that this was the most aggressive search I have ever had in two years, and that I fly frequently. His reply was something along the lines of, "Didn't I tell you I was going to touch these areas with the back of my hand?" (As if this statement gives him carte blanche to do as he pleases.)

He frisked my legs from the front. Both times with a whack to my testicles using the back of his hands. Then he made me drop my cassock and frisked my legs again. Finally he tested his gloves for chemicals.

The TSA has to answer for this agent's actions. Is this the type of treatment I am supposed to expect from now on? If I walked through the metal detector wearing my pants and no cassock I would not have necessarily been subjected to such a search, so why, when I lifted up my cassock, did I remain to be subject to the aggressive frisking? I have always been told that anyone with loose fitting garbs are searched in this manner. For this reason I lifted up my cassock with the hope that this individual would not touch my testicles again.

I am all for safety, but this agent went beyond the general concerns of safety and violated me. My priestly cassock is not a free ticket for any agent to touch my body at liberty. I urge you to review the video tapes from LAX for this morning. He should be checking the areas that are obstructed by my cassock and not the areas that are purposely obstructed and customarily private, like my genitals. The chemical test on his gloves was also the first time I have ever seen an agent do this, and made me feel as if (b)(6) was searching everything he possibly could without any reasonable suspicion. My priestly garb has turned into a free ticket for searching everything on me and for me being subject to aggressive, invasive, and demeaning searches. All this happens, because there is no uniformity. I have traveled by airplane over 15 times in this manner, and this is the first time I felt

completely bullied and harassed. If I knew I would be groped every time I wore my cassock, I would take a dispensation from my Bishop and not wear it.

I need to know the TSA's policy on this matter, and what action the TSA will take to educate, admonish or eliminate (b)(6). I need to know what I can expect from a TSA agent the next time I fly. If I do not hear back from the TSA within 10 days, I will pursue this matter legally. My consent to touching has its limits.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [UCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:UCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 5:32:58 AM

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Greetings,

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(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 11:55:47 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Pittsburgh Airport  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 09, 2010 3:26:00 PM

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TSA Compliance Officer,

Kindly take time to address my great concern as a US citizen and as a frequent traveler.

On Friday November 5, 2010, I was flying from Pittsburgh International Airport to New York City, LGA.

I was in line in the upstairs security screening area as I have been on many other occasions.

The time was approximately 11:00 am when I laid my carry-on items on the conveyor belt and only then did I realize that I was facing a full body scanner.

I have chosen to opt out of this invasive technology in other airports and so I knew that my next option was a pat down search.

Waiting behind the glass gate I was unhappy but resolved to what would come next.

But what came next was the most humiliating, privacy breaching, personal invasion of my body that I have ever been through, and it was all done in the name of security and safety.

What about my security and safety?

I was "warned" by the middle aged dark haired woman that she was going to pat me down with the back of her hand (which has been the warning of other agents), but then she proceeded to firmly

press her hand over every inch of my body, including my breasts, my groin, and she ended by pressing her hand down into my slacks in the front and in the back.

No!

**I am not a suspected criminal and should not be treated like one!**

I am a woman who believes that all bodies are private and sacred, and I do not mine exposed or molested.

Isn't that a very basic human **right**?

I am ashamed to say that last Friday I held back the tears that would betray my total humiliation!

I should have honestly let them fall as the TSA agents stared at me... along with some honest words that could have possibly prevented me from feeling like such a victim today!

I am American. I obey the laws of this great land and I have raised 6 children to do the same.

But this search is not within the law!

The Fourth Amendment to the Constitution clearly states my right as a citizen to not be searched in such a manner! The amendment specifically requires searches be judicially

sanctioned and supported by *probable cause*.

My time until take-off that day was short, but looking back, I wish I would have taken the time to be open with my thoughts...made a scene, if you will, so that today I would not feel such anger over my

quietly submitting to such wrongful treatment.

The full body scanner is wrong!

The invasive pat down is wrong!

And acting like we are not breaching the Constitution is so very *WRONG!*

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** New Full Body Scanner Picture Machines & New Pat Down Procedures  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 8:42:23 PM

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Dear TSA:

I regard both of these procedures as a major invasion of ones privacy by technology, the scanners and by other humans feeling me down.

Suspecting everyone is a terrorist is over the top and over reaching.

I don't want to have my body which I consider sacred pictured on any machine for someone else to see, my whole body is private. No amount of blurring which I am sure could be deprogrammed is even acceptable. Even the posture you make one stand at is lewd. I have been in government work, I am a veteran - I saw in the service where an X ray tech was offering to show off revealing X rays - I don't trust the government with confidentiality.

I have opted out of the scanner now a number of times and got the new feel down rub down, I almost hit the guy doing it instinctively when he was groping around. At least the pat down cannot be conveyed electronically for other people to see. I really don't believe in the immediate erasure of the information, it is standard to maintain any type of electronic files for future review.

What right do you have to perform such invasive procedures.

I don't want to have any more electronic waves thrown out me no matter what you may say it is only this or that.

Consider seriously the 4th Amendment, stating in short not to have unreasonable search and seizure.

I am a frequent flyer by the way; all this will do for the industry is to put off more people from flying and reducing airline revenues again.

I hope you may find reason to improve the process and make it more reasonable.

How about a program with US Passport holding citizens with certain current background checks. Certainly the VIP's in government fly on aircraft without such a shakedown.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 8:01:39 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** ray screening and pat-downs  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 2:15:27 AM

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As an AMERICAN citizen, I vigorously OBJECT to either being passed though a full-body scanner which shows my nude body or being groped and molested against my will.

In case you don't know, AMERICANS are protected under the 4th Amendment, which is this:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

I demand that this UNCONSTITUTIONAL practice be stopped immediately!

Furthermore, it does NOTHING to enhance security! What's next: body cavity searches for nuns?

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** (b)(6) [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Experience at Providence Airport  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 2:14:57 PM

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Hello,

I am a (b)(6) who wears hijab. On November 18, 2010 at around 7:40 a.m., I was selected (the only one) out of the security line at Providence Airport and told to put my feet where the signs were on a mat. I did as told and lifted my hands expecting to be pat down, and instead a button was pressed. When I asked what it was, I was told that this was the full body scan.

I was not informed that this is what was happening, and I was incensed, especially since I was not asked to consent, and no one, for example, asked if I happened to be pregnant (I am not). Despite the claim, there is no long term research on these scans' impact are on fetal development. A white American woman behind me in line was incensed on my behalf, saying that no one else was asked to go through that scan, and that it was "ridiculous."

From what I could tell, the person operating the full body scan was about to close that particular line, but when she saw that I was going through, there were gestures that she would keep it open for me (but no one else) in the other lines. This was not, for example, because I beeped through the normal detector (I had yet to go through it), or because there was anything in my bags (which had yet to go through the machine as well), and I am certain that I was the only one in my line at the time that was asked to go through it.

Because I was very busy with getting myself to a conference, presenting my research, etc. I did not express my displeasure or irritation, yet in retrospect I feel that I was profiled based on how I look and dress in accordance to my religious beliefs.

To assume that a woman who chooses to cover her hair poses an additional security threat is not only offensive and discriminatory, it is also extremely counter-productive to the effort at maintaining peace and security. I would advise Providence Airport employees to receive information about discrimination and racial profiling and to change their practices and procedures.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** abuse of women  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 22, 2010 2:45:56 PM

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To the TSA,

I am a physician and have dealt with women who have been sexually abused. I understand that according to your current policies "Our officers are trained to treat all passengers with dignity and respect, and to fully communicate with each passenger to ensure they understand the process throughout screening, ".

Sometimes, in counseling, this sort of language is called "crazy-making." When women are told they are treated with "dignity and respect" and then subject to procedures that are inherently degrading and disrespectful then they feel abused. Saying that they are treated with "dignity and respect" is essentially a lie. The lie contributes to the sense of craziness. Women are offended. And rightly so.

When women ask about the new screening procedures and are told "It has always been this way," that is a lie. Women are offended. And rightly so.

The other misconception is that communication enables people to understand the process. They may understand it in theory but since the screening is still inherently abusive the communication is limited in what it can accomplish. It is like abusing a child and then telling them it is for their own good. It is "crazy-making."

I urge the TSA to adopt better screening procedures. I have written previously but did not receive the courtesy of a reply.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

This information is confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender or our Customer Support Center at (b)(6). We have scanned this e-mail and its attachments for malicious content. However, the recipient should check this email and any attachments for the presence of viruses. (b)(6) accepts no liability for any damage caused by any virus transmitted by this email.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Office of Civil Rights and Liberties (TSA-6)  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:23:01 AM

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TSA Compliance Division:

On October 20 and 22, I flew round trip from Albuquerque to Las Vegas on Southwest Airlines.

In Albuquerque, I chose the shortest line, which turned out to be a new strip-search booth. I asked to change to another lane, but without explanation, even though I asked, the TSA person yelled, "opt-out," and I was escorted as a dangerous criminal, but also as meat not worth speaking to, to a pat-down.

I hereby file a civil rights complaint about the both my treatment and the treatment of US citizens in airport security. As a class, we are subjected without due process, Miranda notice or probable cause to unreasonable search and seizure.

TSA has exceeded its authority and needs to be replaced with private security services.

All risk will never be eliminated and TSA's new grope & peep show bear all of the marks of Nazi concentration camps, East Germany's Checkpoint Charlie and North Korea, where Ms Napolitano studied.

The justification for these is a great sound-bite but without connection to reality. An EI AI approach makes much more sense. Look for the bad guys instead of making everyone suffer humiliating and ineffective screening that conditions US citizens to cow before their government-bettors.

Most sincerely

(b)(6)

**From:**

(b)(6)

**To:**

[OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)

**Date:**

Monday, November 22, 2010 4:59:51 PM

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I have seen the footage of the pat down, I don't like it at all. I would not allow anyone do that to my wife or kids. I would think that my family would have been molested. I will not fly until this is stoped.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Stop Violating My Rights  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010 3:51:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [3.jpg](#)  
[ATT967420.txt](#)

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I am irate and disappointed in my government regarding the new TSA screening scanners. These machines violate my civil rights, my privacy rights and my rights to maintain a healthy body. This is intolerable for the government to allow these basic rights violating mandatory procedures. They must be stopped. Please do your job and protect our rights, mostly by not creating mandatory screenings that directly violate them yourselves. I OPT OUT! And so should you!

Yours in Health,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** New full body scanners  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 3:25:04 PM

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I would rather travel by car then be violated at an airport. My hopes is that this new invasive procedure which I believe violates our rights as Americans comes to a stop. I believe it violates our 4th amendment to unreasonable searches and privacy rights as well. I have to travel on sunday and if I am asked to step into the new full body scanner I will refuse and I will complain. I'm sure I will get a very violating pat down. What is this country coming to. You might as well brain wash everyone to ensure no one ever carries weapons or breaks any other rules. I don't mind my conversations be recorded or my trash gone through but I will not have my body parts looked at as I am a modest person. This will mentally violate many not just me. I think TSA should be sued for everything they can as this is out of control. Also, being a mom I would never want my child nor my unborn child inside as I am pregnant to be exposed to any amounts of radiation that is avoidable.

Annoyed and angry,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 07, 2010 11:35:25 PM

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To Whomever It May Concern,

One the morning of December 2nd, I was at Richmond International Airport in Richmond, VA trying to catch a 6:45am flight to Las Vegas, NV connecting through Cleveland. I approached the TSA screening area, showed my ID and boarding pass to the TSA agent and walked through to place my luggage, shoes, jacket and other items from my pockets through the X-ray conveyor belt. I was asked to walk through the full body scanner and I complied. I was then asked to wait while the agent looked at the image. After standing there for 2 minutes without any agent telling me what was going on, I was directed to the private screening room by two male agents. One agent asked me to put my arms up and legs shoulder width apart so he could pat me down while the other agent observed. I complied and was patted down across my chest, back, waistline and up my leg. I was then asked to wait while the other agent went away. He came back and the agent who pat me down to repeat it again, this time patting me higher up my thigh. The agent watching walked away for a second time, while no one said a word to me. The agent then came back and the one who patted me down started to pat down across the front of my body starting at my waistline and proceeding to go lower and lower. He then began pushing down on my genitals across from the base of my penis until the tip. After this was done I was escorted out while both agents did not speak a word to me.

I have a problem with this because of the following.

- 1) The agents did not speak to me as to why they were doing this or warn me that they were planning on groping me.
- 2) They did not even attempt to use a handheld metal detector to scan my genital region.
- 3) Groping my genitals was unnecessary and I feel was a form of harassment.

I am considering legal recourse on the matter because honestly it went above and beyond necessary efforts to ensure the safety of myself and other passengers and impeded on my rights.

Please contact me if you require further details and I hope this can be resolved reasonably.

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** 4th amendment protection  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 6:02:09 PM

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Hi,

I'd like to pass this on to y'all..

""The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.""

The new porno-scanners and enhanced patdown procedure is a clear violation of the 4th amendment. Please immediately abandon these new procedures. They are uncomfortable, unnecessary and ineffective.

Up until now, I've always felt safe flying. Now my biggest fear is the TSA. I cringe at the thought of strangers in a remote office looking at nude pictures of myself and/or my wife. This is an unacceptable situation. I'm am comfortable with the risk level without these new procedure/devices. I'd be more conformable not having to remove my shoes.

Please adjust the TSA security policy to use common sense as a guide.

A response will be appreciated.

Thanks.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Monday, November 01, 2010 11:26:01 PM

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I wish to know how our civil liberties are being upheld, when the radiation that is used is not even officially published.

Your organization is withholding information about the long term effects of being exposed to this radiation.

Where are the signs that direct the traveling public to request a "pat" down now a full body grab if we don't want to be

radiated? Where are the signs that advise the public that child pornography laws are being broken? The images are

being stored, don't tell me they are not. If the image is "inverted" with the click of one button then the image is crystal

clear. Why has TSA fired their workers who have expressed in writing or verbally their refusal to work in the areas that

are being irradiated constantly ? What protective gear are these workers being provided with? How can you insure

that the radiation is being contained to a certain area? There are laws that protect health care workers and define

how facilities are to be constructed that hold radiation equipment in order to protect those workers. None of this has

been done by the TSA. Please take some time to respond to this email as I fully intend to share your answers with

my new Congressman and Senators.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Cc:** [CRCL](#)  
**Subject:** TSA Search Complaint  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 22, 2010 2:06:49 PM

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Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to file a complaint involving the screening procedures of the Transportation and Security Administration that I experienced in the Tampa International Airport on December 22, 2010 at approximately 7:45 A.M.

After waiting through the pre-flight screening lines, I was directed to go through what I believe to be a back splatter imaging machine. After passing through this machine, I was directed by an agent (A1) to wait before proceeding to pick up my belongings which had traveled through the standard x-ray conveyer. Rather than being allowed to proceed, I was directed by A1 to sit down in a chair, which I did. Another agent (A2) came up to me shortly thereafter and informed me that "I was not able to be cleared" and that I needed to be taken in a back room for a private screening.

Needless to say I was worried, as my mind raced to think if I had left something in my bags that would be considered contraband according to TSA regulations. This was not the case as A2 instructed me that my wife could watch my items while I was screened in the private area.

Once I was taken into the private area accompanied by A1 and A2, I realized this was more of an interrogation room than a screening area, and I inquired as to whether this area was under video surveillance. A2 told me it was not. I then proceeded to request that whatever search was to be done be performed in an area with video monitoring. A2 replied that procedures did not allow for that, but my wife could watch. I then asked if she could record the procedure on a cell phone camera, which A2 also stated was against procedures. I asked what procedure(s) did not allow for my reasonable request to be accommodated and A2 stated "The man who signs my check" to which I quipped, "You mean the Federal Government? The government is not a man, it is all of the people's money, including the ones whose rights you are violating."

The agents then stated that if I would not comply with the search in the private area, I would not be allowed to fly. At this point A1 and A2 briefly consulted each other and a supervisor was summoned. A3, who identified himself as the supervisor, repeated all the previous statements that it was against the rules to have the "enhanced pat down" performed in public. The only response I could get from him as to which rule(s) was "those are the rules because of the areas that would be touched on my body" and that I would not fly if I didn't comply. I then stated again, I was perfectly willing to comply with the search, but I wanted it done in an area that is videotaped, or at least in public and asked to speak to his supervisor. A3 stated he is the supervisor, and pointed to his name plate. I then stated that certainly he had a supervisor, and he responded that he was going to get the "LEO", which I assume meant law enforcement officer, and I interpreted to imply I was going to be arrested.

