

Wayne A. Strnad Replies to McCotter Bull

In the May 22, 2003 edition of the Lerner Times newspaper, the Police Department claimed that the Citizens for Community Action, Inc. is a group of xenophobics. This is Wayne's reply to McCotter's statement that appeared in the Austin Weekly Newspaper, slightly edited. This version is fete au complete, ala Francis monsieur McCotter.

My name is Wayne A. Strnad and I am the Director of the organization and recent aldermanic candidate in the 29th Ward, endorsed by the Chicago Sun-Times.

For the readers that had to rush to the dictionary they discovered a xenophobic is a person that fears strangers or foreigners. It is also another word frequently used to describe a racist. Where have we heard that before – hey little Tommie and Carothers and Corruption? Well, it came directly from the SS – the Streets and San man headed by non other than “Bud Man” Sanchez himself. Hey Bud Man and Hillard, we hear that there was an accident Sanchez was involved with (a DUI actually) that somehow got covered up. Is that correct?

This name calling/profiling was no more than an attempt to discredit a group of hard working people who are trying to make their community a safe place to live by working within the programs available to address several issues that affect, in an adverse manner, the quality of life we all should enjoy. This quality of life to which I refer should apply to every neighborhood of this city, regardless of the composition of its people, their age, ethnicity, etc. All city services should be equally dispersed to every community in the entire city, not just a select few.

Recently, the mayor has come forward in the media to express his concerns over crime and gangs. In the past he has also spread the word for all people to get involved in their community. The Citizens for Community Action, Inc. is highly involved and seeks services for the community that should be dispersed without question. Why is it then that Chicago's Finest brass wants to put a pejorative label on us?

Perhaps part of the reason for this immature name calling/profiling, that in my mind shows the complete lack of intelligence gingered with infantile and uneducated responses of adults who have never matured intellectually, is we have recently exposed the Police Department Administration in their handling of CAPS and at a cost, safely estimated, of more than \$100 million over the last decade. Maybe the Administration suffers from Gnosiophobia or Epistemophobia (fear of knowledge) in accounting practices or anything dealing with accountability.

Maybe the Commander in question suffers from politicophobia (Politicians) who more than influence the 25th District, and its counterpart, the 16th District. One only need look at the link to the Committee of Police and Fire and find the name Carothers, who's father was an alderman and served time for extortion. Isaac, the son, worked for the city at the time and for the Cook County Sheriffs Office as a weekend sheriff. By the way, this is all documented. Daley put Isaac Carothers in charge of that committee via appointment.

Carothers is also the guy who stole his first election with the absentee vote in the 29th Ward. We have approximately 6000 pages of documentation to back it up and have so stated, publicly.

Then again, maybe the CPD administration fears the recent Freedom of Information Act request the Citizens for Community Action, Inc. submitted regarding the "Rules" for CAPS. It turns out that most police districts do not have any rules. In fact, the 25th District is guilty of lying about the so-called rules for CAPS in the Feb, 2003 meeting because they don't exist for the 25th District! (*These statements was made in June but have since been revised.*) They very well might suffer from Heresyphobia or Hereiophobia (fear of official doctrine, challenges to or radical deviation from).

Is it perhaps the CAPS officials who conduct the meetings in the 25th District that are so bullheaded and dictatorial that they have Eleutherophobia (fear of Freedom) or is it Ideophobia (fear of ideas)? After all, these meetings are supposed to be public meetings. Maybe McCotter could explain why anything addressing accountability of the Police Department never gets addressed, despite the fact that members of our organization try to bring it to light. The Sergeant and Beat Facilitator continually try to suppress anything dealing with such topics by cutting people off abruptly, making physical gestures suggesting aloofness to the topic, etc.

The CPD administration must suffer from full blown Scotomaphobia (blindness in a visual field). Fact is, a few years back the Citizens for Community Action, Inc. had to involve the Revenue Department because the brass of the 25th District preferred to sit on their tailbone and didn't want to enforce city and state laws which, by matter of fact, prevails to this very day. The results of our involvement were more than 300 violations issued and generated revenue of over \$18,000.00. This was done in two days. Maybe McCotter can explain his Scotomaphobia of city and state laws and, here's a good one for him, why is it on Feb 25, 2003 (election day) when a call was made to 911 regarding a slew of illegally parked cars in front of a polling place that should have been moved and/or ticketed, the 25th District did nothing? When the district was called and asked to send out a car to have the illegally parked cars ticketed and moved, the desk sergeant tried to play games in semantics and ask how it is we know they are illegally parked. Stupid questions deserve stupid answers so he was told the sign says no parking, what else do you need? A squad car was sent out and that officer waved to all the people who had illegally parked their cars. They waved back. Why? They all had Carothers signs. McCotter, you're not in bed with Carothers are you?

