

## Written Testimony

I began attending the protests in Portland, Oregon on 7/20/20. The following day, 7/21/20, tear gas was detonated on me without warning as I stood, peacefully protesting. I have video and photo evidence.

On 7/24/20, PPB and DHS shot rubber bullets and tear gas at me, without warning. Tear gas canisters were shot directly at me as I walked to the side walk and cooperated. I have video footage. I also watched an individual being arrested, with unlawful use of force by the arresting/unmarked officer. The arrested individual was not read their rights. I have video footage.

On the night of 7/25/20, I tried to walk away from the protest when people started to shoot fireworks. As I tried to walk away, I was sprayed with so many chemicals and gases. I couldn't breathe or see and had to be escorted to safety by another protester. I tried to regain stability and started to leave downtown, trying to get away. I started vomitting uncontrollably. When I got home, I tried to take a shower and it felt like I couldn't get the chemicals off me. I laid in the shower with my skin burning. My husband, who is chemical agent educated, noticed a white substance all over my glasses. There was green smoke detonated that night. My body continued to jolt as I tried to sleep but couldn't throughout the night.

Recently, a PPB officer rushed me as I cooperated and walked away. I was picked up by my backpack and thrown on the ground as I was walking towards the sidewalk. After I got on my feet, the officer repeatedly shoved me/assaulted me from behind with his baton to keep me moving, even though I was walking to the sidewalk, the direction I was instructed to go. I have come home from peacefully protesting with blisters on my arms, on the top of my mouth, the back of my throat.

I have experienced increased menstrual cramps and irregular bleeding since being gassed by DHS in cooperation with PPB so many nights in a row for peacefully protesting. I have irregular bright red blood and blood clots that occurred in between my normal periods and that did not occur AT ALL, prior to constant exposure to CS in downtown Portland, Oregon. I have heard reports from other female protesters that they are bleeding, even if they have IUDs. I have followed up with my doctor and have required lab tests, imaging, and have it all documented as the result of exposure to CS. My doctor has not been able to advise what to do as they have never treated females with this consistent exposure to CS.

With kindness,

*Margaret*



**Margaret Baumgardner, MSW** | *Child-Focused Permanency Recruitment* | she, her, hers

9320 SW Barbur Blvd., Suite 200 | Portland, OR 97239-3939

Phone 503.542.2334 | Mobile 503.810.1744 | Fax 503.224.5960

[www.boysandgirlsaid.org](http://www.boysandgirlsaid.org)

Send a secure message to Margaret: <https://www.boysandgirlsaid.org/contact>