



2936 Leslie
Detroit, Michigan 48238
February 23, 1966

Mr. Damon Keith
Civil Rights Commission
900 Cadillac Square
Detroit, Michigan 48226

I am writing to make a complaint against the Detroit Police Precinct located at Livernois and Elmhurst streets.

On Friday, February 18, 1966, at approximately 10:10 PM, I was sitting in my home at 2836 Leslie, Detroit, watching television when my door bell rang. I answered the door and saw three policemen standing downstairs in the doorway. They asked if anyone had come into my house recently. I informed them that I had come into the house about 30 or 40 minutes earlier. Then, I asked them why were they inquiring. I was told that someone had attempted to break into a house and they found foot tracks leading from the sidewalk to my house. I then informed them that I had driven home when I came and my car was parked in the driveway. I also informed them that other persons live in the lower flat and that many persons in the neighborhood use the sidewalks, and the foot prints they saw on the sidewalk could have belonged to anyone.

Then I was asked if they could come in and search my house. I asked them what would they be looking for. They said that they just wanted to look around. I then told them that I could not allow them to just come into my home and just look around not knowing what they were looking for. Then, I was told that I could either let them come in and look around or go to jail, and I agreed to go to the police station with them.

I was taken to the police station and was questioned and detained until Saturday, February 19, 1966 until approximately 12:30 PM. I was placed in a line-up Saturday morning and told that they would have to let me go because the woman making the complaint could not identify me. However, I was

taken to the Police Headquarters later and told that the detective had talked to the woman again and she tentatively identified me. However, this is not possible because I have no knowledge of the crime whatsoever.

I am employed by the State of Michigan, Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and earn approximately \$7000 per year, and have no reason or need to steal. I graduated from Kentucky State College in 1960 and I am currently enrolled at Wayne State University working on my Master's Degree. Also, I have no police record whatsoever and the only previous contact I have had with the police is for traffic tickets.

I feel that I am being intimidated by the Police Department because I stood up for my Constitutional Rights by not letting them search my home without proper cause and a search warrant.

I am currently released on a \$500 personal bond and I am scheduled for a preliminary hearing on March 2, 1966.

I shall appreciate any assistance you may give me in this matter. My home phone number is 867-7240 and my office phone number is LU. 4-4266.

Very truly yours,

Louis Stephens
Louis Stephens

cc: Rev. James Wadsworth
Atty. Claudia Shropshire