**Appeal Statement for Mr. David Taft**

I am Blaine Killen, a junior at Syracuse University studying Information Technology and Finance. I am making a statement in regards to the incident on the night of May 1st, from the view of what I witnessed. The statements below are the truth, and nothing but the truth, and I understand can be held in a court of law.

At the beginning of the night, I was studying in my room for a final examination the next day, and a final video project for writing 205. I got a text message from my friend David Taft saying that he was back in Watson Hall. I decided to head directly to his room and take a break from my studies. When I came into his room, I saw him leave into the bathroom, and shortly after his roommate, AJ Gutman, took a golf club and walked into the hallway. Right after AJ left, I heard a noise in the hall that resembled breaking glass. I went into the hall to investigate what it was.

I saw David Taft walking back from the bathroom, and we both went to the window to see the damages. After this, I saw David Taft hit the window with his hand to knock out the remaining pieces of shattered glass of the window after it broke, and we proceeded back into his room to relieve the pain from the cuts to his hand. After that, everything was calm for a while, and another one of his roommates, Scott Pease got back into the room. About an hour after the window was broken, Scott and AJ got into a loud argument and were pushing each other in David Taft’s room. David and I were yelling at AJ and Scott to stop the argument, and after some time, they eventually stopped. At this point, AJ returned to his room and went to sleep. Right after this, a DPS officer entered the room and began questioning David, Scott, and me about what was going on in the room, as well as the condition of the window. At no time during the night could I observe that David Taft was under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substances.

-Blaine Killen