Citizens for Community Action, Inc.

5719 W. Fullerton Avenue * Chicago, IL 60639

Commissioner Al Sanchez 121 N. LaSalle Street Room 700 Chicago, IL 60602

Free Exposure...

On two separate occasions the claim was that I stopped a garbage truck - both were, of course, false claims. The latest, which happened March 26, 2001, was conjured up by the 29th Ward Superintendent James Kelly and a laborer named Arthur Patton. They allege and that I tried to run over a Street and

Sans worker and thereafter wanted me arrested. The Chicago Police Department didn't fall for it!

I'm not going to tell you all the juicy stuff and spoil your fun but you can come to court where evidence shall be entered into record!



Seems 29th Ward Superintendent Kelly and two coordinators have missed this rat heaven pile. Kelly's predecessor Tommie Johnson (the same District Supervisor) also missed it! Yeap, it's the city that works - for some but not all!

Collective Bargaining Agreement Broken

It seems that as part of the new agreement between the Laborers International Union of North America, Local 1001, there must be three laborers accompanying a garbage truck - two from Local 1001 and the other from the Teamsters (the driver). This was confirmed with my calls to the Washington DC office and the Regional office of the Union. Yet. Mr. Patton was in the

alley alone. The garbage truck was nowhere in sight. His being "pulled" from the garbage truck to "pull cans" and then left alone in the alley was a direct violation of the contract. Since I'm sure Mr. Patton does not want to file a grievance for fear of job related reciprocity instituted by 29th Ward Superintendent Kelly and his boss, District Supervisor Tommie Johnson. please consider this letter as a formal complaint brought about by our organization on behalf of all the Streets and Sans workers who are subiected to such treatment. This information is being forwarded to other individuals who might have a ward superintendent like 29th Ward Superintendent Kelly, who want to violate the union contract. It is also being forwarded to other Union Officials at the local, regional and national offices of the International Union of North America. We want a full investigation of this!

A Job Not Done

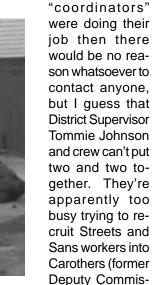
Now I don't know what it takes to get service in the 29th Ward but from my point of view and many others in this community, the service is less than adequate. Think I'm kidding? After the incident mentioned above. I de-

cided to drive around a small portion of the north end of the 29th Ward. Mind you, I did not have to go very far to find violations that go unnoticed by your Streets and Sans' coordinators and the Ward Superintent Kelly! Who is giving orders to these people - you or Carothers?

I traveled south of Grand Avenue as the North boundary street, Dickens on the South, Narragansett on the West and Moody on the East. You will find enclosed pictures of alleys that have obvious violations. In fact, I count at least 75 violations which range from garbage to high (remember that one? It's the one I was issued a ticket for.), garbage can open with trash spilling out, construction materials discarded, garbage laying outside the garbage can, and Tommie Johnsons all time favorite of mine, garbage strewn across the alley. That's a great one! Do me a favor and ask him if he had to call downtown and have them look in the advance users manual of reciprocity circa 1960's edition - for the term strewn. It sure is not part of his vocabulary, I'm told, by people that know him!

Many of us find it incomprehensible that in the 29th Ward we have at least two "coordinators" roaming around and doing whatever coordinators are suppose to do. By the way, please thank the Personnel Department for faxing over the job description. Here's a little fact for you to gnaw on: The photos mentioned above are proof of a common occurrence. Streets and Sans coordinators, whoever they are (Young and Delaney), are not doing their job. Tickets should have been written many times over the course of the last two years but none were. Why?

It should be further noted that if Streets and Sans



alderman of the 29th Ward) organization. Can anyone in your office put two and two together?

sioner and illegal



Is this "garbage strewn across the alley?" No ticket issued!

Worlds most useless sign

Then there's the street sweeping service that all residents should enjoy on major thoroughfares whether or not they live in the ward. Specifically, it appears that south of the railroad tracks down Central Avenue the street gets cleaned regularly. But on Fullerton Avenue we have a sign detailing when not park for street cleaning. Guess how many times Fullerton Avenue was cleaned last year? 25 times? 20 times? How does the number 3 sit with you? And let us not talk about Grand Avenue.