Shortly thereafter, a new (presumed) TSA agent arrived wearing plain clothes and who identified

himself as the security manager (A4). I again requested that whatever search that needed to be performed, be done in either the public screening area or in a videotaped room. A4 stated that either the search would be performed in private, or I would not be allowed to fly. I asked why I could not request the search be performed in public, when the first sign in the screening area stated "A Private Screening is Available Upon Request" (Implying screenings are performed in public) and I had seen numerous pat downs on the news. A4 then stated that he didn't care "what you saw on the news and our rules require the enhanced pat downs to be done in private because of the sensitive areas on my body that would be touched." I then asked for all of the agent's names prior to the enhanced pat down. A4 stated I would have all the agents' names after the search (not before), and asked me if I was going to comply with their orders.

Finally, I realized that I had no rights and if I wanted to spend Christmas with my family I would need to capitulate and have the search in the private area. Needless to say, by that point, I was rude and treated the agents with the same contempt they held for me. After the search A4 handed me a piece of paper with only his name (b)(6) on it. I again stated I wanted all the agents' names and he had promised that he would provide those to me before the search. He vehemently stated he was in charge of them, that I was only getting his name, and that he had not promised to provide me with all the agents' names.

I am writing this letter with the hopes that certain procedural safe guards can be put in place for the public and posted in the screening area for travelers. We should be told up front that we will be taken to a private room that is not under video surveillance where agents will perform pat downs which involve prolonged contact with the genital, breast, buttocks and thigh areas. The public should also be told that they will be subjected to these searches even if we pass through the back splatter scan. I obviously had nothing on my person, so this means I was selected either randomly, intentionally, or the machines do not work properly.

I fully recognize the need for flight security, and do (and did) not object to the pat down per se, despite being very agitated after having been x-ray screened and pulled aside for no apparent reason. Unfortunately, I was told these images are not kept, but I think the traveler should have the option of requesting the image within a few minutes of the screening for their own protection to better understand why they were subjected to an overly intrusive pat down.

However, I know the reason for not allowing the search to be videotaped was not for my protection from embarrassment, but rather because the TSA does not want more videos and photos of the pat down procedure on the news causing public rebuke. I have yet to determine if any rule or regulation exists that requires enhanced pat downs be performed in private, but hope your office could provide me with some clarification on this issue. I think instead public screenings, the TSA should be more concerned with the recent investigation by the Government Accountability Office that found severe breaches of the contraband rules were routinely made by undercover investigators passing through "security".

I conclude with a simple question regarding my fundamental due process rights as a United States Citizen: How would I be treated if one of the Agents stated I hit or struck them (or vice versa, if I made a similar claim against them), or if they claimed to have found contraband on my person?

Without a video of the procedure, my word would be put against the testimony of numerous agents who would all have the same story. I would much prefer a video of me being given an embarrassing enhanced pat down than to think I or another citizen could be subjected to such a scenario. I am afraid that TSA agents feel they are indeed paid by "a man" and not by the people who they are working to protect.

I thank you in advance for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Strip searching, sexual assault, and the illusion of "safety"  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 24, 2010 11:33:25 AM

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You think you've stopped terrorism with your strip searches (scanning) and sexual assaults (pat downs)?

You are a bunch of ignorant fools to think so.

After the "underwear bomber" will come the "anal bomber" and the "vagina bomber".

The TSA can only respond by stripping down and cavity searching every passenger!

If you think parents aren't happy about the TSA ogling and fondling their kids, just wait until you try to cavity search them.

We are not "safe" if we've given up our dignity, our pride, and our right to privacy.

You have gone too far!

Stop this foolishness!

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Body Scanners at CVG  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 09, 2010 10:45:28 AM

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Dear Sir/Madam:

During my last two business trips, I have been subjected to a body scan as part of the security screening process at CVG. The second time I requested information on the type and dosage of my exposure to radiation. The TSA officers were unable to provide me with any information.

In addition, I understand from other colleagues who travel that I have the option to refuse a body scan and opt for a full patdown by a female TSA officer. Please confirm that this is the case as I intend to utilize this option in the future. Why I was not informed of this option before being subjected to radiation exposure?

If you think me overly concerned, I suggest that your legal department research the current tort cases filed against medical scanning equipment manufacturers alleging they underestimated the dosage of radiation patients were exposed to and to remind you that the TSA is not immune from personal injury liability especially when you fail to disclose health hazard information to travelers or provide information on options they can take to protect their health.

I also report observations made by two of my business colleagues that young females are being singled out for body scans at the Las Vegas airport. I suggest that the TSA investigate as using the machines for 'titillation' of the male TSA officers only further undermines TSA's minimal credibility with the American public.

Thank you for your attention. A prompt response would be appreciated.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 10:46:17 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** I am filing this complaint From William Hirst  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 3:01:54 AM

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The TSA body Searches has intimidated me and caused me to reject air travel on commercial airlines. I have not waived my my 4th amendments to be safe from unreasonable searches as a condition to my obtaining a seat on a airline. If TSA regulations requiring me to go through a full body scan is legal... Then TSA could have road stops on highways and search at will occupants of vehicles without a warrant as well as a condition to be on a public road. I therefor file this complaint that TSA Rules Violate My right s under the 4th ammendment to be safe from unreasonable searches.

Please also be informed that no TSA employees or their family members are allowed on my property located at (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2010 12:53:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [TSA Complaint.doc](#)

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Please review my attached complaint. I look forward to hearing your response.

Thank you.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 6:58:13 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Formal complaint  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 2:21:06 PM

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Dear TSA:

My wife is disabled, and was subjected to an enhanced patdown on November 2nd without being told that she would be sexually molested. Please read a copy of the formal complaint she filed with United Airlines, followed by my comments...

-----  
Dear United;

My husband and I fly many miles on United Airlines; but I need to file a formal complaint regarding an incident at Chicago O'Hare on Tuesday, November 2.

Let me preface by saying that my husband is 1K status, and I am Premier (b)(6)  
We were returning from a flight from London to Seattle, and went through Customs in Chicago. Since I am disabled and require a walker, the very long walk to Customs already made me physically exhausted. Making it more difficult was the fact that younger people crowded in front of me and sat in the handicap area on the train from the International Terminal to Terminal 1, forcing me to stand (with great difficulty).

With both of these negative experiences already causing me to be upset and tired, imagine my frustration at the Premier Security Check Point when I was singled out for a "pat down" with the TSA agent literally running her hands up my legs, touching my private parts and fondling my breasts right in front of other passengers! In addition, this occurred when I was putting my shoes on at the bench with my purse sitting next to me. I was told to step over to the "pat down" area WITHOUT the ability to use either my cane or my walker, and almost fell down. Furthermore, my purse was unattended where anyone could have snatched it quickly had my husband failed to notice what happened.

Why is it that I am frequently singled out for "pat down" over half the time I fly? If the TSA agents are going to continue to engage in profiling, shouldn't they profile people from certain parts of the world instead of profiling middle-aged American Citizens who are female and handicapped? Also, why would this TSA agent not take me to a private area before engaging in such inappropriate touching?

Being profiled for frequent "pat down" checks is already getting VERY tiring and annoying to me; but the incident with TSA in Chicago crossed the line! Not only was this "pat down" humiliating and embarrassing in public, the TSA agent also put both my health and my purse in jeopardy. What recourse do I have?

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

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In my opinion these violations of our personal privacy amount to committing crimes against law abiding US citizens without just cause. Why is it OK for a government agent to commit a crime against law abiding citizens under the guise of "protection"? Where will this stop?

As with countless other flyers, I am outraged at this police state mentality happening in what should be

a free country. Furthermore, I would like to know what legal recourse we have if she is molested again; because it is our intention to do whatever we legally can to put a stop to allowing government agents to do what would be considered a crime anywhere else.

Maybe it is time to stop doing the politically correct thing and start profiling the real prospective enemies of our country. Our enemies are probably laughing at what TSA is putting Americans through at the airports.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Cc:** [feedback@ustravel.org](mailto:feedback@ustravel.org)  
**Subject:** MY FAMILY WILL NO LONGER FLY  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 12:48:51 PM

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November 12, 2010

Transportation Security Administration -Office of Civil Rights and Liberties (TSA-6)

Transportation Security Administration  
Office of Civil Rights and Liberties (TSA-6)  
External Compliance Division  
601 S. 12th Street  
Arlington, VA 20598

My 85 year old mother, an American of Swedish descent - her last name is (b)(6) **USED to be routinely molested by TSA** - until she made the decision to **NO LONGER FLY!** My mom is very well off financially and she loves to travel.

HOWEVER, we now **rent cars or ONLY vacation via cruises** that leave from the port of San Diego which require NO FLYING for my mom - who has money to spend on her travels!!! Cruise traveling is very welcoming and so wonderful to my mom.

For example, for our Thanksgiving holiday our family has booked a 2 week CRUISE to Hawaii that leaves from San Diego - that way NO FLYING, NO MOLESTATION. We chose this cruise because - NO FLYING.

MOST UNFORTUNATELY - my mom's sister died in October. Since it was an emergency that one time **we decided to fly - OUR MISTAKE.** My poor mom - 85 years old in her airport wheelchair - was completely molested by **a gloved, disrespectful female WHO MADE JOKES as she felt my poor mom's breasts!!!** She scrutinized my mom's 85 year old palms, fingers, her feet, her toes, her bare back....

**WE WILL NEVER EVER, EVER FLY AGAIN - even in an emergency.**

If we could go back in time, rather than fly so that my mom had her breasts felt out and a TSA woman make jokes aimed at my poor, helpless wheelchair bound mom - **WE WOULD HAVE DRIVEN!!!!**

**Remember - this Thanksgiving in order to avoid flying OUR FAMILY IS VACATIONING VIA A CRUISE TO HAWAII leaving from the port of San Diego, near our home!!!**

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



cc: Janet Napolitano

U.S. Travel Association

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 12:01:49 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [undisclosed-recipients](#)  
**Subject:** tsa complaint  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 9:22:22 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I'm extremely disappointed with the TSAs decision to recently adopted "enhanced" screening procedures. Having to display your naked body to a stranger through should not be a condition for me to fly. Perhaps some get comfort from knowing that a security agent "in another location and never sees the passanger" is the only seeing the images. However, I get no comfort from that, much like many people would not feel comfortable posting naked images of themeselves online, even though "only stangers" who never see the individual may be the only ones who see them. All of this might be fine except for now the alternative to this invasive procedure is a santioned form of sexual assault in the form of the new pat down procedures. What sort of screening measures do you have when you select these agents? It's certainly different than say a gynocologist, who requires 10+ years of advanced training and degrees. I understand that maintaining security is the main goal of the TSA, but these invasions of personal privacy are unacceptable.

Broadcasting my naked pictures or publicly groping me should NOT be a contingency of my flying. Instead of flying this holiday season, I will be taking a bus to travel for Thanksgiving and will be renting a car to travel for Christmas. I'm sure the airlines aren't excited to be losing the business. I hope that you take this complain in stride and work to find an acceptable alternative that can maintain our safety while maintaining our dignity.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 7:00:34 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Full Body Scans  
**Date:** Friday, December 03, 2010 3:18:45 PM

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My question is, in what way is the new TSA security process not a violation of my Constitutional Rights? There is no question regarding the Fourth Amendment, it breaks that one completely. To say that flying is a privilege and I can choose not to travel that way if I don't feel comfortable relinquishing my freedom, is preposterous. That is like searching someone's home without probable cause and saying "owning a home is a privilege, if you don't want it searched you don't have to own one." Most things in life can be considered a privilege; cars, furniture, bus travel, land, boats, life, liberty, property, depending on how you view it. Does that mean the government can deprive us of any of these in the name of security, if we refuse to give them our freedom? It is Tyranny and nothing else.

Also, since when was I, an honest American Citizen, guilty until proven innocent. Why must I be searched in order to secure other people's safety? I wasn't going to make them unsafe to begin with.

Finally, why are any TSA personnel complying with this? Do they not care about their own freedoms? What about U.S. Code Title 18 Part I Chapter 13 §242? Does this not apply to TSA personnel or the TSA itself? The TSA cannot place their employees in a situation where they must choose between their jobs and being served lawsuits from every individual they search.

Tyranny is the greater threat now that our rights are being violated like this. If you don't feel that way just look at history. When in the history of the world have people not been trying to overthrow democracies, republics or other tyrannies and set themselves up as ruler? Also, when has any terrorist done as much as a tyrant? Stalin killed 60,000,000! I know of no terrorist that compares. Why is no one concerned about protecting me from a Stalin rising in this country?

I want my freedoms. That is the only way I can be secure or safe.

--  
(b)(6)

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."  
Edmund Burke

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Ft. Lauderdale, FL Airport Incident  
**Date:** Sunday, November 14, 2010 12:15:41 PM

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I recently went through a severely disturbing experience at the Ft. Lauderdale airport and wish to file a complaint.

I was flying on Airtrain airlines ( 3 PM flight) from Ft. Lauderdale, FL to Atlanta, GA on October 23, 2010. I went through the TSA Security check as I was headed to my plane to catch my flight. I placed my luggage on the conveyor belt to be scanned. Included in my luggage was my purse which contained quite a bit of cash, credit cards, expensive electronics and jewelry. I walked up to the normal "scanner" which I've always gone through before which I would just quickly walk through based on the formal "head nod" of the TSA person running the thing. I say head nod because the TSA people have NEVER actually spoken to me on my flights over the last couple of years-- it's always been a head nod or a hand motion for me to move forward. As I approached the machine a TSA man told me to move to the right and to move through to the machine to the right. I was a bit worried because my luggage was now going through the scanner and quite a bit of distance from me and I couldn't see if someone was taking off with my belongings or not. As I approached the other scanner, I was asked if I had a phone or change in my pocket. I said no. I was then told to step into the scanner and to raise my hands over my head and make my fingers touch. I wasn't told anything other than this and I had no idea what was being done in the scan. I had no view of my luggage still sitting at the end of the conveyor belt and not clue if it would be there when I got done. I was then told to stand and face the TSA woman ( she appears to be mexican, latin, or puerto rican with longer black hair pulled back into a ponytail) who was watching me. A man walked up and told her I had something in my pocket. She then rudely, almost yelling at me, asked me what I had in my pocket. I told her I had my id and credit card which she made me pull out. I was never asked if I had cards in my pocket before entering the machine so I don't know why this was so upsetting to the woman. She then began to do a pat down check on me, which she didn't warn me of she just began angrily searching up and down my legs and lower body. She grabbed at places that I was not warned she would be touching and I found it to be quite disturbing. In any other situation a person grabbing at me like that, I would have filed a police report and pressed charges. As she was doing this, I asked who would be watching my luggage because I still couldn't see it. She said, "Oh, you can turn and look at it." There was no physical way I could have turned my body enough to see my belongings and quite honestly I was too scared to make another move as angry as she was. After the "feeling down" that she did, she then said I was fine to collect my luggage. I grabbed my stuff and walked away, severely upset.

After returning home from my trip, I've tried and tried to let the incident go and haven't been able to. I felt, and still feel, physically violated. I turned to the internet to try to find other people who had similar experiences when I came across several sites which show sample scans of what people look like going through the full body scan I went through. It was only then that I learned that people were viewing my naked body on that screen! I am furious now that I know this. I was not told that my naked body would be on display for others to view. I was not told that's what the scanner was doing, nor do I know how long those images are kept. I gave no written consent to have my body viewed nakedly nor did I agree to be physically

violated by the TSA woman. It's been almost a month now and I have been agonizing about the incident which has caused me the inability to sleep and concentrate at times. My anger has increased each day and I hold you, the TSA, responsible.

My experience can't be isolated and I fear that I will not be able to fly ever again. What happens when children go through these machines, are adults viewing naked children and if so, why is that ok? I consider that child pornography. And what about children who have to go through the pat down? How is that ever ok? I would consider that kind of touching sexual abuse. I have 2 daughters now and we want to take a family vacation this year, but there is no way I can subject them to this.

I expect a response a response and full explanation addressing my experience and concerns. I believe that naked images of me are still in your possession and I expect confirmation that they have been destroyed of.

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 12:45:50 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** full body scanners  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:06:00 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

Full body scanners are an inappropriate and unnecessary intrusion on passengers' privacy.

Their implementation is an affront to the principles of independence and individuality that this country used to represent.

The use of full body scanners implies not only that the TSA is otherwise ineffective at policing airports, but that Americans are craven enough in the face of an abstract threat to surrender even the most basic expectations of privacy.

The first implication might be true; the second certainly is not.

Please, stop cowering behind technology. Learn to do your jobs with a modicum of respect for passengers' dignity.

Thank you for your time,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** TSA Pat down screening  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 1:42:25 PM

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I am beyond outraged!

My wife, traveling on business, said that she was intimidated and humiliated by the TSA and the pat down was very aggressive and questionable. This event occurred at the Raleigh/Durham International Airport on Nov. 15, 2010 @ approx 5:00 – 5:30am.

