



# Jayne Home Owners' Ass'n., Inc.

A NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Detroit 12, Michigan

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FRANK E. JACKS, President

CECELIA EVANS, Secretary

February 2, 1965.

Hon. Jerome P. Cavanaugh, Mayor,  
City of Detroit,  
City-County Building,  
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

On behalf of the members of our Association, we wish to go on record as opposing the newly talked-about "Police Review Board."

Trying and suspending a Police Officer for exercising his duty should not rest in the hands of a group of citizens who has never been in a position to choose between his life and that of a law-breaking individual.

A Police Officer should be encouraged to perform his duty as his job calls for and not tried, reprimanded and suspended as a small child would be punished for mis-behaving. He is a "law-enforcing" man and should be treated as such. He should be everything his "job" implies and he should be given the right to exercise his authority and to act according to the problem that confronts him.

Let us cease criticizing him, reprimanding him and suspending him and then we will not have to keep crying for more Police Officers.

If an individual is not violating a law or committing a crime, he need not and does not "run" when approached by an Officer. However, when an Officer approaches him and he begins to "run", this, alone, proves that an individual is guilty, and when he has been hurt or killed, the Officer should not be taken to task for it and a group of citizens decide whether or not he had done right or wrong. This decision should be made only by the Police Commissioner.

A Police-Officer is NOW only a "secondary" citizen, not having the right to enter into political discussions; not being able to campaign for what he wants; not being able to voice an opinion of any political candidate; not being able to voice an opinion of what law or amendment he is for or against and not being able to belong to any civic group. Yet, when he acts to protect his life and the livelihood of his family he is criticized. Are we fair?

What has happened to the Officer who was always looked up to as a friend in need - one who protected you when you wanted and needed protection? We taught our children that he is a friend - Let us continue to respect him as such. Yet, this man is now being criticized for every move he makes.



Hon. Mayor,  
City of Detroit,  
Detroit, Mich.  
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We now hear rumors, and we hope they are merely rumors, of the officer being stripped of his gun. Are we treating this man as a protector of people or do we hire him to be killed by some "hoodlum" who does not and does not care to learn right from wrong? We have too many dead heroes and too many dead Police Officers.

If a man qualifies to become a Police Officer and we know he must be above average, then let us give him the right to decide whether or not to man-handle or use his gun on a violator or be killed himself. Let us encourage him to protect his own life. We have too many Police Officers killed and their families left father-less because the Officer was giving a violator a chance.

Let us "laud" him for a job well done and let us CEASE suspending him and then, and only then, will we have a Police Force that we may be proud of as doing its duty. The more authority that is given to an Police Officer the better your citizens will be, knowing that if they violate any law, they will be punished and not the man who is upholding the law.

Again, we wish to go on record as opposing this latest "CITIZEN-POLICE REVIEW BOARD".

Very truly yours,

JAYNE HOME OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.,

*Frank E. Jacks*

FRANK E. JACKS,  
President.

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Copies to: Hon. Police Commissioner Ray Girardin  
Hon. Common Council as a Whole