Abandoned

Abandoned autos? Those take on average 5 weeks to get removed. Do you call that service? Maybe an adjective needs to modify that term-something like bad, poor, nonexistent, etc. Before we could get an abandoned auto removed in three to four days! I believe the gentleman's name was Belpedio. He was good at removing abandoned cars.

Rats are back

It is interesting to note that Carothers, in a meeting to address the rat problem on the North End of the 29th Ward which was brought about because of my picketing at the corner of Fullerton and Central, promised to work with Streets and Sans and Rodent Control to alleviate the problem. Isn't Rodent Control under your supervision also? Why does your department allow infractions of the law to go unnoticed such as garbage cans open? If it's not your Department's responsibility, then who's is it? I'd like to know so that I can send them a marvelous letter.

Once again, we have incompetence at its best, pacified by a District Supervisor (Tommie Johnson) who ignored everything as 29th Ward Supervisor, before he was made District Supervisor, and ignores, or should we say overlooks, problems that exist to this very day. If you plan on using the excuse that he has more to look over then I claim he has more to ignore per instance.

Streets and Sans Reciprocity Continues

The event of March 26, 2001 I consider as a sign of desperation. Is it merely illusion that every time I picket for this community, Streets and Sans or one of the departments that falls under your jurisdiction, gets manipulated to act as the proverbial big stick? Or, pray tell, is Carothers along with his sidekick little Tommy Johnson and their newly acquired cohort James Kelly that bent in thinking that they are going to stop me by such acts? The odds of winning the Lotto are a million times better than trying to stop me.

Once again I ask, do you persecute every citizen or just those that try to get some service for an entire community? Do you call the police for everyone that questions a Streets and Sans employee? My goodness, I had four squad cars in the alley, the ward superintendent, and a gar-

Inside Scoop...

Recently a Streets and San Van was involved in an accident. The driver received a DUI ticket. His name shall be withheld because Brewster might not like it revealed even through it is part of public record. Is Carothers going to get him another job working with the city?

bage truck! When my garage was broken into, I couldn't even get 911 to dispatch a police car not more than 20 seconds after the robbers left. Do you see anything wrong with this? What did Streets and Sans say to get four squad cars? I'd really like to know so that I can inform the community as to how to get just one police car!

Just so you are aware, your department has been under investigation for more than a year now. We will continue to investigate Streets and Sans until the time we feel it unnecessary.

To fulfill a portion of our investigation you will find enclosed several requests via the Freedom of Information Act. As previously requested, please place the information on floppy disk, just to be ecologically correct. A synopsis is as follows:

- Provide a complete list of employees that have been shifted from one ward to another during the years '98 to May 7, 2001. It should include the previous ward they were assigned to and the new ward they are now working in.
- A complete list of employees that have been fired from Streets and San during the aforementioned period.
- A complete list of grievances and corresponding actions taken during the aforementioned period.
- A complete list of all the grievances that had to proceed to court during the aforementioned period. Please include case results and any monetary awards where applicable.
- 5. A complete list of all court cases pending.
- A complete list of all tickets issued by inspectors in the 29th and 37th Wards for the aforementioned period.

As you can see, I don't go away and will continue to fight for the services this community rightly deserves. Here's a little economic fact for you: In only three years, the property owners who live in the North end of the 29th Ward paid over \$23,000,000.00 in property tax. That figure does not reflect sewer tax or any other surcharges the City of Chicago collects. We don't even have a library, a CAPS program in the Ward (one needs to travel to St. Stans, in the 30th Ward), a decent sewer system and that's just for starters. Sidewalks are falling apart, curbs are in shambles, alleys need repair and the list can go on and on.

Finally, and I use the term loosely because it's not final by any means, your office needs to refo-

cus some of its efforts in adequately servicing this community. If you need to change personnel then by all means PLEASE do so. You might also like to investigate why Street and Sans workers are being shifted around so much! As you can see, I do my homework. Just to make sure you are aware, your office is now on notice that we will be exposing some of this in the news.

Respectfully,

W. A. Strnad Director

PS. We still await Hennessy's reply to our last letter. I suppose she's working at the speed of other Streets and Sans services in the 29th Ward and no doubt with the same efficiency and competency to boot. I look forward to her compliance with the six FOIA requests. She has 14 days to complete it! Enjoy the day.

