

[Discuss] Notes from tonight's council meeting

1 message

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Tue, Nov 1, 2011 at 11:56 PM

To: C-U Citzens for Peace and Justice <discuss@lists.communitycourtwatch.org>

Ezra and I came down with a nasty cold and watched the whole council meeting online. Thanks for your good work on this. There were a number of great speakers testifying for the need for investigation of brutality within the department. It was also good that the police spoke - they showed their bias. Here are a few (rough) quotes followed by my notes for the evening.

Officer - 23 years

"I hope all the thugs like your son are scared of the police."

"Is there racism in Champaign - I bet there is. But I can tell you, there is no racism on the Champaign police force."

I have never seen anyone beaten or battered by the police dept in 23 years."

"If Miller wants to see racism, he should look in the mirror."

Tim Atterbury, cop (who Martel says abuse blacks in N end)

Combat vet. "I'm aware of violence. I've experienced it. I've utilized it." Patrolled the North district his whole career. 24% calls from the north end compared to 28% of calls from campus even though campus has 4 thousand more people. Race is not the problem - the problem is "cultural issues". "It's a parenting issue." "Don't tell me about culture. How dare you accuse me of racism." "I have an appreciation of honest culture, HONEST culture."

first speaker:

"If you follow a few simple rules, there is nothing to worry about."

"carrington has set a precedent to signal it is okay to "

"after watching the video - the claim miller was beaten is completely unjustified"

donald shelton

patrol officer, city of champaign

"like officers are supposed to heal everybody"

"martel was very hostile with me. "i am just as black as martel is." "i assume it was because i was in uniform" defends atterbury - tutors those he arrested

"i can't tell how much time these named officers have given."

upset as council member reaching out to police. "council is acquiescent"

it is an imaginary gap between police and community.

robert dunn:

"after carrington incident, they have a free license to take over this city. i don't want champaign to turn into chicago, detroit, oakland."

this one thing has been stirred up by one thing - martel miller. check facts.

black woman

story of my brother. "there is no justice if you have been convicted of a crime." "what makes a citizens voice less than an officers."

beat bro - fractured his ribs, article lodged near his heart during the beating, seven armed officers -- Aug. 23, 2010 -- sentenced to 8 years in prison -- aggro battery

Dural Kruse

AA's policed differently? traffic stop data -- one in three blacks to be stopped in Champaign.

White guy -- cop?

23 years police officer.

"If some resists, they will get hut, because the police don't lose."

"I hope all the thugs like your son are scared of the police."

"Is there racism in Champaign - I bet there is. But I can tell you, there is no racism on the Champaign police force." I have never seen anyone beaten or battered by the police dept in 23 years."

"If Miller wants to see racism, he should look in the mirrow."

Woman in yellow

"Activists are trying to split this community across race." We are here because of an abdication of responsibility. Face the officer. Acknowledge the law.

"All of us are safer because of the police."

Class warfare. We are all individuals before the law.

anscribe

black drivers twice as likely to be asked for consent search in CU. whites twice as likely to have contraband.

Amaziah

contaminated jury

Craig Williams

Office Talbot -- bumped heads; Office Bryan, also. Earlier in the day, driving in new truck -- Officer Talbot pulled him over. On the way to pick up kids -- wouldn't sign, police through ticket into truck. Office Bryan: three officers shining flashlights in backyard. Pounding on front door. Shining flashlights in face. warrant for arrest -- wrong identity. // Weed out process needed - started with Finney, and thank you.

Yoland Gardner

Here to speak for my son in law. Broken jaw in three places. Three teeth broken at the root. After handcuff and macing. Attacked him at his house. Maced him as he was going in the door. Office Clearant -- hit him after he was on the ground and maced. Mouth is wired shut and can't speak for himself. So much mace in his nose and throat, he was spitting in police car. "If you spit one more time, I'll make you eat it."

Mohawk Man

quit abusing police -- face of white supremacy -- "Everything that happened was appropriate."

Pastor Edward McGee

story about the caught dog -- caught the dog but didn't beat the dog. "Makes no difference if I'm wrong -- it's wrong to beat someone in handcuffs." "We must be able to trust these officers."

Martel Miller

"Would the police kill me?" "No, the police won't kill you. If the police stop you, do what they say to do." He still asks about the police -- scared of them. "Pull into a lighted area." His fears were deeper. "The bad ones need to go."

