

## **Statement of Ald. Mike McGee, Jr. April 27, 2007**

Earlier this week on the "Word Warrior Report," a radio program on 860 WNOV-AM, comments I made were misconstrued and then posted on a misinformed, fledgling blog site. The site indicated that I was trying to incite violence.

While on the radio, I spoke about a "Rock The Car Campaign" which would send a statement to speeders and reckless individuals that they would be held accountable for their negligent behavior. In light of the many hit-and-run homicides and accidents that have occurred in our city, I believe something drastic must happen. I don't truly believe that throwing rocks at speeding cars will solve the problem, but I wanted to send a psycho-political message to the reckless individuals who violate the lives of innocent citizens.

The Rapid Response Team and I will be enforcing the Street Code of Conduct, which advocates for healthy behavior in the community, and we will bring our message to neighborhoods such as 10th and Ring and 12th and Chambers beginning Saturday, May 5, 2007. It is our intention to bring together the leadership in each neighborhood, and to work to transform the nuisance behaviors that plague us daily. One way to accomplish this goal will be to provide summer job opportunities for youth and concerned residents to help clean our streets and alleys. We also will be performing street patrols in conjunction with law enforcement authorities, and more strategies will be released as we reach the summer months.

Again my comments are to be taken to hold reckless individuals more accountable, and to create urgent dialogue in regard to the rising violence that's taking place in many of our neighborhoods.

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