

March 8, 1962

Honorable William T. Patrick, Jr.
Member of the Common Council
City of Detroit
1340 City-County Building
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Mr. Patrick:

The Board of Directors of the Detroit Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in its regular monthly meeting held on February 13, 1962 adopted a resolution expressing the support of the Board for the budget recommendations of Commissioner of Police, George Edwards, dealing with the vital areas of increased personnel, working conditions and salary increase for the police personnel in the Department. In taking this action - unprecedented as it is - the Board of the NAACP is attempting to re-enforce in a meaningful way its wholehearted support of the sound police-community relations policy and program stated by the Police Commissioner as follows:

This Department seeks more law enforcement and more vigorous law enforcement.

This Department seeks equal protection of the law for all citizens of Detroit and equal enforcement of the law against all violators.

This Department seeks the cooperation of all law-abiding people in this city in its efforts on behalf of law enforcement.

The Board of the NAACP is also taking this action as a gesture of its confidence in the distinguished and respected citizen who now has the

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awesome responsibility of leading the Police Department and of rebuilding community confidence and support for its essential work.

We believe that you fully share the concerns of the NAACP in this critical time and we hope that you will bring to bear the full weight of your position in the Common Council to the implementation of the wise and considerate program enunciated by Commissioner Edwards.

Please know that you have the continued good wishes of our Association in your good efforts to make Detroit a better place to live for all our citizens.

Sincerely yours,

Edward M. Turner, President

Arthur L. Johnson
Executive Secretary

ALJ/dh

cc: Mary V. Beck
James H. Brickley
Edward Connor
William T. Patrick, Jr.
Mel Ravitz
William Regell

Eugene I. Van Antwerp
Anthony J. Wierzbicki
Ed Carey - President