

POSITIVE ANTI- CRIME THRUST, INC.
(P.A.C.T.)

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May 13, 2013

U.S. Judge Susie Morgan
U.S. Eastern District Court of Louisiana
500 Poydras Street - C502
New Orleans, LA 70130

Re: U.S. v. City of New Orleans, et al
USDC #: #12-1924
Monitor Selection: Public Comment

Dear Judge Morgan,

By way of introduction, I am a former Chicago police officer, was a founding member and past president of the Afro-American (now African American) Police League, (AAPL) and am now the President of the Positive Anti-Crime Thrust organization. As a police officer, I had various assignments, including the Gang Intelligence Unit, and also acted as the Coordinator of Security for Mayor Harold Washington. As long-time president of the AAPL, I focused on the important issues of police brutality, police corruption, and the CPD's consistent failure to adequately deal with these problems. Additionally, I was a named plaintiff in the long standing lawsuit against the City of Chicago and the CPD that, after much resistance, spearheaded by Alderman Ed Burke, obtained relief on the question of minority hiring and promotion within the Department.

I have read the letters filed concerning NOPD monitor candidate Terry Hillard, and would add the following public comment. First, while I echo the opinion that Mr. Hillard is a "nice guy," I also seriously question his qualifications to be an active watchdog of the NOPD. While I was Mayor Washington's coordinator of security, I worked with Hillard and was compelled to remove him from my staff. I have also closely monitored the decades long Jon Burge police torture scandal, and was one of the signors of the August 1999 letter to Hillard in which a wide range of community

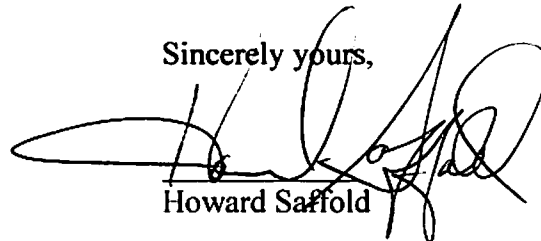
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organizations and politicians unsuccessfully sought to convince him to overturn his wrongheaded decision to sweep a number of police disciplinary findings of torture under the rug. I was also one of more than 250 signators of a 2007 "Shadow Report" which underscored the numerous failures of the 2006 Special Prosecutor's Report, including its hasty and ill-conceived "clearing" of Hillard for his earlier failure to act. The Special Prosecutor in that case, Edward Egan had nine close relatives on the CPD, including one who had worked for Jon Burge. In sum, Hillard was one of a series of Police Superintendents and State's Attorneys (including Richard M. Daley) who looked the other way while two decades of torture continued, then covered it up after the fact.

Unfortunately, there is absolutely no track record of Hillard, or those who have written in his support, advocating public policy changes in Chicago. It is a sad fact that retaliation from the desk of some of those powerful letter writers still rules here and silences voices of change. In fact, the all-powerful Ed Burke was one of the leaders of the 29 white aldermen who unsuccessfully sought to drive Mayor Harold Washington from power during his first term, and Charles Ramsey was Deputy Superintendent during a period where his direct supervisor, Superintendent Leroy Martin, was actively covering up findings of "systematic" police torture.

The City of Chicago continues to be in bad shape as we speak. I wish I could brag or even attest that Terry Hillard and those who support him on this critical matter are agents of serious change, but I would be lying about recorded history. If the City of New Orleans is seeking serious change for the benefit of citizens who need fair, honest, transparent, and accountable police services, they cannot rely on Terry Hillard to do so.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard Saffold", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Howard Saffold