

Public Comment
Public Hearing Sign-In Sheet

Subject: #6	Inspector Mike Frestleben	Date: 5/4/2016
Committee: PSCR-EM		Pub Hrg Time: 1:30

Printed Name	Address	Organization	Support/Oppose
1. Phil Matulis	3800 Hundley	Crystal Lake & Co	
2. Lisa Clemons	1515 GVR	A Mother's Love	
3. Ethropic Burnett	2218 Dupont Ave N	Urbanhomeworks.	
4. Stephen Walden	1531 Logan Ave N.	Resident	
5. Mauri Mekmer	6227 Clenton	education	
6. Kathy Czech	1313 44th Ave N mpls MN/Health	Safety Triage And Mental Providers - STAMP	
7. _____	_____	_____	Care for those with mental health issues
8. _____	_____	_____	AT FIRST CONTACT with PD
9. Lynne Crockett	2011 Thomas	community	Inspector
10. Ricardo Anaya	622 Russell Av N	Resident	Inspector Frestleben

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Subject: #6 Inspector Mike Firstleben	Date: 5/4/2014
Committee: PSC-EM	Pub Hrg Time: 1:30

Printed Name	Address	Organization	Support/Oppose
1. Mike Oker	328 W. Broadway	4th ST Saloon	Comments
2. Rebecca Frestleben	8301 NARCISUS ST.		Comments.
3. Margue Jensen	4437 Beard Aven	Sanctuary Covenant	Comments
4.			
5.			
6.			
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9.			
10.			

May 4, 2016

To whom it may concern:

I am writing today to express my GREAT concern and anger for how Inspector Mike Friestleben is being suspended from his duties after 28 years of service to the Minneapolis police force. In that time he has had a perfect record with 28 medals/awards for his exemplary service. Last year alone he attended 350 of the total of 600 police appearances at community events from the 4th precinct (Many of them on his own time).

Friestleben grew up in North Minneapolis, and has spent most of his career as a street cop, mostly night shifts. For him to have a perfect record over 28 years and still love and commit so much passion to his job is nothing short of amazing.

I am a 15 year resident of the North Minneapolis community. I have two daughters in the MPS system. We have made North Minneapolis our home. I am well aware of the challenges that our community faces.

The unfortunate death of Jamar Clark last fall only puts a greater focus of the severe distrust of police officers in North Minneapolis. There are no easy answers to a deep systemic problem that has many layers stemming out of many years of pain. It is a pain that wells up from a community that has been marginalized and taken advantage of for far too long. Much of the anger at cops is misdirected, and there are a lot of great cops serving the community well.

Truthfully we were all losers in the ugly aftermath of Jamar Clark's death. There was a lot of collateral damage that will take many years to heal. I don't envy the position that law enforcement faces over the coming months/years. Nor do I envy the hard issues of our city leadership is forced to make decisions about that have no singular right answer.

One thing I know for certain! Mike Friestleben is the type of person who has spent most of his life being part of the solution. He is a true public servant, and has all the awards and years to prove it. Removing him from his leadership role over one mistake (that had no lasting negative effect) doesn't make any sense. It looks very politically motivated, and leads me to question the judgment of high level leadership of Minneapolis. It sends the wrong message to a community that is torn apart down racial and economic lines.

I will close by being very blunt. If one of the best cops among us gets taken down in a politically motivated agenda, in the aftermath of Jamar Clark's death, I and MANY other people of the North Minneapolis community will feel deeply hurt by our leaders. I will not reserve judgment against city leadership the next time something bad happens. The firestorm created by Jamar Clark's death should be a lesson that we need to learn from and support community leaders like Friestleben, NOT fire them! The anger and hurt in our community is not gone. It is merely under the surface waiting to see the actions of our leaders. Getting rid of Mike would be a grave mistake! It would be a mistake that will not go unnoticed and will not be forgotten the next time our law enforcement is under scrutiny.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this matter. The community is watching.

Stephen Walden
612-735-5701

1531 Logan Ave. N.