She has partial knee replacements, so he knees set of the alarm. When she requested to be taken to a private area, because of her discomfort from her last experience, the TSA agent responded, "pat her down real good, be real thorough". After hearing this she replied, never mind, I will forego the private area. The TSA officer response was "you can't change your mind". The agents were so rough, touching my wife in private areas that my wife, in tears told the screener and the witness, she would not let them abuse her. At this point the witness walked out of the room and slammed the door, saying you need to get someone else.

My wife's rights as a tax paying citizen have been violated! No citizen should be subjected to humiliation, stress and fear just to fly. This is totally unacceptable. When did we decide as a country to allow the TSA to strip our citizens of their dignity and civil liberties?

What is being done to correct this behavior and abuse?

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Airport security  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 5:00:58 PM

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Hello,

I'm contacting you to express my total dissatisfaction with the new full body scan and or the pat down. I refuse to fly and subject myself to this invasion of privacy! My civil rights are being infringed upon! My constitutional liberties, freedom and rights are being kicked to the curb all in the name of security. Enough is enough! We are giving the terrorist exactly what they want, for us to change our lives out of fear of them. I'm tired of the Patriot Act too it needs to be reeled in, NOW. I'm sick and tired of all this politically correct nonsense. If a person fits the profile tough! If a person is acting like the profile of a dangerous person then check them out!

(b)(6)



"The finest compliment I could ever receive is a referral from you!"

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa; Civil Liberties](#)  
**Cc:** [TSAComplaints@eff.org](mailto:TSAComplaints@eff.org)  
**Subject:** Involuntary Use of Body Scanner  
**Date:** Thursday, November 25, 2010 9:35:02 PM

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This email is in regard to the involuntary use of a body scan machine at Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Airport on July 12, 2010 at approximately 4:00PM:

My wife and I, along with several other passengers were directed through the whole body scanner without being informed of its use and the other alternatives to being scanned by this machine. I overheard a TSA employee who was instructing passengers to place their hands above their heads at the scanner say into his radio "That's a 10-4 on that female", obviously speaking to whomever was monitoring the scans. No one was detained and it was my strong impression that the comment was regarding the scan of an attractive female who went through the machine. I have contacted my congressional representatives on this issue.

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** no tolerance for harassment  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 3:55:58 PM

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Hello,

I am currently reading 'Civil Rights for Travelers' on the TSA website.

Here's a short quote from the site

"Quite simply, our policy statement assures travelers they will be treated in a fair, lawful and nondiscriminatory manner. It also emphasizes we have no tolerance for harassment in the treatment of the public we serve."

With the 'new' pat down procedure it is clear that the officer will grope ones private area, rubbing up on the inner legs, butt and penis/vagina as well as sticking fingers down ones pants. (please correct me if i'm wrong)

This is very clearly sexual harassment.

Please explain to me how TSA finds this as not being harassment.

Thank you for your time

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** New TSA Screening  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 10:10:23 AM

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I object to the new TSA screening process of either an enhanced pat down or the full body scan. Both processes are personally invasive, (sexual assault) and won't stop a real terrorist from putting explosives inside their body cavities. What next, full rectal exams for all passengers? Wake up and start profiling like Israel does.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** I was molested  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 6:50:39 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I am filing a complaint against the Transportation Security Administration.

Date:10/15/2010

Time:5pm

Airport: BWI

Passenger: (b)(6)

Type of complaint: Inappropriate contact, civil rights.

Complaint: Because I refused to submit to body scanner, I was humiliated and sexually assaulted by the so-called enhanced pat-down. My genital area was felt. I was molested. This is illegal search and seizure. This is a crime. If anyone else did it, I could press charges.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 6:36:37 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** New Pat down and Scanning  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:05:43 AM

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For me it is not really a issue of what you see or what you touch ? it is an issue of my rights not to be assumed guilty, and subject to a search....If I do not have a right to expect my body to be my business then what rights do I have?

To search me, my children, my wife, and mother, on the chance that we "may" be a risk is in my opinion an invasion of our rights and give the very people we are fighting a win.

As a result I will not be flying until the rules are changed. I find the air puffer to be acceptable, or even if I set off a metal detector then a deeper search may be needed.

I fear we have lost sight of what and why we fight for our freedom.

Thanks

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 11:05:56 PM

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Dear Sirs,

I am very disappointed by your scan and search of us US citizens. I had a very disturbing experience to see my two years old daughter being searched for who knows what. She was a baby not a terrorist. All the money you are spending would be better use to go after the bad guys not ordinary US citizens. I am very very upset and of course avoid flying as much as possible, thanks to your policies.

Sincerely, (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:00:48 AM

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Full body scanners are an intrusive violation of my right to personal privacy. I'm also not convinced that the radiation they emit is innocuous. Moreover, pat-down screening is offensive, not only to our civil liberties, but to the spirit of American's rights to protection from search and seizure.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 8:52:24 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:ISA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Scanning or Touching will not be tolerated  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:24:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

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Scanning or Touching will not be tolerated. I think I will not fly until your procedures change.

(b)(6)

\*\*\*\*\* (b)(6) is a nationally recognized multi-disciplinary contractor and ranked in the top 400 with ENR. \*\*\*\*\* Safety \* Quality \* Reliability \* Integrity \* Productivity. The information in this email and any attachments contains information that is considered by our firm to be confidential and considered legally privileged. This communication also may include content that was not originally generated by our firm. If you are not the intended recipient, please destroy this message, delete any copies held on your systems and notify the sender immediately. Any unauthorized use or dissemination of this communication is strictly prohibited. You should not retain, copy, or use this email for any purpose, nor disclose all or any part of its content to any other person or entity. This e-mail is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. Sections 2510-2521 and is legally privileged. The typewritten signature included with this e-mail is not an electronic signature within the meaning of Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act or any other law of similar import, including without limitation, the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, as the same may be enacted in any State.

From: (b)(6)  
To: [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
Subject: Fwd: Body Scan Screening / Hartsfield Airport, Atl., Ga.  
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:57:26 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b)(6)  
Date: Thu, Nov 18, 2010 at 1:42 PM  
Subject: Body Scan Screening / Hartsfield Airport, Atl., Ga.  
To: [tsa-contactcenter@dhs.gov](mailto:tsa-contactcenter@dhs.gov)

RE : Citizen COMPLAINT, LACK OF INFORMATION /RIGHTS / SECURITY TSA/  
SUBJECTED TO FULL BODY SCAN , WITHOUT BEING OFFERED PAT DOWN  
OPTION Friday , Nov. 12th, 2010 , Hartsfield Airport Atlanta, Ga.

(b)(6)

My husband and I fly to Palm Beach Airport, a few times each year, from Hartsfield /Atlanta. This past Friday (Nov. 12th) , we were traveling Air Tran flight 762 (Hartsfield).

I always request wheel Chair Assistance at airports. I have arthritis. As we approached security, my husband (b)(6) and I were separated at screening. He was placing coats, cell phone, etc. in the bins and I took my shoes off, and put them in our bin. (The fellow who had operated my wheel chair was not at my side. He went thru security and brought my wheel chair thru . ) I was 'on my own'. **THERE WAS NO SIGN , SAYING I WAS ENTERING "FULL BODY SCAN" NOR WAS THE OPTION 'PAT DOWN' OFFERED TO ME, WHICH I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED ! Nor was I offered what my husband had the good fortune to experience, to walk thru the normal metal detector WITHOUT BEING PAT DOWN . THIS WAS WHAT I WOULD HAVE CHOSEN, HAD I BEEN INFORMED OF MY OPTIONS/RIGHTS.**

As mentioned, I have trouble walking , so I approached the closest security screener . I walked towards what looked to me like the normal metal detector (also closest to me) and asked "**Is this where I should go?**" . **THE FEMALE TSA OFFICER SAID "YES"**. She did NOT INFORM ME THAT I HAD CHOICES : TO BE "PAT DOWN" OR TO WALK THRU THE NORMAL METAL DETECTOR . **I then walked into the radiated area, completely ignorant of this fact.** Only during the procedure, did it occur to me that I was being subjected to raditaion. As I walked out, I ASKED THE MALE TSA OFFICER "Did I just get radiation?" HE ANSWERED "YES".

This morning, my husband I told my husband how upsetting this was, and he seemed shocked. MY HUSBAND ASSUMED I WENT THRU THE NORMAL METAL DETECTOR AS HE DID ! I am very upset that I was denied this option, and have had long standing beliefs that radiation is harmful to health ! I am a published health writer/author/advocate, who has written about regulations of Mammography Screening , in my first book TOTAL BREAST HEALTH.

I WAS DENIED THE RIGHT TO REFUSE THE FULL BODY SCAN, BECAUSE TSA DID NOT PROVIDE INFORMATION OR SIGNAGE, ON THE MACHINE, I WAS DENIED THE

OPTION TO REQUEST THE NORMAL METAL DETECTOR, OR 'PAT DOWN'.

HOW MUCH RADIATION WAS I SUBJECTED TO ?

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 10:01:59 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Pat Downs  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 3:34:14 PM

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Dear Sirs:

I believe the new pat-downs have gone from reasonable security to unreasonable paranoia. There is a limit to the amount of safety any of us can expect in life. Because we have to be sexually assaulted to be allowed through an airport, the terrorists have won. I'm not sure I'll ever try getting on a plane again as long as these policies are in place.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Concerns about OPT-OUT OF SCANS  
**Date:** Monday, November 08, 2010 9:30:53 PM

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My oncologist at the hospital told me that the level of radiation your backscatter equipment puts out, is the equivalent of ten x-rays. As such, I refuse to go through them to prevent further cancers. Also, your agents are using less than honorable techniques like groping with the palms of hands. Many of us have been sexually abused as children and that is not acceptable to us. Some might not react so well do to PTSD. There is safety for general aviation and there is crossing the line. People are refusing to fly because of TSA methods which are wrong, immoral and a basic violation of civil rights and human dignity. Other nations are getting rid of this technology so why can't we? This is a make work program for the people who build these.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** "TSA OCR-externalcompliance"  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about OPT-OUT OF SCANS  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 4:14:30 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.gif  
image002.jpg  
image003.jpg

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They're arriving at airports across the country. Some complain they are invasive and an assault on our privacy. But are body scanners at security checkpoints dangerous?

Some scientists and two major airline pilots unions contend not enough is known about the effects of the small doses of X-ray radiation emitted by one of the two types of airport scanning machines.

The Transportation Security Administration's advanced imaging technology machines use two separate means of creating images of passengers -- backscatter X-ray technology and millimeter-wave technology.

At the end of October, 189 backscatter units and 152 millimeter-wave machines were in use in more than 65 airports. The total number of imaging machines is expected to near 1,000 by the end of 2011, according to the TSA.

While the TSA says the machines are safe, [backscatter technology](#) raises concerns among some because it uses small doses of ionizing radiation. The use of [millimeter-wave technology](#) hasn't received the same attention, and radiation experts say it poses no known health risks.

The risk of harmful radiation exposure from backscatter scans is very small, according to David Brenner, director of the Center for Radiological Research at Columbia University and a professor of radiation biophysics.



*Privacy group sues TSA over scanners*

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But he said he is concerned about how widely the scanners will be used.

"If you think of the entire population of, shall we say a billion people per year going through these scanners, it's very likely that some number of those will develop cancer from the radiation from these scanners," Brenner said.

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**From:** TSA OCR-externalcompliance [mailto:tsa.Ocr-externalcompliance@dhs.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2010 11:38 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Cc:** TCC-Referrals  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about OPT-OUT OF SCANS

Dear (b)(6)

Thank you for contacting the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA's) Office of Civil Rights and Liberties. Please be advised that, as your concern specifically details the technical aspect of Advanced Imaging Technology, we are referring your email below to TSA's Contact Center for appropriate handling. You may also wish to visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) and click on "Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT) Overview" for further detailed information. We hope this is of assistance.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

External Compliance & Public Outreach Division  
Office of Civil Rights and Liberties  
Office of Special Counselor

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 9:31 PM  
**To:** OCR-externalcompliance, tsa  
**Subject:** Concerns about OPT-OUT OF SCANS

My oncologist at the hospital told me that the level of radiation your backscatter equipment puts out, is the equivalent of ten x-rays. As such, I refuse to go through them to prevent further cancers. Also, your agents are using less than honorable techniques like groping with the palms of hands. Many of us have been sexually abused as children and that is not acceptable to us. Some might not react so well do to PTSD. There is safety for general aviation and there is crossing the line. People are refusing to fly because of TSA methods which are wrong, immoral and a basic violation of civil rights and human dignity. Other nations are getting rid of this technology so why can't we? This is a make work program for the people who build these.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** New airport screening procedure complaint  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 7:42:42 PM

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**Date of Incident:** 11/16/10  
**Airport:** Indianapolis, IN  
**Time:** Approximately 1:40-2:05  
**Airline:** Delta; 2:25 PM to Atlanta

Please accept my feedback for consideration in terms of the adoption of the new screening procedure. Although I deeply appreciate your role in trying to assure my personal safety, as well as that of fellow travelers, and understand that your agency is attempting to respond to an evolving threat, I feel that my experience went beyond what normally would be acceptable social norms. I realize that norms change, and that we live in dangerous times, but the attention that I received came very close to approximately two of the most personal medical exams that I have received.

In fairness, I thought that the news reports on TV and newspapers were a little reactionary. As a middle aged male that has undergone prostate & testicular exams by my physicians, my initial thought were that the majority of traveling adults have experienced more invasive experiences, and needed to be more mature about the change. After having experienced the procedure, I must say that it completely changed my perspective. The screen, on the receiving end, involved considerably more touching, re-visits of probed areas, and "displacement of assets, front and rear" than I receive during annual physical exams.

To be fair, the gentleman offered a private room, maintained a professional attitude, and demonstrated a genuine concern about my discomfort. Yet, having been in the medical industry for more than twenty years, and being somewhat familiar with what imaging technology is capable off, it seems that there must be a better, less invasive alternative.

Aggravating the situation, there was not visible access to signage describing the new procedures (the agent performing the pat down pointed out that TSA officers were standing in front of the sign blocking the opportunity to read the provided information). Nor were any agents assisting passengers with verbal instructions about the new requirements as luggage was being placed into the scanner.

As a frequent flier, I am generally very well prepared to quickly place items in the bins, and move forward. Without the required information, my luggage had been screened before I was selected, I was required to place my wallet, cell phone and belt in seperate containers, at differing times, and watch, from inside the scanner, as my belongings, with considerable space between multiple items, were reached around and over by fellow passengers. I could only hope that my credit cards, i-phone and computer would still be collectable as no effort was made to secure my items together, and away from other travelers; the TSA agents at the end of the belt could not have known what items were mine or belonged to others making theft a probability.

Please take my comments into consideration as you review the new screening procedures, and use my negative experience to augment TSA agent training so as to increase traveler acceptance of changes.

Thanks in advance,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Violation of Constitutional Rights and Human Rights International!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 4:31:08 PM

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Public letter submitted to congress:

Dear Congress,

I am pleading with you to stop the TSA (the airport security guys) and the intrusive "pat downs" I further ask that the naked body scanners be made illegal. These devices produce a NAKED IMAGE of a person including CHILDREN. The images are at a high resolution and are detailed images of GENITALIA OF CHILDREN for TSA review and approval. These are not "administrative searches." These searches/seizures are down right abuse and invasions of privacy. In all 50 states including Michigan ... the person would be arrested for conducting this search based on child pornography laws, and I think that tells you something!

The odds of a terrorist attack effecting me are 1 in 9,000,000 and the odds of being killed crossing the street are 1 in 650. Have you looked at the streets lately? Have we become so irrational that we spend money like this? My point is that more people will be saved spending this money on street repair than molesting airline passengers. Literally ... look at the odds yourself.

Give 1 billion of the TSA budget to scientists and doctors. They would save more lives than the TSA ever could or ever will.

My wife will not like the new TSA procedure. She is a good person and has modesty. Quite frankly, I think my wife will be crying for days after a TSA "grope" and I really would prefer not wasting my time dealing with this issue legally and with protests. Such procedures have not been used since World War II .... and by the Nazis! Protests is what are coming because Americans are so angry with the TSA for literally molesting us!

I don't think that you are this kind of a person. I think you are a good person and will help bring this to an end.

Thank you for you time and attention,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** New Pat Down Security Measures  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:41:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)

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Hello,

On Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:50 am, I was at the Minneapolis Airport going through Skyway Security. I was flying Delta Airlines to Chicago.

I went through the new full body scan and after that, I was pulled aside and subjected to the full pat down. It's my understanding that the full pat down were for those people who elected not to do a full body scan but yet, I had to endure both.

I'm not easily offended, but I was during the full pat down. While the TSA agent explained to me what she was doing, I had no idea the search would feel that invasive. This search was done in full view of everyone going through security. I was subjected to her touching my crotch three times. The touching, squeezing and pinching left me feeling violated which surprised me. When I thought about it, I realized that had this pat down been done a little more discreetly, such as behind a screen where no one else could see, it would have been better. I was upset and not happy that this was done in full view of everyone, employees all watching as well as the people going through security. I have no idea why you would allow this to be done in such an open area.