Byron Clark

Police union sure that no unlawful force used -- then complained about citizens rushed to judgment. That statement was dismissive and contemptuous of the public. The union has never brought any of its officers up on police brutality. We also have to believe that all the complaints about police brutality are false. City do something to hold police accountable when they don't hold themselves accountable.

Sundiata? (Black man, bald, gray beard, black shirt and jacket -- college prof)

"Whipping slaves was designed to control and terrorize a community. The modern whipping of slaves is police brutality." "Police have created an atmosphere of fear." citizens review board needed -- black youth treated like foreign occupiers -- cops live in small towns around CU, not in the community "What we have in the black community right now is control and terror."

Ken Salo

spacial segregation / residential segregation behind the conflict -- city hall building is where people used to be detained / kept - conflict is result of a lot of insecurities playing out locally and through the popular culture

Gregory Hayes Jr.

"This very room is divided." No communication between sides. Establish positive economic climate in black community.

Aaron Ammons

Reading from police dept.'s mission statement -- depends on each employee's results: take pride, seek constant improvements, community acceptance of methods and results -- "The public does not accept the methods and results of police brutality."

Quoting about how the Champaign police have no confidence in Finney or Murphy. Aaron describes how the chief sets the

tone and he is predicting dire consequences for those who flee the police -- promoting violence

Donte Lott, teacher at Ready

notices division in the room -- kids need to be taught to understand how to interact with the police.

Lo -- business owner

nonsensical complaints from people -- opposition to review board: cost, police moral, -- wants to reintroduce tasers -- doesn't take a village to raise a child "Nonsensical complaints of the few."

Patsv Howell

representing muslim american society -- humanitarian issue -- "I"m much more angry after hearing these comments than when I sat down in that chair."

Michael Kilkuln

responsibility taken -- not allowed to get police report -- also from University Village and documenting police activity in the area

Art Miller

resident of Champaign for 7 years -- policeman -- "resentful for being taken to task for their actions"

Jonathan Westfield

Black Champaign policeman -- works in the schools and the kids like him -- supports Finney -- born and raised in Champaign -- "race is a way to deflect problems"

Mark Enslin

not a victim of the police but listens to others who have problems -- The New Jim Crow . . . thanking for paid and unpaid public service, esp. Martel Miller's public service. "I'd like to propose a new normal." People who violate traffic rules shouldn't be beaten.

Barbara Ramsey

Evidence of racial profiling -- black boyfriend (55-year-old boyfriend who just got off work) took wrong turn in Champaign -- police officer pulled up next to him, started following him, pulled him over -- improper lane usage was the charge -- 4 squad cars and a van with a dog -- dog didn't respond but the police said the dog detected drugs -- frisked three times -- searched car for 45 minutes. Something's got to be done.

John Fleener

wants us to get along with the police -- rambles

Ronna James

better psychological testing for the police -- describes injuries to Calvin -- officers should be prohibited from patrolling those areas where the brutality took place.

(black man, bald, middle aged, in striped shirt -- army guy, coach at Central)

talk about military engagement with Iraqis -- "the police lowered their standards" -- Calvin doesn't get paid to be a professional but the police are paid to be professionals -- "that officer was a thermometer instead of a thermostat" --

Rene Westfield (Officer Westfield's sister)

new generation of teacher, "I'm a numbers person" -- lynch mobs used to describe critics of police

Neil Parthon

Finney's newspaper quote -- "dire consequences" -- choosing appropriate reactions: just become someone disrespects you doesn't mean you have a right to disrespect them

Craig Walker, friend of the mayor

macro-vision needed -- reference to anon email about police corruption and no confidence in Finney -- accountability in the police force needed -- transition period in the police force -- "same process" about finding new police chief? what does that mean? "We need new ideas." Why didn't the city council respond to the email about police corruption? Why are they trusting the process of hiring a new chief when it didn't work last time?

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from the north end compared to 28% of calls from campus even though campus has 4 thousand more people. Race is not the problem - the problem is "cultural issues". "It's a parenting issue." "Don't tell me about culture. How dare you accuse me of racism." "I have an appreciation of honest culture, HONEST culture."

Jesse Filipe

protestors in Oakland -- references the occupy movement

Joe Ketchum -- patrol sgt. for 22 years claims Calvin lied about being beaten.

Ann Lavern

"Kids are not taught to be afraid at home -- something is happening to make them afraid of the police."

El Jama

Christian approach to the hostility -- "Our souls are in jeopardy." No agreement on what the problem is.

There was more but I got tired.

ran until 11:30 pm

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