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Olive Gardener Corporate Office  
1000 Darden Center Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32809  
ATTN: Urinal Development Department

Dear Olive Gardeners,

I have a problem that happens when I go out to certain public places. This problem is not exclusive to Olive Gardener, but your restaurant is probably the one place I can think of where it happens most often. This is usually only a problem for me in the summertime when the weather is warm. (Those of us who do not live in sunny Florida have this thing up here we like to call "SEASONS"). With summer quickly approaching, I thought it would be a good time to address my problem to you.

I enjoy eating Italian food and when I cannot eat homemade Italian from my San Marini wife or one of her sisters, or if I cannot eat at the small local Italian restaurants Amarone or Marconi's, or if I cannot eat at Naples or DaPeppino's in my old hometown, or if I cannot eat at Fazzolis, or if I cannot eat at Pete's Truck Stop, or if I cannot eat Ragu or Prego out of the jar, the *very first* place I consider going to eat is Olive Gardener.

I always enjoy a nice beverage with my meals at Olive Gardener and I usually get at least one refill (often more) while I am there. Unfortunately, when I drink more than one beverage that usually means that I am going to have to tinkle.

I prefer to tinkle in the men's room and I always use the urinals. I really have a problem with guys who use the full toilet stall just to tinkle. The toilet bowl isn't for tinkles, it is for bowel movements.

When I was a younger lad, I ate one time at a Ponderosa and had an extreme intestinal issue. When I went into the men's room, another guy was in the toilet stall making a tinkle. There were three open urinals in the men's room, but this guy chose to tinkle in the toilet stall. I wasn't able to hold my bowel and had to send a request out to my family to go home and bring me back a change of clothes while I waited in the men's room. I got a lot of disgusted looks from other guys who came in to use the facilities over those 45 minutes that I waited there. I was in a crappy mood the rest of the day all because that Number One doofus was too embarrassed

to tinkle out in the open at the urinals. Ever since that day, I've never tinkled in a public toilet bowl unless I had to two too.

Anyway, here is my Olive Gardener problem. In the summertime, I like to wear shorts and sandals. I keep my toenails clipped in the summer so that they don't look disgusting in sandals. But the urinals at my local Olive Gardener are the kind that are level flush with the floor - not the kind that are elevated and attached to the wall.

When I tinkle from my usual standing position, the drop from my waist level to the floor causes tinkle splatter which is not a good thing when wearing sandals. Just about every time I end up with tinkle toes. Unless I have to tinkle so bad that I get fire hose levels of exit pressure so that it runs down the inside of the urinal, I cannot avoid the inevitable tinkle free fall. I have tried altering my foot placement and altering my "aim", but I never seem to avoid tinkle splatter on my sandaled feet when I use your Olive Gardener urinals.

Would it be possible for you to install sanitary foot guards onto the floor in front of your floor level urinals? I envision a simple design of two rounded pockets kind of like a pair of flip-flop slippers spaced evenly apart with maybe just a bit of an upward shin guard attached. This would keep tinkle off of the bare parts of exposed sandaled feet.

If you would like to discuss my idea in more detail, you can reach me at the above address. I would be more than happy to work with your design team in making this a reality. Please let me know when I can come down to Orlando to meet with your crew.

Sincerely,



Rusty Lucas

p.s.

I've already told you that I like to wear sandals and shorts in the summertime. But when it is especially sunny out, I also like to wear baseball caps to keep my scalp from getting burnt. (Darn male pattern baldness!) Do you have any free promotional Olive Gardener baseball caps? If so, please send me one!