I know that we are still in uncertain times, heightened security no matter where you go. But, if someone has to endure both, the full body scan as well as the pat down, the pat down needs to be done in a more private manner.

Thank you for your time. (b)(6)

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** DHS & TSA Have Gone Too Far  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 3:16:54 PM

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To the officials whose responsibility is to uphold the law of the land,

It is not acceptable for Americans to be subjected to invasions of privacy that are clear violations of our rights granted under the constitution and state laws. Both backscatter x-ray and grope-down searches are not acceptable. By implementing these offenses you have played into the hands of terrorists and taken away the guaranteed liberties and human rights of Americans. Shame on you and may all who are responsible be removed from office and held accountable. I call upon Janet Napolitano to resign immediately for this crime against her country!

**"Any people that would give up liberty for a little temporary safety deserves neither liberty nor safety." Benjamin Franklin**

**"(T)he foundation of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality; ...the propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained..." George Washington, First Inaugural, April 30 1789**

**The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people, it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government." Patrick Henry**

**"Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God." Thomas Jefferson**

**"Government is not reason; it is not eloquence. It is force. And force, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearful master." George Washington**

**"Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is argument of tyrants. It is the creed of slaves." William Pitt in the House of Commons November 18, 1783**

Thank you,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Refusing a body scan at Dulles International  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 02, 2010 11:52:41 AM

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Hello,

While being processed through security to board a United Airlines Express flight from the Dulles International Airport to the Buffalo Niagara International Airport, on October 31st, 2010 at approximately 8:00 AM, at the Dulles airport, I notified the security attendant that I wished to opt-out of the body scanner in favor of a pat-down. The attendant did not understand why I would want a pat down if I did not have a pacemaker or other medical condition. I explained to him that I felt it was an invasion of my privacy. He told me to step aside and wait for a pat-down.

The attendant who was supposed to give me a pat-down would not approach me. He told me to just walk through the scanner, he assured me that it just 'detects metal'. After some time arguing and not wanting to be detained or miss my flight, I had no choice but to pass through the scanner.

I feel that my civil liberties were violated through this experience because although the airport claims that anyone can opt-out of the body scanners, in practice this is not true. Security attendants do not want to be bothered and instead try to trick passengers, and/or make a spectacle of them to other passengers who think that I am crazy for refusing something that I do not agree with. Officials need to be better informed that passengers have a right to refuse the scans and understand that I do not need to have a medical reason to do so.

Thank you.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 4:47:08 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 8:10:42 AM

---

TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa; Civilrights.TSA](#)  
**Subject:** AIT Searches  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010 2:32:45 AM

---

I read the EPIC v. DHP Opposition to emergency motion for injunctive relief.

Please consider this an addition complaint regarding the use of AIT, or rather electronic strip search which cannot detect inside body cavities and is an electronic strip search as unreasonable to me.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa.dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** new airport screening protocols  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 9:47:34 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in protest to the new screening protocols where passengers are subjected to a virtual "strip search" by being required to undergo a humiliating full-body scan, resulting in the display of a graphic image of their naked body to be scrutinized by a TSA agent. If they choose to "opt out" of the full-body scan, they are forced instead to undergo the same kind of aggressive ("enhanced") pat down that criminals and drug-dealers get, including direct manual contact with their breasts and genitalia. Children are not exempt. Such degrading and invasive searches certainly violate passengers' Fourth Amendment guarantee to be "secure in their persons against unreasonable searches and seizures."

Therefore, I call for the immediate and indefinite suspension of these "enhanced security screening procedures," as well as an apology to the American public by Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano for her ill-advised decision to implement it.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 10:55:56 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 7:58:20 AM  
**Importance:** High

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I have been very vocal in not allowing myself into a backscatter machine, but was tricked into it two days ago against my will.

I was getting on a flight for Seattle from Schiphol airport in Amsterdam after having to go to Berlin on business (I work at Microsoft). I walked up to security and someone pulled my passport and walked off telling me to stand in an arbitrary spot.

He then she to go stand in a cattle stall. I never travel to Europe so I assumed that was a holding area for some customs reason. A lady came over and said "Hold your arms up like in the picture", I was kinda like "huh?" and looked in front of me and saw a stick figure drawing of a person with their arms over their head. I said "I don't want to go in a backscatter machine, this isn't a backscatter machine is it?" She said "No", and I half heartedly lifted my arms up and said "what kind of a machine is this?" and a bar zoomed around me. The door opened and she pulled me out. I could then see a screen with a masked image of myself on it and knew they had put me into a backscatter machine against my will.

There was no way around these machines, there was no passthru or way to opt out. Only a funnel leading to two machines side by side. I looked from the other side and saw what looked to be a "normal" metal detector to the side but it was roped off with crime-scene like tape so you couldn't get into it.

I'm furious about this.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 6:25:44 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** complaint  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 8:54:35 AM

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Today I was harassed, harangued, intimidated, shouted at and embarrassed publicly while attempting to pass through security in Albuquerque. I make this flight monthly for business and have acquiesced to the security process until today.

The agent outside the security screening devices was arbitrarily sending people through the regular gadget or the "you're naked" scanner. He ordered me, not asked me, to remove my belt which I have worn through screening devices without incident for five years.

It was just enough rude, belligerent attitude to push me over the edge. If I didn't go through the "you're naked" scanner, I would have to submit to a "feel up" pat down after having gone through the regular scanner. The guy on the other side of the security device ordered me to "stand there" and wait for the grope. Having had enough, I went to the conveyor and retrieved my shoes and put them on. A very large man leaned over the conveyor with his eyes bugging out and shouted at me. Several other TSA lackeys converged upon me. I asked to speak to a supervisor. Meanwhile, my bags, computer, shoes and shoulder bag were run back through the xray machine because, according to the paranoid dialogue coming from the "very large man", I had touched my property when I put my shoes on.

The supervisor told me I had to submit to the "grope". I asked "What if I don't?" He was vague and said I could wait and speak to yet another supervisor. Meanwhile, the travelers behind me were stuck waiting for these geniuses to figure out how to handle this 60 year old white guy who has been through more airports over the years than all of them collectively.

Grope time: The bugged eyed shouting large man turned out to be my groper. He very slowly and deliberately explained what was about to happen. This appeared to me to be a tactic to harass and delay a person attempting to catch their flight. "A plastic gloved pat down which would include contact with my balls and ass." And this is what he proceeded to do. Humiliating, absolutely uncalled for, a violation of civil rights and one of the most ignorant policies ever espoused by a petty bureaucrat that I can recall.

Get ready for mass civil disobedience, TSA. Mr. Pistole may be resolute in his commitment to impose his will but it ain't gonna fly, and in the end, it will cost him his job and disgrace him in the process. I, for one, will be reducing my business travel by as much as possible: Reduced revenue for the airlines. And, will arrive plenty early for my flight to enable me to go through the time consuming, traveler inconveniencing process of the "grope" for as long as it takes to restore some level of sanity to the process of air

travel.

Enough is enough.

(b)(6)

(Do I get extra harassment at the airport for having voiced my opinion? Probably.)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 11:55:49 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Inappropriate Screening/Pat Down Screening Complaint  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 9:08:07 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am appalled that TSA has been granted with the power of invading my privacy and the privacy of my fellow passengers without requiring any cause for suspicion. A doctor is the only stranger I want seeing me naked, and he has signed a Hippocratic Oath to assure that he will respect patient rights and privacy. TSA employees, however, are subject to no moral code such as this. If a TSA employee is going to see me naked, I'd rather be able to look him in the eye while he is doing it (rather than sitting in another room) so that I KNOW he is behaving in a mature, respectful, professional manner; or, if he is going to objectify me- I want him to do it to my face.

Why is one passenger, who happens to end up in line for a scanner, subject to a humiliating and unsettling grope-search, when another passenger can waltz through a regular security line and not have his rights violated- neither having given any just cause for suspicion? Furthermore, what good is it to use these scanners when they aren't finding anything that couldn't have been detected through the old metal detector/back-of-the-hand pat down anyway? You won't catch terrorists this way, you'll just drive them to hide things in a different way. What is next? Scanners at malls? In schools? If I were a parent I would not want to have to choose between having my child pass through radiation or having a total stranger pat her down. The new scanner procedures are excessive, invasive, unjust, and most certainly, will prove to be ineffective.

This is why I am participating in 'Opt Out' Day, and will continue to reject the scanner system until it has been abandoned. Even if I didn't care about my own image being displayed, I would still protest, because this is not something I want for other people. We should all be able to choose whether or not to submit to this kind of search- not obligated to endure it simply because we have chosen to fly. Are train and bus stations next? I don't see how we can seriously view this as practical when it is just going to lead us down a path of restricted freedoms and ineffective security precautions. This is simply NOT AMERICAN.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa@eff.org); [Civil Liberties](mailto:CivilLiberties@eff.org); [TSAComplaints@eff.org](mailto:TSAComplaints@eff.org)  
**Subject:** Complaint against search by TSA  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:23:35 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am filing a complaint against a search that was performed on me by a TSA employee. The search took place on November 29, 2010, at or between 1:35pm and 2:10pm at the Spokane International Airport in Spokane, Washington.

I was going through security with my 7 month, 1 week old, baby girl to take flight 2355 on Alaska Air operated by Horizon. I had with me my daughter in a Baby Bjorn, a large backpack, my purse and my daughter's car seat. I put all my possessions on the belt to go through the scanner, including my jacket and shoes. I then walked through with my daughter (b)(6). As I was getting my things together, I was told by a male TSA employee that my shoes had set off some kind of alert and that they would need to be checked by hand.

Soon after, a female TSA employee came up to me and told me that I would have to have a full body pat down. I was holding my daughter, (b)(6) and getting ready to put her back into the Baby Bjorn, which is a front carrying pack for babies. The TSA employee told me that I would need to put her down on the floor right in front of a wooden bench and move over approximately 5 feet to a black mat with shoe prints on it so that she could perform the pat down. I told her that I would not leave my daughter by herself and on the floor any distance from me, as she could fall back and hit her head on the hard floor. The employee told me that I would need to put her in the car seat and I refused, as it is not safe to have an infant in a car seat that is not securely anchored, because the infant has the ability to turn the seat over and cause it to fall. My daughter was visibly upset and crying and I told the TSA employee that she would need to be right next to me on the floor so that I could stop her from falling if she started to tip over.

The TSA employee allowed me to place her near my feet as she did the first part of the pat-down. She proceeded to pat down the sides of my pants and arms. She then had me turn and put my arms out and patted down my breasts, crotch, and legs, all of which was extremely uncomfortable and my daughter was screaming the entire time. My daughter started to fall to one side, I leaned down to stop her fall and the TSA employee grabbed my arm and pulled me upwards so that she could finish her pat-down, telling me that my daughter was fine. I was able to catch her and push her upright with my leg so that she did not fall on her head. The TSA employee found a small tube of make-up, told me that I could pick up my daughter and took the item to be rescanned.

My complaints are as follows:

1. The TSA employee had no right to prevent me from aiding my daughter in a dangerous situation. My daughter could have fallen over and cracked her head on the floor and the employee grabbed my arm to stop me from touching her as she did her pat down.
2. The TSA employee tried to put my daughter in a potentially harmful position so that she could perform a pat down, with no concern for the well-being of my baby. You cannot leave a 7 month old baby alone on a hard surface near hard objects, as the baby can fall back or to the side with no ability to stop the fall.

3. Why was it necessary to perform a full body, invasive pat down on me if it was only my shoes that set off some kind of alert?

I believe that my rights were violated and my baby girl was put in danger by the words and actions of this TSA employee. I do not have the name of the employees involved, but I am sure they have record of the incident.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

A rectangular red box indicating a redacted signature.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Supervisor stares at groping with too much focus  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 21, 2010 5:07:16 PM

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I an elderly female traveller with artificial hips. I was submitted to a female search and as I was ( there is no other term) felt up by the female assist her supervisor, (b)(6) (5:30 am Sacramento SMF , Am. Airlines gate 22 access) watched intently. They laughed when she went back to the desk. I chastised him and said it made me uncomfortable. He said:" just watching my checkpoint mam". Yes, they have the right of watch every move. And the males do. I have cried for a bit. I cannot say strongly enough how unsophisticated and irresponsible your people are. I am searched several times monthly , or was due to my hips. I now drive thousands of miles to avoid you people. (b)(6) is taking advantage of his position and has an attitude that he shared with me of entitlement and power/control. You have created this. I want an apology and so much more contriteness on the misuse of the innocent.

(b)(6)  
PS: I have forwarded this to (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 12:25:48 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Formal Complaint  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 29, 2010 3:25:21 AM

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Dear DHS -

I want to file a formal complaint against the TSA. Today, after spending an entire day on the phone, I was forced to get a refund for an airline fair I had booked on Friday.

Despite substantial effort on my part, no one at the TSA would guarantee to me that I wouldn't be irradiated or sexually assaulted if I tried to board my flight on Friday.

I do not consider being irradiated or sexually assaulted to be reasonable security screening procedures.

Please investigate, correct, and terminate these policies. The biggest hazard I currently experience when flying is not terrorists, it is the behavior of the TSA, -YOU- people are making flying not safe.

Exposure to radiation that isn't necessary (or even effective according to the ample reports online) or being sexually assaulted by government workers just to get on a plane is -NOT- reasonable.

This issue is certain to re-occur and for my next flight I will be calling the TSA again and wasting a lot of people's time trying to secure a guarantee that I will not be irradiated nor sexually assaulted by the government just to travel.

This is a formal complaint. Please open a case for it and file it, and investigate it. If you need more information from me, I can be reached at this e-mail or by phone at (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Inappropriate screening and groping  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:07:47 PM

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I traveled from Mpls Int'l to O Hare airport on Wednesday, Nov. 17. I was required to go through the full body scanner AND I was padded down from shoulders to ankles on BOTH sides of my body! The security personnel were VERY RUDE and did not explain anything to me about the process at all! And held me at the end of the aisle after I went through the scanner and made me wait and then a woman approached me and started padding me down like I was going to prison! If I did not have to travel for business, I would not travel at all! This is very humiliating and I do not feel this is effective and you are going after the wrong people! The terrorists have won!

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Formal Complaint  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 2:14:21 PM

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I flew out of San Francisco on 11/19/10 --- and was subjected to a "pat down" not as a choice but because i was wearing "loose clothing"!!! I travel weekly and have never been treated so badly and have never had a pat down. AND I was wearing a basic white shirt and a pair of jeans. This is unacceptable and the TSA agent had no additional explanation.

I will be writing to other agencies on this issue as well as all the coverage I hear in the media is about people who chose not to go thru the XRay and were aware of the pat down. This was not my case. If there is a formal channel for complaints for TSA, please advise so that I may go thru the proper channels.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:26:19 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Pat Down Incident  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 07, 2010 1:29:49 AM

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To whom it may concern:

My name is (b)(6) Last Thursday morning around 5 am I was travelling on business from BWI to Cleveland. The Rapiscan machines were in effect and I politely declined to be body scanned by X-Rays as is my right. An agent at the front near the machine questioned me "out of curiosity" about my motive and even tried to lecture me on the "proven fact" safety of the machines. I politely told him I just wanted there to be more testing, especially since I am a frequent traveller.

I was then taken back to be publicly screened by means of an enhanced pat down which I politely and courteously accepted even smiling - just trying to submit to an uncomfortable procedure in the best way possible at 4 in the morning. Never did I expect that after being informed by the agent that he would feel the inside of my leg until there was resistance that I would be hit - uppercutted essentially - in my most sensitive area. I estimate the agents' hand hit me at 10 mph. I jumped involuntarily, and shouted. The agent asked what was wrong. I blurted out "You just nailed me in the balls!" instinctively. He asked me before and after if I wanted a private screening. He did apologise and was relatively nice considering what he had done. The supervisor came over and asked what was wrong. I explained what happened. He said nothing more than, "be more careful" to the agent, and had the gall to say to me "This will be much easier next time if you just go through the body scanner." I declined a private screening because I was legitimately scared and confused at that point. I felt violated. I certainly did not want to be further violated in some back room where normal people could not witness whatever they were going to do to me. The agent continued his tactile scan of my body again touching my genitalia with his fingers for an unusually long time.

I think the way people are being treated is absolutely disgraceful. In the rest of our society, treating people this way lands one in prison and on sex-offender registries. No one - not even prisoners - deserve to be assaulted and humiliated in this way. The incident I have related is recorded on the BWI security cameras. I would like a copy of the video, and I would like to request an investigation into what happened to me that morning. I am considering taking civil action against the TSA, the TSA agent, trainers of that agent, and the TSA manager in charge. If I see significant action on behalf of the TSA to address my concerns, I will consider letting it go. Having taken the weekend to think about it, I feel I have to do something. If that is what I experienced, I am sure the experience for others is multiple times worse. That is simply unacceptable.

