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Anti-war activist told to get out of Canada

By DHARM MAKWANA, 24 HOURS

An American anti-war activist was ordered to leave Canada yesterday and not return for two years after misrepresenting herself to border guards on Sept. 10.

Immigration Review Board adjudicator Marc Tessler concluded Alison Bodine's initial denial to enter Canada, based on inadequate documents and large cargo load, may have been mishandled but was not politically motivated.

At issue, was Bodine's second attempt to enter at Peace Arch Bridge the same day, where border guards found her Canadian boyfriend Andrew Barry carrying the bulk of her belongings including anti-war and cannabis literature in a separate vehicle.

Bodine failed to tell border guards she was denied entry earlier and appeared to be entering Canada for a short stay.

Tessler said the tactic, "cut off an avenue of investigation for the officer," allowing Bodine to cross.

Tessler added that Bodine's suspicion of being a political target "did not justify [her] playing fast and loose with border officials," by offloading her gear.

Moments after the decision, Bodine told supporters, "Justice counts on the streets not in the hearing room." Bodine said she plans to legally challenge the decision and will continue to organize protests in her defense until forced to leave.