

*file Malice Green*

**BY: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARYANN MAHAFFEY:**

**NOVEMBER 9, 1992**

WHEREAS, The Detroit City Council is deeply shocked and saddened by the reports of the apparent beating death of a Detroit Citizen by two or more Detroit Police officers on Thursday, November 5, 1992; and

WHEREAS, By the reported and alleged accounts of the incident, Mr. Malice Green has suffered the most extreme personal disrespect in the manner of the loss of his life at the hands of others; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit City Council offers its sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Malice Green, who have experienced the inexplicable loss of their son, friend, father and spouse; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Coleman A. Young, Mayor of this City, has acted compassionately, swiftly and decisively to denounce this incident, ordering an immediate investigation of all of the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Malice Green; and

WHEREAS, Chief of Police Stanley Knox has acted properly and promptly to insure that the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Green are immediately and professionally investigated, that the officers believed to be involved will be appropriately charged and disciplined after a thorough investigation of the facts should it be appropriate and warranted; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners have expressed their deep concern regarding the circumstances in the death of Mr. Green and have indicated the need for an immediate investigation of all allegations; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and the Chief of Police have declared their commitment and resolute intention that the misuse and abuse of the citizenry will not be tolerated by police and public officials in the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, The vast majority of the nearly Four Thousand (4,000) sworn personnel of the Detroit Police department are of the finest in this country, committed to protecting and serving the citizens of this great city in the most professional and respectful manner any citizen may, should and can expect or deserves; and

WHEREAS, The Police Officers believed to be involved in this incident have been immediately relieved of duty and suspended without pay and are entitled to the presumption of innocence and due process, including a full, proper, fair, impartial and expeditious investigation and hearing of the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Green; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens of the City of Detroit are to be commended for maintaining calm expressions of concern and commentary regarding this disturbing incident, evidencing a willingness to permit their governmental officials to complete the investigation of this tragedy, to take the appropriate action and are entitled to a full disclosure of the facts and information surrounding the circumstances of this incident; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens of the City of Detroit, through their elected officials, appointees and public employees, have the absolute right to demand and expect that all people in this city will be treated with dignity, respect and protection, even if a citizen finds himself to be the subject of investigation or detainment and that this particular incident will be fully, openly and fairly investigated and resolved; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, as defined by Charter Section 7-1102 is a civilian review board appointed by the Mayor subject to the approval of the City Council and created with the intent to reflect the community values in its capacity as an oversight board, has the Charter mandated duty to investigate all citizen complaints involving the Department of Police, to establish the policies for the department and to review the disciplinary action against police; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor has indicated that the policies of the Department of Police are in need of immediate investigation and review in light of the allegations surrounding the death of Mr. Green; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit City Council has long urged the Mayor, his administration and the Board of Police Commissioners to be open, unequivocally responsive and proactive to citizens' concerns regarding the operations, policies, practices and personnel of the Department of Police, as well as to develop and report to the City Council on a risk management system; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council urges the Board of Police Commissioners to begin an immediate inquiry and investigation into the circumstances giving rise to the death of Mr. Malice Green, independent of any internal investigation through the Police Department, in accordance with the Charter mandated duties of the Commission; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the City Council, urges the Board of Police Commissioners to critically examine the type, frequency, subject matter and ranks of personnel for purposes of training and in-service programs within the department, consider the need for periodic recertification of all police personnel and requirement of regular stress assessment and psychological evaluation of all officers as a preventative measure and part of the Employee Assistance Program. This would include reviewing the programs, evaluation mechanisms and training utilized in other cities, like Washington D.C., Richmond, Atlanta, etc. to consider programs or revisions which may better serve the employees and citizens of Detroit in meeting the departmental goal "to protect and to serve"; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Board of Police Commissioners are requested to review departmental policies and procedures regarding the use of force and regarding the assignment of officers, to assure that the mix of race, ethnicity and gender of this community is reflected in assignments as well as supervision; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council urges the Mayor to direct the Department of Police, Corporation Counsel and the Division of Risk Management of the Finance Department to fully and forthrightly cooperate with the Board of Police Commissioners in its efforts to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Green, in reviewing departmental policies, practices, procedures and training; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the City Council calls upon the respective collective bargaining units for the sworn members of the Department of Police to become actively involved in the reassessment of departmental policies, practices, procedures and training, maintaining an open, positive mind and proactive stance to ensure that such an incident will not likely to occur in the future; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council pledges its legislative assistance and authority to aid the Mayor, the Board of Police Commissioners, the Chief of Police and the respective Collective Bargaining Unions in any manner necessary, practicable and possible to assure the citizens of the City of Detroit that acts of violence committed against its citizenry, regardless of the source or exercise of authority, will not be tolerated. This Resolution shall be sent to the Mayor, the Board of Police Commissioners and the Chief of Police. We respectfully request a progress report in thirty (30) days, pursuant to Charter Section 4-1108.