I await your response.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 2:17:14 AM

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(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petition/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petition/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices).

To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Date:** To Whom It Concerns,  
Saturday, December 04, 2010 10:47:59 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the

petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Scan / Pat down  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 5:35:10 PM

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I am outraged at the new TSA full body scan and pat downs!

This is a violation of the United States Constitutions 4<sup>th</sup> amendment and is an infringement upon my freedom.

The proclamation that the back spatter is safe has not been independently tested by multiple unbiased agencies and there is real concern as to its safety.

It is my understanding that Four UC researchers/analyst have written the president concerning this matter and the various health risk due to the concentration of these rays on skin and internal organs (unlike normal x-rays that are directed across the whole body).

This accompanied by the fact that I do not wish to have my body image captured for my own personal reasons is wholly intrusive.

The pat down and the scanners will not protect us from those who seek to harm us – all one needs to do is conceal various explosive within their body cavities.

Will that be next? To have someone run their hands upon my body, around my breasts, up my thighs, and across my vaginal area and buttock is reserved for my husband only.

Words can not express the ire that I feel for this most invasive reproach upon me as United States citizen.

I most certainly will be supporting any and all legal societal and political efforts to stop this unconstitutional assault.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, December 04, 2010 5:37:50 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Discrimination  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 11:17:28 AM

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To whom it may concern in the TSA Office of Civil Rights and Liberties (TSA-6)

RE: Traveler Screening Discrimination Complaint

This is regarding to violation of Health Information Portability and Accountability Act/Protected Health Information and Civil Rights discrimination on the basis of a disability.

I am 80+ years old, I got my first artificial hip, right, in 1998 and my left in 1999. Since the inception of TSA I have never been allowed through security without an investigation because I set off the metal detector. I got used to the wand and didn't find it too intrusive.

However, now with pat downs I am of the opinion that I am being discriminated against. On Nov. 8, 2010 I flew out of Palm Spring, CA. During the rub up the inside of my legs the young man did this forcefully and hit me in the testicles, which gave me some discomfort. When his pat down was completed he then had to check out his gloves for "explosives residue". This in my opinion is clearly discriminatory, for, what set off the detector was artificial hips. Second, I don't believe that his pat down could determine in any way whether or not I had artificial hips and as a result is a total waste of his and my time.

On Nov. 11/10 I flew back to Palm Springs from Anchorage, Alaska. As I went through the metal detector it rang as it always does with me and I told the operator as I always do, that I have artificial hips. At this point the operator announced, in a loud voice for all to hear, "Artificial Hip Check". This loud announcement is contrary to federal HIPPA law regarding protective health information and discriminates against me.

I again was subject to the pat down procedure, although I told the young man about my previous experience and he was somewhat more sensitive. However, I still don't know how this intrusive procedure can determine whether or not I have artificial hips or why I must be checked for explosive residue. All folks who pass through the metal detector and do not set it off do not have to be patted down for explosives. The only reason I set off the metal detector is my hips and a simple wand would determine this and allow your inspectors to do other things. Metal hip devices are not equated with explosive materials, but the TSA procedure assumes if you have metal implants, you may also have explosive materials. Again, those who do not set off the metal detector at all are not assumed, apparently, to be carrying explosive materials.

There must be a way for TSA to

- \* permit the presentation of a physician's signed affidavit of my disability condition stated thereon, or
- \* TSA-issued identification card with my disability condition stated thereon, or
- \* a TSA-issued chip implant -- like is done for dogs -- to be issued by the United States government along with my US Passport that would indicate a hip implant and thereby subject me to metal wand to verify the presence/authenticity of the

artificial hips, rather than taking the leap to the third level check to search for explosive materials which is not conducted on passengers who walk through the metal detector without setting it off.

After all you been in business for nine years now isn't about time you figured some way to deal simply with artificial joints, which in most instances are found on senior citizens!

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

A rectangular red box containing the text "(b)(6)", indicating a redacted signature.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** full-body scanning and pat-down procedures  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:31:16 PM

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I vehemently object to the new procedures introduced by the TSA. I do not believe that they are effective in removing the threat of terrorists. I do think they are highly offensive, unhealthy, and extremely invasive. The very thought of going through one of your scanners or being violated by one of your pat-downs has made me call my airline company and request a refund for my tickets. I refuse to fly with such outlandish practices. I feel the threat of terrorism has become a promise of terrorism, only instead of it coming from outside of our country's borders, it is coming from within, from the TSA. This organization is causing more fear, upheaval and havoc to the public than the threat of someone with a Muslim background carrying chemical components for a bomb in his underware. Your new procedures are going to have an extremely negative impact on the airline industry, and can we really afford that as a nation? Go back to the metal detectors. Begin using intelligent means of looking for terrorists rather than invading the privacy of the innocent. You know what the typical terrorist looks like. You know their background. Check people out who fit into those categories and leave the rest of us alone. Until TSA re-thinks its procedures, changes them to effective, non-invasive ones, I will choose other means of transportation. I imagine my plan is not a novel one, and that it won't be long before others will choose this route, too. It is my fervent hope that common sense will begin to prevail in the TSA and that you will change your procedures very soon.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Body Scans  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:37:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

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Dear Sirs,

I strongly protest the use of body scanners by the TSA. I feel they are very invasive and that there are alternative technologies available which are non-invasive and should be used in lieu of body scanners.

Please make extraordinary efforts to explore and implement these alternative technologies immediately. Remove all body scanners from our nation's airports and replace them with more appropriate (less-invasive) machines.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Demanding my civil rights for flying  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 3:53:04 AM

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TSA office:

As a disabled person with an artificial hip, I was already very upset since over the last 9 years I have been treated with suspicion because TSA turned up the sensitivity of metal detectors, and now I set off the alarm every time. I am sick and tired of being patted down every time I fly.

Last summer when I flew, I refused the full body scanner machine because I am a CANCER SURVIVOR and do NOT want to subject myself to any unnecessary radiation. While you have "experts" stating there is no danger, WE DO NOT KNOW THIS!

By coincidence, I previously worked for (b)(6) at University of California San Francisco. He is a distinguished scientist, and you need to listen to his concerns about the lack of safety of the scanner technology.

I also do not know that the scanners are maintained adequately and that the settings are correct. I am not going to just trust that some bureaucrat paid adequate attention to this.

I also do not want to be physically molested by a TSA representative. I am very upset over the prospect of this humiliation, and would consider it physical assault - unwanted touching - and would expect that the TSA person be arrested.

It is not true that someone in the West has the "choice" not to fly, because we are SO FAR AWAY from the East Coast.

This is an outrageous violation of our civil rights, and I demand as an American citizen that you change this outrageous policy.

As we have learned from Israel's security, you need to pay attention to the individual people. Ask each traveler a couple of questions, read their physical reactions - this is the way to find terrorists. This would not violate the civil rights of innocent American citizens.

It is because of TSA's stupid policies that the terrorists are WINNING because they are causing you and other Americans to be so terribly afraid as to give away the very thing that makes this country great - our civil rights.

Shame on you!

Most sincerely,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Monday, December 06, 2010 8:50:23 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:26:25 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

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These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Feedback to TSA: Inappropriate Screening/Pat Down Screening  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 6:05:55 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I have flown at least three times a year for my entire life. I have done this because my family is spread out across the country and I like to visit them as often as possible. Please be advised that since I find the new TSA screening and pat down procedures invasive and unconstitutional I will no longer be flying. Consider this a formal complain on my part of these procedures. Please stop lying to the public claiming that you are not receiving a large number of complaints about these procedures because everyone I speak with is irate. Would you allow your daughter to be patted down by a stranger and not feel like punching the person that did it? It leaves scars... just like a rape leaves scars. Whatever "security" you believe to be enhancing is NOT worth this price!

Thank you,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** new scanners and enhanced pat-downs  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 3:25:43 PM

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I am writing to express my displeasure in the new TSA requirements. I do not wish to be virtually strip-searched or groped before flying. Just because I purchased a ticket, does not mean that I have acquiesced to this kind of rights violation. These new methods violate personal privacy and are indecent. No one deserves the right to look at naked images of me or my family or to touch my or my family's genital area 'for security'. This is wrong. Please know that this will cause people to boycott flying and many, many people will be opting out of the scans in coming days and months which will prolong wait times and make flying a nightmare. The holidays are supposed to be happy times; but this does not bode well for the start of the holiday season when numerous people will take to the skies.

Thank you.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Complaint Honolulu  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 1:34:14 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

On Tuesday November 16th around 6:00 am, I entered security screening at Honolulu Airport to board Delta flight 1150 to LAX. When I arrived at the airport, I was cooperative and prepared. I took my shoes off, put my toiletries in a separate bag, took my jacket off and patiently waited my turn. I was directed to the body scanner. I had never encountered this type of screening before although I had heard of it. Although I was somewhat intimidated by the machine, as I was unsure of the process, I proceeded willingly. I had absolutely nothing in my pockets and no belt or additional items of clothing. I only wore a pair of jeans and a simple cotton top. I had a bracelet on, but I was not told to remove it. I stepped into the scanner and then was told to wait to the side. They said something came up, but would not explain what. I asked them what I could wear differently in the future to prevent this and they did not answer me. Through this process, they did not communicate to me what was going on or why they were holding me. As the scanner is an x-ray, I do not understand what could possibly have shown up. It was extremely intimidating and frightening. I was then quickly swept into a private room again with no explanation of what was happening. In this room, I was intimately patted down which blurred into groping and sexual assault. I found this process extraordinarily invasive, violating, humiliating and uncalled for. I had absolutely nothing on my body which posed a threat or anything other than the clothing on my back. Although this is "procedure," I feel that there were many steps missed in the screening process. I was happy to do the body scan, but based on this experience the machine is faulty and the immediate second step should not be a full a pat down which includes intimately and roughly touching my entire body. I felt that I was being treated like a criminal when I had done absolutely nothing wrong. In addition, the officials refused to explain why I had been led into the room despite my full cooperation with the body scan. I felt trapped in a situation which I did not fully understand until I was in the midst of being felt up. I honestly felt like I had been sexually assaulted. Once the process was over, I felt extremely traumatized, and currently cannot get the image of the incident out of my head. It keeps playing out over and over again in my head. Groping as standard is an unacceptable practice. First I deserved to know why I was being searched, and secondly, I did not remotely deserve to be treated like a criminal or groped in the manner that I was. This type of invasive and violating search should only be used as a last step and resort for people who have obviously acted in a concretely suspicious manner. I feel that my privacy and personal space was grossly violated for no apparent reason. I left this room traumatized and this event will haunt me for the rest of my life. I have never felt more violated or persecuted in my entire life. I never want to be put in this situation again. At the moment, I am extremely discouraged to ever fly again, and when I do gain enough courage to do so, I will be terrified every time that I enter the security check point, as this point has become a site of trauma and anxiety. While I understand TSA's desire to protect against terrorism, it is appalling that this type of search is becoming common practice. This type of treatment victimizes upstanding and law-abiding American citizens.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 8:11:45 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 6:11:32 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance TSA](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance TSA)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 21, 2010 1:21:06 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Complaint--flight on 11/7 from detroit  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 7:48:10 PM

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Date- 11/7/2010  
Airport – Detroit  
Airline- Southwest  
Approximate Time – 4:15 PM

**Summary:**

As I approached the screening location, I was “randomly” selected for a full-body scan (my son and most other passengers were not).

**Issue 1: I was not allowed to protect my valuables:**

I was told to remove shoes, belt, empty my pockets, etc. As I moved toward the screener, the TSA agent informed me that a piece of paper was still in my pocket (it was my ticket). I removed it.

- The TSA agent said, “you need to remove your wallet.” I expressed concern that the screener was further away from the belt than the x-ray machine, and I was concerned about my valuables, but the TSA agent restated “you need to remove your wallet.”
- I said “It won’t set off a detector”. The TSA agent said “you’ll be getting patted down”.

I didn’t understand why she said this and walked toward the full body scanner..her message soon became clear...

**Issue 2: The screening was aggressive, humiliating and demeaning:**

The TSA agent was aggressive and clearly wanted to show who was “in charge”. As I stood in the full body screener, the TSA agent told me to stand on the footprints (I was). He told me told me to move my feet to center them over the footprints (they were)... I shuffled my feet and then this happened a second time. The same process happened with my arms/hands. The TSA agent told me twice they weren’t positioned correctly, but it wasn’t clear what was wrong. Finally, the TSA agent told me they needed to “pat me down”. The pat-down was uncomfortable and humiliating.

During the “pat down”, the TSA “found” my wallet and said “ this needs to go through the xray machine”. I responded – “Of course I have a wallet. I told you that when I stood here. My concern all along has been separating myself from my valuables. Can I go back with my wallet through the x-ray?”. He said “no.” When I asked “why not”, he said “you need to talk to my supervisor.”

**Issue 3: The same TSA agent (Supervisor) who had heard my original concern regarding my valuables now had a solution AFTER putting me through this intensive screening:**

The same TSA agent who’d originally sent me to the full-body scan and told me I’d be patted down was called over. She told me I couldn’t go with my valuables, took my wallet and carried it through the xray machine and returned it. Finally, I asked what they were looking for that seemed to be a threat and she said “illegal drugs”. When I asked how that impacted airline security, she

said "TSA is part of homeland security... we have other responsibilities including border protection, customs and drug enforcement"

#### **SUMMARY:**

This was an AWFUL experience and makes me embarrassed to be an American... On a personal level:

- I feel like I was targeted by TSA for a full body scan AND pat-down from the time I even reached the security checkpoint.
- The TSA agents were clearly trying to show me "who was in charge" by "ordering" me to do the same task multiple times. (E.g- standing in the particular position, in the correct pose, etc..)
- I was uncomfortable in putting my wallet through the xray machine before, but did so knowing that I was "right there" and able to see the conveyor belt and claim my valuables before they were lost or stolen. The full-body screener was separated by an additional 10 or 15 feet (and it turns out for me, another 5 or so minutes). I don't know why TSA thinks anyone would feel comfortable putting their wallet, money clip, jewelry, etc.. in a place where they have no control over it? The TSA agent seemed to have no

On a grander scale

- TSA is infringing on my civil rights and those of other travelers while they put a system in place to look for yesterday's threat.
- To argue that most people support of this type of screening is irrelevant. The people who favor this kind of screening either don't travel or haven't been subject to this kind of intensive, intrusive screening WITHOUT CAUSE> Most people currently believe that the pat-downs they've received in the past are comparable to those being discussed today. That could not be further from the truth. Today's procedures are intrusive and invasive and are searching for yesterday's threat.
- 5 minutes of time by two TSA agents were wasted looking at a man presenting a US passport who was carrying nothing but paper... (From what I've seen on TV, TSA also has time to spend screening 6 year old kids, women with mastectomies and other "threats"). When does TSA decide that it might be better to spend it's time looking at "profiles of terrorists". All 9/11 bombers and the underwear would-be bomber were non-US citizens.  
**Why are we targeting our own citizens for this kind of demeaning and intrusive behavior?**

TSA's new screening process is demeaning, unprofessional and embarrassing. Furthermore, it addresses yesterday's threat (not today's or tomorrow's), infringes on our civil liberties AND is a huge waste of time and resources.

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Your complaint should include a description of the incident. The description should include the date of the incident, the approximate time of the incident, the name of the airline carrier on which you were flying, and the name of the airport. The complaint should also explain what happened. The explanation should include why you feel the incident constituted a civil rights or civil liberties violation and why you feel you were treated differently, or discriminated against by this incident.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 10:26:43 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Complaint  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 11:57:50 AM

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Dear TSA,

I am writing to you to express several concerns over current TSA procedures at airport security check points.

Before I start, I'd like to provide background information on myself. I live in Newton MA, work in the technology industry and am a frequent flier who commonly achieves 1k status on United Airlines. I also frequently fly many other airlines as part of my job and for personal travel. Regardless of the airline flown, since September 11th 2001, I have witnessed TSA's processes and procedures evolve over time from reasonable security checking intended to protect the public, to what I believe has now become obtrusive and possibly illegal behavior. It is for these reasons that I am writing to you.

As you are aware, TSA has already deployed hundreds of Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT) whole body scanning machines. Within the next several years the number of AIT machines will significantly increase to over 2,000 in the U.S. alone. There is considerable concern amongst Oncologists (including my wife who is an Oncologist) and others about ionized radiation that is emitted from these machines, their impact on our collective health and the fact that they may cause cancer. That being the case, deploying backscatter x-ray systems such as AIT imaging machines should be halted until these machines are proven to be harmless to the public.

In addition, whole body imaging devices are a violation of our constitutional right not to be subjected to government search and seizure. Having airport security people taking fully nude pictures of men, women and children clearly violates our 4th amendment rights and should be eliminated immediately. It is also illegal to take nude pictures of children which is prohibited by child pornography laws.

