

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARYANN MAHAFFEY
PRESIDENT PRO TEM

August 28, 1979

Executive Deputy Chief James Bannon
Department of Police
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear *Jim* Chief Bannon:

At a family reunion, I met a young man, 24, married, with one child. Has been a student at Wayne and has now had a year at GM Technical Institute in training to be a skilled tradesman. He has 3-1/2 more years to go. He meets his partner at Vernor and Livernois at 7:15 in the morning. There are two white cops who have consistently harassed black people in that area. For example, Thursday, August 2, they splashed water all over him. Then came back and said, "Are you wet, nigger?" His answer was, "Yes, I'm wet." They then said, "Do you like it?" His answer was, "Yes," because he did not want to start a fight. He said it scared him. These same two cops have driven up only to come to a screeching halt right in front of some small black children as they are getting ready to get on the school bus. He also said there are some black women that they have harassed. They are from the McGraw precinct. He is reluctant to report them because he's afraid it will only create more difficulty for him.

Is there anything you can do?

Sincerely,

Maryann

Maryann Mahaffey, ACSW



Department of Police
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Coleman A. Young, Mayor
City of Detroit

September 4, 1979

Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey
The City Council
City-County Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Councilwoman Mahaffey:

I received your communication of August 28, 1979, relative to the actions of the officers assigned to the Sixth Precinct and have asked Deputy Chief Joseph Areeda to look into the matter.

As soon as the investigation is completed, I will notify you of the results and whatever action has been taken.

Sincerely,

JAMES BANNON
Executive Deputy Chief

JB/s

PRESIDENT PRO-TEX

SEP 7 1979

MARYANN MAHAFFEY