



# Citizens for Community Action, Inc.

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June 11, 2003

Office of Professional Standards  
10 W. 35th Street - Suite 1200  
Chicago, IL 60653

This letter is a formal complaint against 25th District Commander McCotter. We expect a full scale investigation, reprimand, retraction and demotion in rank for Commander McCotter.

On May 22, 2003, the following headline made the front page of the Lerner Times: **Police claim group xenophobic.**

On June 9th we talked with the General Manager of the newspaper and we were told that Commander McCotter made that statement.

It is not the role of the Chicago Police Department to make blatantly slanderous, derogatory and libelous remarks about any individual or group, especially to the press. Nor is it defined anywhere in the mission statement for the Chicago Police Department that such a role exists or is part of the actions of the Chicago Police Department when dealing with individuals or groups that try to get services for their community. Here is the Mission Statement:

The Chicago Police Department, as part of and empowered by the community, is committed to protect the lives, property and rights of all the people, to maintain order, and to enforce the law impartially. We will provide quality police service in partnership with the other members of the community.

McCotter overstepped his bounds by playing the role of prosecutor, judge and jury to convict our organization of being a racist group (a synonym for xenophobics). This is totally unacceptable and most vehemently denied.

Please be advised that we intend to exercise all legal options and have no intention of accepting lip service as to how long it takes to investigate. Get a copy of the newspaper and see it in print. Case closed.

Most Sincerely,

Wayne A. Strnad  
Director

cc Superintendent Hillard  
Legal Affairs  
Other interested parties

PS. Consider this letter as not only a complaint but a request via the Freedom of Information Act for McCotter to produce paperwork that justifies his statement made to the press.