TSA does offer an option to "opt-out" of AIT screening. If a traveler opts out of a search this then results in a full body hand search by a TSA employee. This experience is degrading. Recently these searches have begun to border on obscene, with TSA employees fondling women's breasts, grabbing men by the crotch and putting their hands between traveler's buttocks. As a husband, father and traveler, I do not want my wife, children or myself subjected to such search methods by TSA employees. These invasive search methods should be stopped immediately.

As a personal example of how bad the situation is, my 12 year old son was recently ordered to go through an AIT machine. Since he was in front of me in the security line, I was unaware of this until he was already getting scanned in the AIT machine. It is standard practice in hospitals, dental offices and other places where radiation emitting devices are used to only use those devices on children with their parents consent. That was not done in this case - I was never consulted and my son was ordered by TSA to be subjected to what I believe is harmful radiation and illegal search. When I complained to a TSA officer, he told me that I could have my son hand searched if I

prefer - after he had already been scanned. What good is that?

For the reasons cited above, I urge TSA to review it's processes and adopt less intrusive methods of ensuring security. Ultimately TSA's current methods will result in significant damage to the economy because frequent business travelers, like myself, will simply refuse to fly anymore. How does that help the U.S.A.?

Thank you.

(b)(6)

A rectangular red box indicating a redacted section of the document.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_fsa](#)  
**Subject:** new scans & searches  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 1:12:20 PM

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Hello,

I have flown all my life and around the globe and am seriously rethinking flying in our country (US) again. These scans (porno) and " Enhanced " pat downs ( gropings ) are a violation of the Constitution ! These procedures are also a waste of time and resources.

Learn from Israel. They are much more effective at this without terrorizing the passengers. The only passengers who should be groped and virtually strip searched are those that pose a real threat, not children and elderly. Do profiling for those that have connections with terror groups and are suspects already. Stay out of our underwear!

Thanks

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint about TSA groping and attitude  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 1:43:04 PM

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As a frequent flier I am increasingly disgusted by the behavior of TSA employees and the unnecessary groping and public humiliation I am often made to undergo. While rogue agents and occasional bad days happen to all of us, passionately emotional and angry, mean employees who are acting in the full view of not only the queued passengers but the entirety of the TSA staff at a station does not suggest these interactions are out of the norm. At the very least, they are accepted behavior by those in the TSA.

Just leave us alone already. You can't stop jerkoffs from taking over a plane if they want to, stop harassing the rest of us who have a million times greater risk from dieing from the flu every single year than we do of ever suffering physical harm due to terrorism.

The availability heuristic is not a good fallacy to base security procedure on. Do your x rays for bombs, and make sure no one has guns on them, and just leave us the hell alone. If someone wanted to they could easily conceal enough explosives in their body to bring down a plane, and there isn't anything you could do. This is becoming security theater- a far cry from a rational response.

Please. Just stop

(b)(6)

Tired of harassmnet and attitude.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Agressive Pat Down.  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 9:30:25 AM

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Dear TSA

Having traveled recently I find your aggressive Pat down policy is unacceptable. Here is why. I have two artificial knees I set off the alarms at your check points. I always indicate before I go through the metal detectors I have the artificial knees, I can supply documentations that the knees are artificial. I will show your employees the scars from the surgery. I will allow my self to be wanded like in the past. How ever after having experienced the Pat down now used I will not allow that to happen again. I consider it assault even by Wisconsin statues I believe it would be considered 4th degree sexual assault. I feel you are discriminating against me because I had to have a necessary medical procedure done. These Pat downs have to stop. They are not constitutional and violate my rights against unreasonable search.

As A citizen who HAS DONE NOTHING WRONG, I demand that they stop.

Sincerely

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 11:05:58 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 8:54:40 PM

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Greetings,

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(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, December 30, 2010 2:26:02 PM

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance@tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance@tsa)  
**Subject:** Pat Downs and Full body scanners  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:58:39 PM

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TSA Administration,

I understand the need for heightened security, and I appreciate the work being done by the TSA to accomplish that, with the exception of the full body scanners and the "new" pat down procedures.

There needs to be independent research on the scanners to convince me that the amount of radiation we are exposed to is not dangerous. Why do they give you lead linings at a doctor's office, and the radiologist stands behind a protective wall, if it isn't dangerous? There is no way that a full body scanner emits less than a regular x-ray machine, which localizes the rays to a particular point.

Aside from that, I am disgusted at the way in which standing in those scanners makes me feel. We are not prisoners, nor are we citizens of a communist country (and we will never be). It is demeaning to us, those who the government is suppose to serve and protect.

Regarding the "new" pat downs, how dare any government entity feel they can do this to innocent civilians. We will not allow this to continue! And I hope no one dare touch my child!

I am sick of the politically correct crap!!! I do not care who's feeling we hurt because of profiling. If it becomes a choice between hurting some individuals' feelings, and treating all American civilians as is being done, we Americans come first! The government better start finding ways of keeping us safe and secure on our flights, that do not humiliate, or violate us! Common sense needs to take root in the TSA and DHS, or they will find that the US population will have had enough of it some day soon.

These practices are not only demeaning and violating to us, they are archaic, and reminiscent of the Soviet Union in the 1960's, or Communist China. Got news for the US government beauacrats: This type of treatment of US civilians must come to an end, or we will find a way to remove and replace the politicians and beauacrats who think it is just fine. Hundreds of thousands of US servicemen and women did not die in the last 200 years, so that our liberties and freedoms could be slowly eroded away from us. We owe it to them, as well as our children, to stand up and resist every effort to make us a mindless, compliant society.

Please, we ask for more common sense, high-tech and intelligence methods being used from our government to keep us safe in the skies, rather than resorting to and making due with these methods which are not acceptable to free citizens of the US. There has to be better ways.

Thanks you for listening to my discontent.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:27:33 AM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 3:57:28 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

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The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Screening process  
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 1:06:17 PM

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As a frequent flyer that takes from 4-6 flights a week I feel as if I know and understand the role and work of the TSA and its agents. I have to tell you the new screening policies are out of control. I refuse to go into the new devices as they have not been proven safe over the long term. Yes, I know you have studies that indicate they are safe. But only after long term use will we really know for sure. Remember Saccharin?

When one refuses the device you are deliberately making the pat down more difficult as a means to change behavior. You wrongly believe that by groping my groin, crushing my privates to the point where it actually hurts for the next half hour that I will behave differently the next time. You could not be more wrong. I will only refuse the next time around. These devices are simply not safe for a person to enter 4-6 times a week. Full stop.

I would like to complain not only about the process, but specifically about your agents at check point B in CLT working today at 11:45. They were far too rough, hit me in the groin, and it still hurts. FIX IT.

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(b)(6)



Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to

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(b)(6)

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~~This e-mail message may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the addressee~~

~~or otherwise authorized to receive this message, you should not use, copy, disclose or take any action based on this e-mail or any information contained in the message. If you have received this material in error, please advise the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete this message. Thank you.~~

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA Complaint Report  
**Date:** Monday, December 06, 2010 10:35:24 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

My name is (b)(6) and I flew out of Terminal C at Houston George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) on Saturday, December 4, 2010 at approximately 4:30pm. What I experienced going through the security check-point was nothing short of traumatic.

I was standing in line with my family going through the check point when I was "randomly selected" to go through the new "upgraded" security scanner by a male TSA agent standing in front of the scanner. At that point, I refused the scan because I am six months pregnant. The TSA agent then began to pressure me to use the scanner regardless and when I continued to refuse due to my pregnancy, I was then made to comply with a pat-down. At that point two female TSA agents took me away to a private room for the invasive pat-down. My breasts were groped, my vagina was touched, and my buttocks were grabbed. At this point I began crying because I felt so violated, only it did not stop there. After the "touching" on the outside of my clothes, I was forced to lift up my shirt (exposing my pregnant belly) only to have the TSA agent put her hand down both the front and the back of my pants. It was at this point, I was declared to be "clear" and I was allowed to rejoin my family. I left feeling both humiliated and that my dignity had been taken from me. The male TSA agent who was in charge of "randomly selecting" passengers also appeared to only be selecting female travelers to go through the new scanner. The entire time I was being held in the security area, no males were selected to go through this intrusive procedure.

While all of this was going on, the TSA agents kept reciting what seemed to be the rehearsed lines they were told to give about how this "procedure" is keeping Americans safe. No American citizen should be subjected to what I was subjected to on December 4<sup>th</sup>. This policy is ABSOLUTELY a violation of everything that the United States is supposed to stand for. It is my request that not only the incident in Houston is investigated, but the entire policy be given more consideration and ultimately revised. I both understand and agree that proper security measures must be taken before boarding an airplane and those travelers must be kept safe. However, policies such as this make our country look less like a democratic republic and more like a military state.

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 9:21:29 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** travel security pat down at airports  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 8:26:20 AM

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Dear TSA,

On Oct 31st 2010, I checked in at the Cleveland Hopkins airport for a trip to Minneapolis and on to Amsterdam. I went through the body scanner as I do in Amsterdam regularly. The difference between the Amsterdam and Cleveland screening is the complete pat down in Cleveland because I am diabetic and carry an insulin pump. I am afraid I will have to endure the immensely intrusive pat down every time I travel by air. I rather take my pants off in public than being patted down like this again. They touched and squeezed my boobs and vagina as if I am some criminal.

The pump is attached to my body and shows up in the whole body scanner. Because I am diabetic and carry a pump, what are my options? I can take the pump off temporarily as I go through security. I take the pump off when I shower, so that is not a big deal. I will have to open my pants to reach the connection of the pump with my body. Will they arrest me when I do that in public?

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 9:33:06 AM

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I wish to file a formal complaint about a recent trip from Washington Dulles to Boston. Please direct me to the web interface for filing the complaint. You people are way out of line with these physical searches.

(b)(6)

~~This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the named addressee. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. E-mail transmission cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. The sender therefore does not accept liability for any errors or omissions in the contents of this message which arise as a result of e-mail transmission. This message is provided for informational purposes and should not be construed as an offer to buy or sell any securities or related financial instruments.~~

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 4:33:18 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

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These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and we will post your response on the petition page. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Omaha TSA problems  
**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2010 9:39:23 AM

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The TSA workers at Omaha are criminal! My wife and I were flying through on Nov 7th, she had forgot and left some shampoo in her carry on. I cleared security and when the TSA worker told her she had liquid in her bag and she should check it I inquired how much liquid we were allowed and how many items were over that limit in her bag (was considering just throwing them out rather than paying for another checked bag) the TSA employee was immediately very rude, threatening to tear apart the bag and refusing to answer the questions. I told him I was not trying to be difficult I was just trying to figure out our best course of action, he continued his abrasive behavior at which point I informed him that I didn't appreciate his attitude and he was out of line. We then went back to check the bag and upon our return the TSA personal informed me that I would have to go through the scanner, keep in mind that I had already cleared security once! I noticed the sign that said it was optional but those who opted out would receive a enhanced pat-down, I felt like I had no choice. The was completely punitive and unprofessional on their part, the choice itself is a violation of my rights even if put at the discretion of a responsible and honest group of individuals but to give this power and authority to a group who so clearly is willing to abuse it underscores how broken our system of travel in this country is.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Full Body Pat Down  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 3:22:04 PM

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Over the past 2 weeks, I have taken four flights and had a full body pat down on each occasion. In May and June of 2009 I had both my knees replaced in separate procedures. They are now metallic and set off your metal detectors at security check points. In the past, I have been examined by your personnal using a metal detecting wand and then am able to proceed on my way. I find the new full body pat down to be both humiliating and invasive. I doubt that most explosives can be detected with the old style metal detectors. That is why the new full body scanning equipment is being installed. It is illogical that someone with a metal prothesis is more likely to be a terrorist and be wearing explosive underware than another who can pass the metal detector. It is discriminatory to subject one with metal implants to the invasiveness of a pat down when those without implants walk through without that humility. I conceed that we, who set off metal detectors, should be screened for metallic weapons, as we have been determined to have metal on our person. That can be done with a wand. When the new scanning equipment is available at the airports that I use, I will gladly submit, as all others, to that form of screening. Until then, I will continue to feel violated and discriminated against, as I know there are other, less invasive ways of insuring security. Is you wish, you may contact me by responding to this email or by mail or telephone

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa: 2100065633.48040.19@enews.senate.gov](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa:2100065633.48040.19@enews.senate.gov)  
**Subject:** Screening experience at AUS Nov 14, 2010  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 11:46:46 AM

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I am a female passenger who travelled from AUS to MEM on Sunday, November 14 and was subjected to the new pat-down procedures. I feel like I was sexually assaulted and national security is no better or worse for the experience. I would like to formally register my complaint against this invasive and ineffective process. After all, if I were to have ill-intentions, there is an obvious alternative for females. And, the fact that a female conducted the patdown doesn't give me much comfort without an affidavit of her heterosexuality.

I believe these new procedures are a violation (at best) of my civil rights, not to mention my sense of privacy, decency and morality. If any other complete stranger had touched me in that fashion they would be subject to prosecution).

I would like to understand what due process occurred before subjecting the flying public to these new procedures. I can be reached via the contact information below:

(b)(6)

Thank you.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** xray screening/patdown  
**Date:** Thursday, November 25, 2010 11:33:25 PM

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Hello,

I'd like to register a formal complaint regarding the xray screenings and genital patdowns. These procedures are a violation of our rights. They are humiliating. On top of that, CHILDREN are subjected to these as well, regardless of laws on child pornography. Please remove these unnecessary procedures and show the country that the TSA respects the dignity of law-abiding citizens everywhere. Until this happens, I will be driving instead of flying for all future vacations.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 3:07:18 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 6:57:31 PM

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:07:20 AM

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [undisclosed-recipients](#)  
**Subject:** Midway International/TSA Screening Procedures  
**Date:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:50:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [Napolitano.ltr.pdf](#)

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Please see the attached letter. Thank you.

(b)(6)

November 19, 2010

The Honorable Janet Napolitano  
Secretary, Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Madam Secretary:

Earlier this week, a TSA administrator testified to Congress. In that testimony, he indicated a need for the traveling public to partner with the TSA in keeping the skies safe. I would have thought that I was already a member of the supporting public.. .until this week.

Last weekend, I had the unpleasant experience of flying from Chicago to Orlando. I would like to take a moment to let you know what occurred and the issues that I think the TSA faces in complying with current law, abiding by the Federal Constitution, and fulfilling its mission statement.

First, please understand that I used to travel a lot. I understand the nuances of air travel and recognize the roles and responsibilities of the players at an airport. Last weekend, I flew first from Orlando to Chicago. Currently, I am temporarily handicapped due to a foot injury. That injury requires me to walk and stand with a cane, and it requires me to sit down to undress my shoes.

When I went through TSA security screening at the Orlando International Airport, all parties were cordial. I informed one of the first line agents that I could not take my shoes off unless I could sit down, and I inquired about the location of a chair that some airports have. Rather than providing me with a chair, I was given a "clean" cane and was asked to walk through the security equipment. At the same time, my own cane was placed through the x-ray machine. Once through (without any alarms or other alerts), I was asked aside so that an agent could test my shoes. I complied and my shoes were cleared. At no time was I asked to take my shoes off nor was I subjected to any additional forms of secondary security searches.

On Sunday, wearing the identical outfit I wore on my Thursday travel, I returned from Midway International to Orlando. I again inquired where I might sit down to take my shoes off. I was directed to walk through the security equipment for immediate secondary examination. I was not given a choice. Walking through with my shoes and my cane, the x-ray alarm went off.

I was directed to a small pen, clearly visible by all other passengers. I was asked to take my shoes off for screening, a directive to which I complied by sitting down on the chairs provided in this security “pen”. I was then directed to take my belt off. At no time had my belt alerted any alarm. In fact, I particularly purchase belts that do not trigger any type of magnetometer alarms. I was informed that I could not refuse to comply. When I asked if this requirement was a new regulation, I was informed that it was a regulation but it was not written anywhere because “we don’t want the bad guys to know what we do and where.” In a poor choice of words, I responded if the “bad guys” were libertarians or just certain foreigners.

The TSA agents at Midway informed me that they no longer used “wands” for secondary screening and that I had to take my belt off for x-ray screening and subject myself to a physical pat-down by hand. I was informed that I could not refuse since the process had begun, a process that I had not started by any event other than my temporary handicap.

The pat-down, though, was quite intrusive. As an individual trained in the law, and an extensive traveler, I know from experience the severity of the screening. It was greater than a Terry-stop pat-down and more invasive than any other physical pat-down performed by security in England, Spain, or Israel. At one point, the agent was literally groping my genitalia, an act that was painful (for personal medical reasons) and embarrassing as it occurred in the open and in front of my own young daughter.

