

Governor Milliken

July 1, 1976

Ken Frankland

Detroit Police Department Update

1. Detroit Police Chief Tannian called the State Police at approximately 1:30 p.m. today and advised that the day shift was in fact 59% under capacity. They have been able to make do with detectives being placed in uniform and put on street patrol, and they are also using staff personnel for street duty.
2. He requested that a State Police liaison person be physically assigned to Detroit Police headquarters. That request has been honored and there is a man at the Detroit headquarters which should facilitate the exchange of information.
3. Tannian has also written a letter to Ron Sexton, President of DPOA saying that they construe the epidemic of blue flu to be a "work stoppage" within the meaning of state law; that any future work stoppages would be construed as illegal strikes and that employment would be terminated. The letter further advises the officers that their employment would be terminated within 24 hours; that presently laid off officers would be called back; and that fired employees would have 10 days to appeal their dismissal. These are the first procedural steps and are prerequisite for Detroit showing that they have exhausted administrative and legal steps to force officers back on the job. I'm sure litigation would follow.
4. Parenthetically this is a relatively courageous step and evidences that the administration means business. They are trying to back up the rhetoric Tannian has been using; namely, the City will meet its law enforcement responsibilities notwithstanding the lay-offs.

As we have further information, we will keep you posted.

KPF:pm

cc: G. Weeks
P. Ellsworth