We hope McCotter and those above him would develop Paralipophobia. Then maybe we might get some real services around here, and at a level that makes all of us feel more comfortable living in this urban Zemmiphobic propagated environment. Incidentally, the CPD costs the taxpayer approximately \$1 billion. However, don't dare ask how that money is spent in an itemized statement, as any business in the private sector would account for, because the only thing you'll get is a run-a-round. Fact of the matter is that the way Chicago keeps its accounting books, in fund accounts, they cannot even answer a

simple question as to how many city employees reported to work today or any other day for that matter.

Actually, McCotter or whoever made the statement we were xenophobic, needs to do some research because they really missed the boat; actually, the boat left them sitting on the dock a long time ago. In the 2100 block of north Marmora the Citizens for Community Action, Inc. circulated a petition, presented it to city council via Laski's Office and received for the community a new street, curbs and gutters, and sidewalks. Interestingly enough, nearly all residents on that block were strangers to us and many were from foreign lands or had relatives living in other parts of the world. Look up the definition of the word McCotter! The Lerner Times as well as the Chicago Sun Times, were instrumental in exposing the conditions of that block. But McCotter obviously did not do his research and makes slanderous claims; we'll politely call it misinformation, in line with his erroneous crime stats.

So, when the CPD administration refers to us as xenophobic, I can only assume that in their attempt to set up a profile – something Superintendent Hillard flatly denies is going on in Chicago and even has advertised on billboards up and down Harlem Ave. in Alderman Banks' ward denying profiling, the CPD made a Freudian slip and are addressing their own ineptitude and fears in dealing with our community and its needs.

By the way McCotter, we understand the 25th District has an officer assigned to writing tickets for violations pertaining to city stickers, plates, etc. Please consider this as a report to missing persons because this officer hasn't been seen in years. If you can provide me with a picture I'll be glad to circulate it throughout the 29th, 31st, 36th and 37th wards. Maybe we can even get it on a milk carton – what do you think?

Ours is a community that has been neglected for decades – if you think otherwise then take a ride down Grand Avenue between Narragansett and Cicero (a safe route bypassing shootings and killings but a real challenge to any vehicle) – and for a wide realm of services that we are billed for in property taxes. On a broader scale, if one looks at the disbursement of tax dollars that go back into any community versus tax dollars paid into the system, one can easily see that our hard earned money ends up not being applied back into the community from which it came, but instead end up in the coffers of downtown, support for a patronage system that benefits a select few and for “pet” projects. Nearly all communities only get pennies on every dollar propagated in property taxes. Ask yourself, when was the last time your street was repaved, your sidewalk replaced, your curbs and gutters redone? Where I live, in 1978 the street was resurfaced. In Logan Square there are streets that are repaved every 2-3 years. What's wrong with that picture?

We hope the CPD brass does not suffer from Dikephobia because it will happen in the future.

As we are also faxing a copy of this to McCotter, Hillard and several interested parties, they should now be put on alert that we have no phobia of anything or anyone, especially

lackadaisical administrations that do nothing but collect a fat check and purport to work for the benefit of the people or community. The slogan the CPD uses – We Serve and Protect – right now should have the statement added Our Own Self-Interest because they sure as shooting (no pun intended) don't protect our community! Maybe some of these administrators and the hundreds of sub-administrators should get off their rump and start work. This also applies to the Inspector General, who has received more than 200 pages of documentation regarding corruption in this city. His budget is over \$1.5 million. Apparently he also suffers from Scotomaphobia. Then again, he was a Daley appointment or is that disappointment for “We, the People....”

Wayne A. Strnad
Director
Citizens for Community Action, Inc.

PS. I encourage every person reading this to get involved in his or her community. Relinquish the thinking that starts off with “What can I do, I'm only one.” That first step starts with the number 1 – YOU.

Wayne may be reached at 773-889-2963.