Now, I recognize the war we are currently fighting. However, I am not willing to have a uniformed, Federal agent commit sexual battery on me for *my* privilege of flying on a private aircraft. How, I must inquire, do you handle minors who are flying? Do the TSA agents molest them in public? Do we condone adult men touching the private areas of minor boys all in the interest of safe skies? And what about religious individuals, such as myself, who have a religious proscription against being touched by certain individuals and in certain ways?

I am not an overly litigious person, but there must be a change to this situation. In my limited knowledge, here are the legal issues that are being ignored:

First, I believe there are two statutes which are being impacted by this new, ill-conceived regulation:

### ***American With Disabilities Act***

As you are keenly aware, Chapter 126, Title 42 of the U.S. Code provides protection for those with disabilities and a requirement for reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities in the arena of public facilities and transportation. The TSA requires passengers to take their shoes off for regular screening. Without the simple task of making a chair available, many individuals are incapable of removing their shoes. Without maintaining “clean” canes or a process to x-ray canes, those who require a cane or crutch to walk are forced to endure secondary screening which is burdensome, and discriminatory, and unequal to passengers.

I was treated unfairly and unequally solely because of my disability. If I had not needed a cane nor a chair from which to take my shoes off, I would never have been subjected to the TSA's secondary screening.

### ***RFRA***

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act (42 U.S.C. 2000bb, et seq) is also implicated in what is occurring. This law, as you know, seeks to support our special guaranties of religious freedom. In this statute, Congress banned Governmental actions that substantially burden a person's exercise of religion.

I am a member of the Jewish faith and community. Judaism dictates a strong family purity aspect. Certain individuals are spiritually inappropriate to interact and touch others under certain conditions. Having someone I do not know touch me all over my body substantially burdens this aspect of my faith.

While the RFRA provides an exception to the statute, I do not believe the exception can apply. The statute states that the burden can exist if it is necessary for the "furtherance of a compelling government interest." and that the rule or action must be the least restrictive way in which to further the government interest. I recognize the compelling government interest but there are other, least restrictive ways to address this interest.

However, several even more fundamental issues, found in our Federal Constitution, are implicated:

### **Article II, Section 9**

**No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another; nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.**

According to the TSA personnel in Midway, the regulations concerning physical pat-downs and related screening varies from airport to airport. This was clearly supported anecdotally by my own experience. If this is an institutionalized regulation, then preference is given to the free travel of some people in some states while encumbered by invasive security at others. Such a program appears to violate the prohibition found in Article II of the Constitution.

## **First Amendment - Bill of Rights**

**Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.**

This new invasive action has clearly inhibited travel. I, and many others I know, will not fly if it means we are to be physically searched and man-handled. Such a regulation and process abridges our abilities to fly to Washington to petition our Government. This regulation and its implementation has an amazingly chilling effect on me and on others. While I am aware of some court cases that have dismissed this concern, those cases came about in an environment of less intrusive, high technology searches and not invasive pat-downs.

## **Fourth Amendment**

**The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.**

Again, I am aware of the previous court cases addressing airport searches in light of the Fourth Amendment. My understanding is that those cases found the searches proper provided the searches being conducted are in the least burdensome manner. Changing procedures from non-invasive x-rays to invasive groping seems to change the basis upon which these decisions were reached.

## ***Right of Free Travel***

The doctrine of the "right to travel", the right of a citizen to move freely between states, is a well-established right. In *Saenz v. Roe*, 526 U.S. 489 (1999), the Supreme Court said that the right of free ingress and regress to and from neighboring states which was expressly mentioned in the text of the Article of Confederation, may simply have been conceived from the beginning to be a necessary concomitant of the stronger Union the Constitution created." These new regulations do not simply impede one form of travel. Air travel is many times the most economical manner of travel. For me to visit my children in Chicago, I must either endure these regulations or incur the additional costs in time and car expenses to drive. This is a very burdensome regulation and not worthy of our society.

In conclusion, I respectfully ask you, and those copied on this letter, to re-evaluate our goals in airport security within the context of our laws and Constitution. How can we search travelers in a least burdensome manner without abridging the rights and privileges we hold so dear and those who attack us hate so much. Though I have some suggestions, I urge you to recognize the problems with these new regulations and amend them accordingly.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

cc: Senator Bill Nelson  
Inspector General Richard Skinner  
Officer Margo Schlanger  
Administrator John Pistole  
Special Counselor Kimberly Walton  
Commissioner Rosemarie Andolino  
Robert A. Ratliff,

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCH-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** TSA Patdown  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 3:30:33 PM

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I fly frequently for work. I was administered one of your "new" pat down procedures and I am completely appalled. This is an invasion of my privacy. The Metal detectors, xray machine, and Backhand pat downs are tolerable at the most. But I beg of you to remove the backscatter naked image security scanners and do away with the aggressive new pat down procedure.

I understand you may be in a position of power and do not care. But let me tell you one thing... Karma is a bitch.

(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 2:53:46 PM

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I would like to follow a complaint against the new screening procedures.

Date = 11/22/10

Location = Lihue Airport Kauai

Airline = Hawaiian Airlines flight 190 @ 4:00pm HST

Incident: While traveling I was subjected to a triple search. 1st the fancy new full body X-Ray, 2nd a public pat down, & third a private pat down where they crossed the line. Seriously.....with such high tech X-Ray machines I do not feel it is necessary for TSA agents to run their hands between legs, against my jewels, all the way up to my groin then across my entire package?!!! With such great technology this action is totally inappropriate.

(b)(6)

Please respond with a complaint #.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Answer Alert from SURVEY ON THE SPOT  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 3:24:30 PM

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FORT WAYNE INTL  
FORT WAYNE, IN

TSA Experience Feedback via Web

Submission details:

Survey Questions:

What airline are you flying?  
Delta/Northwest

Rate the courtesy of the passenger security screeners  
Very Dissatisfied

Rate the time it took to screen you and your carry-on items  
Very Dissatisfied

Rate the overall experience at the passenger security checkpoint  
Very Dissatisfied

Rate your experience at the checked baggage screening area  
Very Dissatisfied

Rate the thoroughness of passenger screening you received  
Very Dissatisfied

Rate your confidence in the TSA's ability to keep air travel secure  
Not at All Confident

How was screening today compared to previous trips?  
Very Similar

Was the length of time you waited in line at the checkpoint. . .  
Much longer than expected

Should body-scan technology be used in passenger screening?  
Strongly Disagree

The no-fly list is effective  
Strongly disagree

What other suggestions or recommendations do you have for the TSA?  
Don't bite the hand that feeds you.

Please provide your email address if you would like to be contacted:

(b)(6)

Click to view submission

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Complaint  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 09, 2010 8:40:00 PM

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Dear Sir or Madam,

On November 8, 2010 I arrived at SBA for a trip to PHL via United Airlines. I was appalled and embarrassed at the new protocol for TSA search. I have two artificial hips and have been resigned to submit to marginally offensive searches since 9/11. I am deeply offended by the NEW protocol. Twice the TSA shoved her hand up by my groin on each side. Yes, she asked if I wanted a private screening. If I had known the extent of the invasion, I would have requested it and will in the future. Any police officer witnessing the event would have arrested her for sexual assault. I'm disgusted! I am overly examined while those who don't "beep" do not get the full inspection. THOSE are the people who are more likely to cause problems. Plastic explosives don't set off the alarm.

I am a 60 year old grandmother of 6, have attained premier executive status on United, obviously fly frequently for my job. Yeah - please profile me! I am the proud step-mom to a Navy man just shipping off to the Gulf. I love my God, my husband and my country. Any other private information you need, just let me know. But please keep your hand out of the private areas of my body.

Please reconsider this invasion of my personal privacy. Please profile.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Please address my complaint immediately  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2010 10:47:55 AM

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Hello,

I know that the folks at the TSA have a difficult, and unpopular job. I work in customer service and always have. And I am always respectful and pleasant and many of the TSA at my home airport know me and we chat every time I go through. I never get nasty, even when something inappropriate is done. When the lines are long I defuse other people's frustration and anger. Because I understand the tough job they have, though I travel full time, I have just bitten my tongue and put up with a lot of crap over the past 7 years including but not limited to:

- TSA persons watching me separate my bags before entering the security point so that they can be scanned better and then forcing me to reassemble them before allowing me to enter the security checkpoint.
- TSA persons and supervisors forcing me to pull out all of my medications and put them in a grey bin violating my HIPPA rights and getting very nasty about it. A violation of the TSA policies which I pointed out immediately. And instead of apologizing and admitting there was a problem, the supervisor grabbed my bag and threw it at the end of the security belt and told me to get all the meds out and in a grey bin before I approached again. that happened in Seattle. And I even took down badge numbers and last names.
- Food in my luggage after it was opened and inspected by TSA as if the person searching was eating and dropped nasty crumbs in my bag.
- - had my CPAP machine handled all over by nasty gloves that have been touching God knows what. It's a medical device. and it takes air forcefully into my lungs and with Chronic Bronchitis and asthma, I had to sanitize the machine with alcohol to try to clean it after it was handled the way it was. UNACCEPTABLE!!!
- Having my clothes pulled down in a search because I was wearing small inconspicuous medical equipment for pain management exposing me and forcing me to demand a private screening room immediately and then having to remove the device because the agent messed it up so I had to fly in more pain.

However, Two Fridays ago, I was accosted by a TSA agent and I because I needed to board my flight to get home, and because I felt if I said anything I would risk missing my flight because of vengeful actions, I did not say anything at the time. However, I will not stand for this kind of behavior, and unless I receive proof from the TSA that this has been handled to my satisfaction, I will hire a lawyer and sue the TSA.

At approximately 5:00pm on Friday, November 5th 2010, I went through the security line near USAirways to the left of the check in counter for first class in terminal B at Boston Logan airport.

While some people were allowed to go through the metal detector, I was motioned toward the xray machine.

I am not comfortable with the xray machine. I have had a number of medical issues and broken bones over the years and I have had a lot of X-rays and CAT scans. I do not want to be exposed to any more radiation than I absolutely have to. I do not like the violation of privacy either, however, radiation is my greatest concern.

An older man was the TSA agent, and when I went through for the groping, he said to me, "Our procedures have changed. Are you aware of the new procedures?" I had flown through Logan the previous Friday and had experienced the same groping that I was about to receive, which by-the-way, I fully believe is an intimidation tactic to force people to use the x-ray machine. When I answered yes, **he got right up in my face and growled at me, "So what, you like it?"**

Had I not feared that I would not be able to get home that evening, I would have called for a supervisor and made everyone in the vicinity aware of his attack. But, we all know that the TSA has way too much power, and that they could have easily not allowed me to go home. My job depends on my travel as I travel all over the country and sometimes internationally for work every single week.

And I really wanted to tell him, "Oh, yeah, I just can't wait to get into the airport and have some nasty, old, egotistical, rude, prejudice, ignorant ass hole groping me in front of everyone every time I go to fly."

My father did 2 tours in Vietnam. I had a back injury as a child that prevented me from being able to serve in the armed forces, but I was born an American and while I know this country has its problems, I also believe that it's one of the best places to live in the world. And I will not stand for being intimidated, threatened and insulted and assaulted while I travel trying to do my job.

I have almost filed complaints each time these other incidents have happened, but I know security is a thankless job as I have worked in system security as a software engineer. Most people take it for granted and view all security procedures as just an

unnecessary hassle. I have three family members in law enforcement. I have worked in law enforcement. I know it's a difficult job.

But, I've hit my limit of rude, accusatory, ignorant people as I try to go through security. Though I will continue to try to help diffuse other people's frustration and ire, and though I will always be respectful and pleasant to try to help the TSA officers have a better day, Unless I am satisfied that you have taken appropriate action--Get the entire TSA staff properly trained and aware of my medical privacy rights set forth in recent legislation (HIPPA), and civil rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America. Take swift and forceful action to prevent this type of behavior or this will be a very public lawsuit.

thank you in advance,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 6:59:11 PM

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I will refuse to fly now that you are doing these tsa's. I won't do it. And if I'm ever in a place where I have to fly somewhere - and you try to do your naked body scan or pat down - I will do everything I can to see to it that charges are filed against that airline for emotional trauma and damage, counseling costs, etc.

Bottom line - I was planning on flying this winter - I absolutely will not do that until/unless you get rid of these outrageous security scans.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** Screening Complaint - violation of privacy & gender discrimination  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 02, 2010 9:55:31 AM

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**Basic Facts:**

**Date of Travel:** Tuesday, November 2, 2010

**Time of Incident:** Approximately 9:35 AM

**Issue:** I had to go through the full body scan. The jeans I was wearing had a flap with a button. This caused an "anomaly" which caused a hand pat down. A female officer was asked to come over and perform the screen. She stuck her hands inside my pants - and inside my panties - in an open and public area. If there was such an issue, I should have been offered a private screen before I was horrified by her complete lack of personal space and an intrusion of my privacy! I have never been so humiliated while traveling. The way she touched me was completely unnecessary. After I refused to let her continue her screen I asked for a supervisor. Another woman came by, insisted the officer was just doing her job and tried to convince me to let them continue this invasive search standing in the middle of the security area! I refused and asked for a private screen.

What really infuriated me is that the male passenger in front of me also had an anomaly and was asked to empty his pockets. He pulled out a quarter. Instead of having to go through a pat down, he was passed through without further inspection of his private areas - while I on the other hand was treated in a most undignified manner.

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(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** TSA full body scanners and pat downs  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 2:05:17 AM

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This winter vacation I will be travelling over-seas and will opt from using the TSA full body scanners for health and privacy concerns.

However I am also very uncomfortable being molested and calling it a "pat down".

How can I fly without going through either of these violations of basic human rights?

Thank you,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCH-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCH-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Friday, December 31, 2010 1:55:32 AM

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Greetings,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

(b)(6)

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at [www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual\\_strip\\_search\\_or\\_sexual\\_assault\\_are\\_not\\_choices](http://www.change.org/petitions/view/virtual_strip_search_or_sexual_assault_are_not_choices). To respond, email [responses@change.org](mailto:responses@change.org) and include a link to this petition. 

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Improper Pat Down  
**Date:** Friday, November 05, 2010 7:05:02 PM

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Dear Sirs:

I traveled this week from Sacramento Ca. to Las Vegas, Nv. and returned. Both times I was subjected to a TSA employee placing his hand in my crotch and again inside my underpants. I do not understand what these folks are trying to prove, but it was a very, very horrific experience.

I feel it was discriminatory both times because I requested an Image scan. I can not help the fact that I am required to use artificial hips, But I do not need some guy feeling my nut sack and putting his hands in my pants. This is a disgusting procedure that allows all of the small children in the airport to observe one man on his knees groping the legs, buttocks and crotch of another man. I am disgusted by the entire affair. Sincerely, (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Traumatic Security Experience  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 15, 2010 6:37:53 PM

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To whom it may concern:

On Wednesday, December 8th I arrived at San Jose International Airport at around 3:00PM. I heard that there were new security measures in place and I wanted to give myself enough time to assess the situation and make an informed decision before going through security and boarding my Southwest Airlines flight.

Coming from a family with a medical background, I was advised to avoid the Backscatter x-ray technology due to the exposure to dangerous radiation. While I read the claims that the radiation is "within acceptable amounts" I personally feel that any non-medically necessary exposure is too great. I saw several passengers pass through the traditional metal detectors and was willing to submit to this level of security.

Once I reached the front of the line I was brusquely instructed by TSA agent with poor English language skills to enter the Backscatter. I responded that I was not comfortable exposing myself to radiation but would gladly pass through the metal detector. I feel it important to add that my entire ensemble on this day consisted of a thin sport-like (no underwire bra) a thin cotton tank top, and a pair of cotton and spandex leggings with no pockets, zippers, etc. Even a folded piece of paper would have been obvious to the naked eye under the clothes I had on. The TSA agent's demeanor became increasingly hostile as she again demanded I enter into the radiation. I declined once more. From this point on I was treated as if I were causing a great disruption to the security process. I was made to wait for several minutes while an agent who was willing to conduct a "pat down" was located.

Apparently the option of simply passing through the metal detector was not available to me? I don't understand this considering the number of passengers who had this option extended to them without incident. In no way did I give the TSA cause to assume I should be subject to any further screening than any other passenger. After being led to the area designated for "pat downs" I was told to spread my legs beyond shoulder width and hold my arms straight out. I was then subject to an invasive, humiliating, and traumatic experience.

The TSA agent conducting the search was aggressive, unsympathetic, and I feel did not conduct herself in a strictly professional manner. As she ran her hands up and in between my legs I began to shake uncontrollably. Both of her hands came in direct contact with my female anatomy. As her hands moved up to my chest and tugged at the underside of my sport bra I began to cry. I asserted that my rights to privacy were being violated and I did not consent to being sexually assaulted. She responded that my rights had not been violated. I strongly disagree.

As a result of this experience I will no longer be using air travel until the security measures are reformed. The cost of safety should not include exposing travelers to known health hazards or sexual harassment. The right to privacy is a fundamental component of what it means to be free in America. I am in no way a criminal or terrorist and I do not deserve to be treated as one. I truly felt victimized.

