

**Statement of Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.  
September 10, 2007**

Thanks to the attentiveness of Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Charles F. Kahn Jr., we are now aware of police Sgt. Jason Mucha's track record of alleged brutality.

If information about this officer was to be made public, given the potential harm to community-police relations, we should have known about him sooner – and from a different source.

It is the responsibility of the Milwaukee Police Department to be fully aware of the actions of MPD officers. When outsiders are forced to monitor the actions and behaviors of officers, something is intrinsically wrong with the system.

Sgt. Mucha has been involved in 10 charges of police brutality or planting drugs on defendants over a three-year period. This raises serious cause for concern.

The Common Council has already passed a resolution enabling an MPD system to log and monitor citizen complaints about officers. It is critical that such incidents be identified and tracked sooner rather than later.

In addition, I am calling on the Fire and Police Commission to initiate an official investigation into these potential misdeeds by Sgt. Mucha. We cannot begin to address crime in our neighborhoods if citizens do not have complete confidence in the character of our officers.

Despite this new revelation regarding Sgt. Mucha, I do believe that his alleged behavior is not indicative of the Milwaukee Police Department at large. My hope is that these allegations do not tarnish the hard work and accomplishments of other officers.

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