



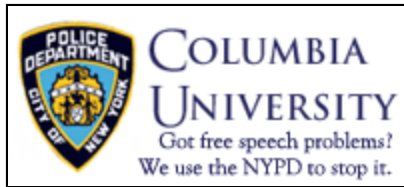
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## Arrested for sending an Email

### Columbia University uses NYPD to silence criticism

*by OfficialSpin NewsDesk*

New York, N.Y. -- (OfficialSpin) -- 27/01/04 -- Former Columbia University student **Ashish Sirohi** isn't happy with the way faculty handled his complaint regarding what he says amounts to some lost records and a number of other issues involving former Columbia College—now Columbia University Professor Dean **Robert Pollack** and former Columbia College Associate Dean of Student Affairs—now Barnard College Dean of Studies at Columbia University **Karen Blank**. Sirohi further alleges bias and prejudice on behalf of Pollack and others within the Columbia University system.



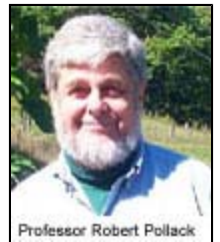
Sirohi, a mathematician, simply wanted to voice his opinion following what he believed was unacceptable behavior by Columbia officials and so on January 2, 2004 while most of us were nursing our hangovers, he fired off two Emails, copied to a total of just 13 people. OfficialSpin has read the Emails, both of which can only be described as tame—not even close to a proper flame.

On January 13, 2004, at around 5:30 pm, New York Police Department (NYPD) Detective **John Garvey**—working out of the 26th Precinct—arrested Sirohi at his apartment, making sure that he had disarmed him of all calculators, slide rules, and an abacas it is alleged he had strapped to his thigh.

During the arrest, one of Sirohi's neighbors spoke to the prisoner as cops were placing him in the squad car. Sirohi told his neighbor that Garvey was not working for New York City but was on a mission for Columbia University and that the detective was dangerous. In the drive uptown Garvey's partner said: "Mayor Bloomberg also works for Columbia." It is often said that many a truth is said in jest.

After almost 20 hours, and after having been moved to three different jails, Sirohi was released and ordered to reappear in the Criminal Court on February 25, 2004.

In fact, the Emails were about the two people mentioned but were sent to others and were not sent to either Pollack or Blank.



Professor Robert Pollack



Dean Karen Blank

After his release, a Court immediately ordered protection orders for Pollack, Blank, **Ronald Prywes** and **Michael Feiekman**. As a condition of his release, Sirohi may not contact these four terrified people in any way, and the order even prohibits all third party contact—which may be difficult given such a broad statement basically rules out speaking to anyone else on the planet.

One positive note I guess, is that the police didn't shoot him, which seems to be a traditional knee-jerk reaction for the NYPD.

It would appear from documents inspected by OfficialSpin (see below), that the complaint to police was false. It alleges the informant "felt threatened, alarmed and scare." **Pleeease...** Grow up. Why didn't you simply exercise your right to hit the "delete" key?

### **Related Documents (PDF)**

[Charge Sheet Pollack Email Blank Email Pollack Order Blank Order Prywes Order Feiekman Order](#)

If you need to obtain Adobe Acrobat (Reader), you may download it by clicking on the link below.



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