After enduring the TSA agent's assault I was approached by a fellow passenger as well as a uniformed police officer. Both had witnessed my experience and were concerned with my well being after having been subjected to the "enhanced pat down." The officer apologized on behalf of the airport and the passenger, who happened to be a counselor for abused women, gave me her card. I couldn't help but feel disgusted and have been deeply affected by this experience ever since.

Please consider this for the future.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA-ContactCenter](#)  
**Cc:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** New TSA Scanners  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 12:17:07 AM

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Dear (b)(6)

I am a professor of Mechanical Engineering at a major public university on the West Coast.

I am writing to ask you to revise airport security procedures, including use of new scanners at airports nationwide.

According to my colleagues at the University of California, San Francisco, these new devices have not been tested adequately and carry potentially significant health risks:  
<http://www.npr.org/assets/news/2010/05/17/concern.pdf>

It appears that my choices as a traveler now are either to have myself, my wife, and two little girls molested by TSA staff, or to perhaps come down with cancer in years to come, as a result of these new machines.

I refuse both. I refuse to travel from now on from airports where I know these scanners are in use. I will take a car, or a train, or stop air travel all together. Perhaps I will send an Iraqi student of mine to conferences from now on - after all he is sadly conditioned to living in a police state under Saddam, which is what we are turning into.

Stop this ridiculous security theatre, this ridiculous destruction of our constitutional rights, this Un-American Behavior.

Thank you for your pursuit of this matter.

Sincerely

Name Withheld

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.CCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.CCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** Porno scans and full pat downs  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:42:56 AM

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Hello: I am writing because I'm mad as hell. Let me explain. In light of the recent controversy over porno-scans and full pat downs I know what people are pissed about. I'm a disabled Vietnam era vet with a complete artificial shoulder made of Titanium. I received my prosthesis in 2005 and every time I have travelled by air, since then, I have be subjected to full body pat downs because my prosthesis sets off the metal detectors. Do you think that any of the TSA agents say to me, " Sir, is there a reason that your body is setting off this detector." No, they grab me take me aside, scan me with a hand held and then proceed to pat me down. I repeat, every time. Yes, they have felt my junk. They never ask what I think the problem is, they never ask if I would allow a more complete pat down, they just do it.

Your agency has lost the meaning of its' existence. You are a customer service industry created to protect and serve. Not just protect without regard for the people you serve.

Spend more time developing strategies to protect us without embarrassing us and slowing us down, we pay your salary. Use your Intel more wisely and target those that intend to do us harm. Study human behavior an psychology to better understand us and keep us happy. We pay your fricking salary.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Deaf flyer with artificial joints  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 3:55:10 PM

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Twice now when going thru the pad down at DIA I have had my pants pulled down.

I am asked to remove my belt before going through the checkpoint for carry on baggage and after they pull the pants down they won't allow me to pull them up saying I must keep my arms and hands outstretched!!

This is obscene and the next time it happens I will sue for sexual harassment.

You do not have to be so darn rude that you fail to listen to people when forced to do the pat down.

I am forced to do the pat down because I have artificial joints which always set off the machine and I am also DEAF so they refuse to consider my facial expressions or urgent pointing or whatever I can do to get my point across. They WILL NOT ALLOW me to carry pen and paper to the pat down area (nothing except my pants and shirt) and so I have NO WAY to communicate with them and even though they KNOW I AM DEAF they won't provide me with an interpreter or anything in which to communicate my needs (like please pull my pants back up jerks).

This is ridiculous and I am bringing my camera next time my wife will video the whole thing and we WILL be sending it in to 9 news, etc.

(b)(6)

Deaf flyer with artificial joints. Beware me I am incensed!

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance@dhs.gov)  
**Subject:** TSA Procedures  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 10, 2010 5:30:32 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

To Whom it may concern,

I have traveled often for work over the past 9+ years and have never experienced the gross violation I received today, 11/10/10, while going through airport security in order to board a flight out of Omaha Nebraska. I am a female who has a congenital deficiency of my left arm and has worn a prosthesis since I was 6 months old. So, I am very used to the security measures that have taken place over the years when a passenger sets off the alarm going through airport security.

In the past, for the most part the procedures were more of an inconvenience in needing to allow a little extra time prior to boarding.

However today, the procedures that were put into place as of Monday, 11/8/2010 is a violation to passengers as human beings. Feeling much like I was sexually violated as other passengers watch. I understand that a "private screening" is available. Today I was not offered this private screen and regardless, the private screening will take yet additional time and will not remove the total body pat down that was put into place and is a total violation. All because I wear a prosthetic arm.

I should not feel violated to the point of crying, raised blood pressure, shaking and humiliation for simply being a prosthetic arm wearer and needing to travel to a different city and state via air travel for my job.

I am 100% in favor of National Security, however the procedures put into place is a complete violation to passengers as individuals and their civil rights. This is a huge form of harassment for many passengers who simply wear a tool in order to function in everyday life. We should not be punished and violated for the fact that we are missing a limb and that artificial limbs are made with a large amount of metal.

(b)(6)

**~~THIS MESSAGE IS PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL~~**

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Overly invasive search on 12/9/2010  
**Date:** Friday, December 10, 2010 2:04:58 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I was flying home from a business trip on 12/9 from Fort Lauderdale International (FLL) to Knoxville Mc Ghee Tyson (TYS) airport on Allegiant Airline's 5:22 p.m. flight.

While going through the security line I was pulled aside by a man working at one of you explosive detection machines and told to "show him my hands", which he then grabbed and swabbed with a small circular pad and placed the pad in the machine with no explanation as to what he was doing. The machine gave an "explosive detected" response and I was pulled out of line. After my boarding pass and drivers license were checked I walked through a metal detector (which did not go off) and then put in a plexi-glass box in front of all the other people who were waiting in line. During this multiple TSA agents shouted "we got another one," which was very embarrassing for me as I had done nothing wrong and drew even more attention from my fellow passengers. After 3-4 minutes of waiting in the box, being gawked at by other travelers, I was taken out and told to follow two TSA agents.

One walked in front of me and the other behind me, they tried directing me into a room with smoked glass walls when I stopped and asked why I was being taken into the room. I was told by the agent behind me that it was for my own comfort for "what they were going to do to me." I asked the agent what exactly they intended to do to me in the room, and he told me that I was going to be subjected to an "enhanced" pat down that included touching my genitalia. I told him that I would not go into a room with two men whom I did not know and who had the intent of touching me in a way reserved for my wife and my doctor and that they could do the screening in public. The TSA agent behind me said "oh great another one of these," to which I responded "yes another one of those people who know their rights." As this exchange was happening a Broward County Sheriff's Officer walked up and asked them if there was a problem to which the TSA agent responded "no" and I said "yes." The officer walked away stating to the TSA agent "call me if you need me," to which the agent responded "oh we're going to need you for this one."

I was made to feel like a lowly criminal for doing nothing but standing up for my God given rights. The agent then told me that the search would be very embarrassing for me and that I should just go in the room, which I again declined stating "it's going to be embarrassing for me no matter where you do it, if you're going to do this you can do it where everyone can see." After this the agent went and spoke with the supervisor who told him to do the pat down in public.

Before the agent started the pat down he asked if I understood what was about to happen to which I responded "yes you intend to continue to violate my 4th amendment rights and touch me in a way that would have anyone other than a police officer making an arrest or a doctor during a check up, thrown in jail for sexual assault." He told me that he was not violating the 4th amendment and I asked him if he was a law enforcement officer that had a warrant to which he replied "no," I then said "then you are violating my 4th amendment rights." He proceeded to explain what he was going to do to me and asked if I gave my consent to which I replied "if I don't let you do it then you guys can fine me 10,000 dollars for not completing the screening and I don't get to see my wife and daughter, if I want to get on my flight I have to let you violate me, so you do what you have to do so I can get on my flight since I have no other way home and don't

have 10 grand floating around." He proceeded to do the pat down which I was quite uncomfortable with and which, surprise surprise, turned up absolutely nothing as I am simply a man who was trying to get home. My bag check whet on without event, and I was able to board my plane.

To surmise, I was made to feel like a criminal for the simple act of trying to fly home, I had my 4th amendment rights violated, and I feel that I was sexually assaulted by one of your agents. These policies are absolutely unacceptable and do not do anything to promote security. The TSA has not caught a single terrorist and the three events that happened after 9/11 were all stopped by the airline passengers, not your agency. These procedures are obscene and in the end do nothing to make my flight safer.

I think it is sad that when I flew for this trip I was not worried about terrorism, I was worried about the TSA. Your agency took me, a law abiding citizen, and subjected me to procedures reserved for prison inmates, these policies need to change.

Regards,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](#)  
**Subject:** Airport Security and Civil Liberties  
**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2010 6:12:51 AM

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To: Richard Anderson - CEO Delta Airlines  
Jeffery A. Smisek - Chairman, President, CEO Continental Airlines  
Glenn F. Tilton - Chairman, President, CEO United Airlines  
Doug Parker - Chairman, President, CEO US Airways  
Gerard J. Arpey - President, CEO American Airlines

CC: The Honorable Richard Hannah - Congressman NY 24th District  
The Honorable John L. Mica- Ranking Member of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee  
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison -Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation  
The Honorable Peter T. King - Ranking Member of the House Committee on Homeland Security  
The Honorable Joe Lieberman - Chair, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Re: My Upcoming Trip to Denver and Future Flights

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to all of you, the Chief Executive Officers of the airlines I will have to choose from in order to fly from Ithaca, NY to Denver, CO this coming April, 2011 - because I am in severe anxiety about what I will have to endure in order to fly on any of your airlines - this is in response to my most recent security experience in which I had to undergo the humiliation of the "naked body scanner" and a then a full body pat down at the Nashville airport. I have had enough.

I have been flying since I was a child, domestically and internationally, so I am an experienced commercial and business traveler, and as I am in my mid 40's I have seen a tremendous amount of change in the airline industry over the years - from an industry that took care of its customers, treated us with courtesy and respect, as guests in fact, to one that has allowed us now to become hostages to demeaning and unconstitutional search and seizure, just so we can innocently travel by air.

I am already experiencing panic attacks over my upcoming trip from the fear that in order to fly to Denver I will potentially be singled out - without provocation or reasonable cause - for another round of mortifying and unreasonable intrusions of my personal privacy. I am just a modest, middle-aged, mother of three. Why do I have to repeatedly prove my innocence and subject my body to ever increasing man-handling and public humiliation? My husband, (b)(6)

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(b)(6) has to submissively subject himself to this same humiliating violation of basic civil rights if he wants to fly commercially. He would have to passively stand by and watch a total stranger grope his wife and children- something he would NEVER do in any other setting!

Originally my family were going to accompany me on this trip. My husband and I have already made the decision that our children WILL NOT TAKE THIS TRIP WITH ME if I fly, because I will NOT subject my beautiful 15 year old daughter to the very real likelihood of her naked body being ogled, and then being groped and sexually molested by a stranger, nor will I put my 11 and 5 year old boys through this invasive travesty. So your airline is losing out on FIVE round trip tickets from Ithaca, NY to Denver, CO and any future family trips by air, because of the harassment we would have to endure in order to fly. This harassment would be prosecuted as criminal under any other circumstances. I will not have them growing up thinking this is normal behavior by their government.

I am looking at whether we could instead travel by AMTRAK so that we can travel together and not be subject to sexual harassment while traveling within OUR OWN COUNTRY. Each one of your airlines - airlines that fly out of my local airport in Ithaca, NY - WILL BE LOSING MY BUSINESS this spring, and I am reconsidering ALL of my future business and personal travel plans that would involve travel through

an airport, to see if I can totally avoid having to fly. I am also contacting my business colleagues to see if we could have some of our meetings over the internet instead, and whether we could make alternate travel plans for the future to rent cars or take AMTRAK - anything to avoid flying and the physical/emotional harassment at the airport.

I am writing to ask you, as the Chief Executives of your various airlines, as leaders in the industry, to stand up for the Constitutional and in fact Human Rights of your customers. Would you want strangers staring at your wives' and daughters' bodies and being "felt up" by intimidating officials? Or men in uniform fondling the genitals of your young sons? This is the not just the stuff of nightmares and totalitarian scenarios of science fiction. All of the harassment I have described has been recently reported by fellow travelers. Finally, there is no proof that any of this has significantly increased our flying safety. ENOUGH is ENOUGH! This increased TSA harassment is going to seriously effect your bottom line. Citizens are standing up against this travesty. YOU need to stand up against this, not just because it's good for business, but because it's the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance\\_tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance_tsa)  
**Subject:** Scared to fly because of TSA's new strip searches and groping pat downs.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 9:53:45 AM

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I have been flying about 1 – 2 times a month for the last year. Now, thanks to the new security procedures, I'm scared to go to the airport. The screening is a gross violation and a form of sexual assault.

Terrorists don't scare me. The TSA's new policy of sexually violating passengers does.

I want to feel safe while flying again, please stop the strip searches and groping unless there is an actual reason to believe a specific person poses a specific threat.

Instead of groping passengers at random, spend more time educating us about what to look for. Turn us into a force that can be used to stop a threat.

I will not give my consent to be either strip searched or to have my body touched inappropriately by strangers. If anyone tries to, I will be filing charges for sexual assault.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [OCR-externalcompliance.tsa](mailto:OCR-externalcompliance.tsa)  
**Subject:** To Whom It Concerns,  
**Date:** Saturday, November 20, 2010 5:36:09 PM

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TSA Office of Civil Rights

Greetings,,

The new TSA regulations, while working under the impression that they are making the traveling U.S. population safer, are in fact, terrorizing many marginalized people daily.

The TSA's backscatter x-ray scanners are invasive and leave those people who are able to use them vulnerable. Any number of people would have any number of reasons to fear using a full body scanner that would be so revealing. A person should not have to fear having personal medical information, such as pacemakers, prostheses, and certain forms of birth control, revealed in such a forcible manner to people who may have the ability to use that information against them. The bodies of trans people, intersex people, genderqueer people, and asexual people would be visible, placing their lives potentially in danger if the agent viewing them were to use that information to act in a hateful manner. It has been shown that revealing such private information results in acts of hate-crime violence against people in these marginalized categories.

People who are unable to access the scanners, such as wheelchair users and people with medical equipment that can not be scanned, will be forced into "choosing" the aggressive pat down searches. This singles them out, making the supposed opt out not really an option at all.

These individuals would be forced to subject themselves to these scans or "choose" to be patted down under the new harsher guidelines that allow TSOs to use front or back of hand and allow for the opening of clothing and the groping of body parts, including genitalia.

The TSA's own blog states that in this event, an officer of the same gender would be made available, but how can it be guaranteed that a person who is also trans, genderqueer, intersexed, or asexual will be available to pat down these travelers if needed? The TSA's own blog states that these pat-downs are not punitive, but I ask, how can this be when it is forced upon a person for wanting to preserve their own personal safety? The pat down must be forced upon children whose parents do not want to subject them to being viewed by these imaging scanners. The pat down is being forced on people, despite the lack of willing consent, which is by definition, sexual assault.

These new measures are too far, and are clearly in violation of the rights protected under the Fourth Amendment. The choice between a strip search and sexual assault is no choice at all.

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [TSA.OCR-ExternalCompliance](#)  
**Subject:** Humiliating Pat-down  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2010 5:14:36 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I was subject to-- or rather--suffered, a pat-down search at the Milwaukee Airport yesterday. It was announced by one TSA employee to another that "She set off the alarm", nodding at me. This was VERY embarrassing and bewildering. Better language would be "Ma'am. There is indication that a pat-down is required for you". Also, I believe a person should be informed what triggered the alarm, so that he/she has an opportunity to explain or display the situation. The only reason I can think of for my triggering that alarm was that I was wearing a sanitary napkin for my menstrual cycle. I would have gladly removed it to avoid the humiliating experience of what was to come. Since you are well aware of the pat-down procedure, the complaint I have is that I had to endure, in public view, a somewhat firm karate chop to the crotch with my legs spread. The TSA employee had informed me of what she was about to do for each part of my body, but for this she explained that she was about to "check my legs". This part of my body is NOT my legs. I actually jumped as a result of the, what I would term "assault". I am a civilized, middle-aged woman who goes every week to church (when not ill), attends the symphony, takes high tea, and develops computer systems for jails and courts for a living. If my reflex inclination was to smack this woman, I fear for the safety of the TSA employees who pat down hotheads. If the sanitary pad was indeed the reason for the karate chop between the legs which incidentally smashed my dignity, a suggested alternative is to confiscate sanitary pads for testing and provide women with a replacement pad. I'm all for safety in our nation's skies, but this procedure has GOT to change. If the TSA employee had done this assault to me anywhere else, she would have been arrested.

Sincerely,

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