

Subj: **Request Help with Incident at SeaWorld Orlando**
Date: 04/14/2009 1:28:02 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: xenatc@gmail.com
To: contactus@flbreastfeeding.org

Dear Members of the Florida Breastfeeding Coalition,

I wanted to report a recent incident I experienced at SeaWorld, Orlando on April 10. I was asked by a SeaWorld employee to stop breastfeeding in public (in front of the baby care center at Shamu's Happy Harbor of all places). I was able to articulate my constitutional right to breastfeed courtesy of Dike V. Orange County Schools as well as the Florida statute that gave me the right to breastfeed. Secure in my rights, I correctly informed the misinformed employee and continued to breastfeed my 6 month old.

Though I kept feeding the baby (and did so the remainder of my 5-day stay), I definitely felt more uncomfortable doing so (and as though the park was not supportive of my basic feeding of my child).

When I returned from Florida, I called SeaWorld to report the incident and to suggest that they train all employees in Florida law ("Breastfeeding anywhere, anytime, it's the law"). I spoke to guests relations personnel Arthur who apologized for my inconvenience but stated that he did not know the law about breastfeeding so did not know if I was right. He took the details and offered to pass them along as a comment.

I noted that he made the 2nd official SeaWorld employee who does not know that women have a right to breastfeed in public. I asked to speak to a decision maker about employee training but have not yet received a call back from SeaWorld.

I feel very strongly that a decision maker at SeaWorld needs to hear of this incident and ensure that ALL SeaWorld employees know through a formal training mechanism that women can breastfeed anywhere anytime in public at the park.

Since representatives of SeaWorld do not seem to be returning my calls, I am wondering if you can offer advice or help with a letter as you did for the woman who was asked not to nurse in Jacksonville Park (I read that letter on your site under the action link).

Thank you,

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