

**Statement of Ald. Mike McGee, Jr.**  
**June 6, 2006**

To My Constituents, and to the City of Milwaukee:

I have decided to enter a plea of No Contest to one of the tickets that were issued to me by the City of Wauwatosa. I do this not out of fear, but as an act of contrition for the negative attention that this issue has brought to both my Constituents and my family. I also understand that I have a responsibility as a role model for the numerous youth who reside both in and outside of my district. I realize that, in their best interest, I must set aside my personal feelings during what is shaping up to be a long hot summer. Instead, I must focus my attention on what is best for them and not myself. So to close the chapter in this episode of my life, I have decided to enter a plea of No Contest to the charge of obstructing.

This does not mean that I will deviate from my agenda of safer streets, opportunities for youth and full inclusion of all citizens in the process of city government. I will use my voice to assure that my constituents are heard at City Hall. I will never give up my fight for justice and equal opportunities for all residents of this great city.

However, I feel compelled to address an attack made upon me and upon other public officials. Attorney Russell Jones has characterized me as representing “everything that is wrong with public officials.” I question why an attorney whose office is in West Allis and who resides in Waukesha is so concerned with our public officials.

**(More)**

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Imagine my surprise when I learned that this lawyer (of four years) has a history of being truculent. Not so unusual for an attorney, but I question why this pugnacious attitude was displayed toward the innocent employees and customers of Kwik Trip, where in November 2004 Attorney Jones was questioned about being parked in a space reserved for disabled persons. In fact, according to the citation for Disorderly Conduct issued to him, he “became upset and utilized profane language in front of employees and customers.” However, thanks to a “public official,” this charge was dismissed and Mr. Jones entered a plea to parking in a handicapped space.

I am also amazed that another “public official” reduced a speeding ticket to an impeding ticket for Mr. Jones. I suppose that it’s okay if you both attended the same law school. But going from driving too fast to driving too slow? C’mon now.

However, not to be outdone, another public official (and fellow law school alumnus) reduced a speeding ticket (20-24 over) issued to Mr. Jones to failure to obey a traffic signal (How are they related? Oh yeah, fewer points are deducted).

And finally, a “public official” (and fellow law school alumnus) reduced a ticket from speeding to a speedometer violation for Mr. Jones. At least this reduction makes sense. However, it makes you wonder whether a record check was done prior to entering into these plea agreements. For the numerous non-lawyers appearing in traffic court on a daily basis, background checks are the norm more often than not. I guess everyone assumes that lawyers do not have any “background” to check. Perhaps, something is going on to which us laypersons are not privy. Perhaps Attorney Jones believes that he is above the law.

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