
From: Eitches, Edward E
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2007 2:39 PM
To: Thomas, Nancy A
Cc: Jackson, Alphonso R; Bernardi, Roy A; Pierce, Camille T; Parenti, Jim V; Parenti, Jim V; Edwards, Barbara J; Langston, Robert E; Federoff, Carolyn; Haley, Barbara A
Subject: Security: Access to HUD

I appreciate your perspective.

The union, which you cannot join because you are nonbargaining, has consistently fought to end requiring HUD employees to go through the magnetometer and placing items on the x ray machine. In fact, we signed a supplement that states HUD employees do not have to go through these machines. It is a sign of disrespect. I note that while it was imposed after 9/11, Mr. Langston supported the requirement because he thought it would prevent potential altercations between HUD employees. One of our representatives has raised potential health concerns, too (High level HUD officials have no health worry because they can skirt the machines). Security costs for this extra requirement are substantial, certainly more than \$1 million yearly. The two x-ray machines destroy the architectural integrity of the building and are a potential fire or bomb hazard in slowing unplanned exits.

We have recently raised this matter with the deputy Secretary's office. Your message reinforces the absurdity of the requirement.

From: Thomas, Nancy A
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2007 12:59 PM
To: Eitches, Edward E
Subject: Access to Government buildings

Mr. Eitches,

I served as a DoD employee for 31 years, both as a military and civilian employee, before and after September 11, 2001. Since 1988 almost all of my military career was served in the Washington, DC area in the Pentagon, Crystal City, or Fort Belvoir. As a DoD civilian, I worked in offices in Crystal City and attended meetings in the Pentagon.

At no time as a military or as a civilian employee was I ever required to go through metal detectors to enter buildings, including the Pentagon. Even when I worked in Crystal City as a civilian employee, I did not have to go through the Pentagon metal detectors to attend meetings at the Pentagon. My DoD identification card gave me access to all the buildings. I simply had to present my card to the turnstile (as we do here at HUD) and the turnstile would recognize it as a valid ID card and allow me entrance into the building. If the building did not have a turnstile arrangement, one would simply wear or hold up their ID card and the guard would allow entry.

Last year my daughter, during her second year of law school, worked for the Navy part-time three afternoons per week in Crystal City as a legal intern. Once the Navy issued her an ID card, she no longer had to go through the metal detectors to access the building. Her ID card was also good for

Pentagon access as well.

It appears to be standard policy throughout DoD that once a proper ID card or building badge is issued, going through metal detectors is no longer required. HUD is the first and only place that I have worked where employees are required to go through metal detectors each day to come to work.

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