



December 21, 2021
Via Email

Charles J. Willoughby
Office of the Inspector General
717 14th Street, NW, Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Mr. Inspector General Willoughby,

On July 13, 2021 ANC08 Chairwoman Holly Muhammad ejected me from our monthly ANC meeting after I echoed concerns in the meetings chat how Ms. Muhammad needed to give her fellow commissioner the appropriate access in order for her to have a voice in the matter they were discussing at the time. Without warning, discussion or cause Ms. Muhammad ejected me from the zoom meeting, by doing this this action also prevented me from returning to the meeting where I had planned on (I had even emailed this to Ms. Muhammad to cover in case I was unable to attend the meeting) covering two matters of concern which included lighting under the overpass that leads to Anacostia Park, (This will become relevant later). Immediately upon realizing I had been ejected from the meeting I wrote a request to the ANC Executive Director, Gottlieb Simon and I copied each of the ANC's immediately requesting the "preservation of this evenings ANC8A meeting which was conducted via the Zoom platform and lead by my ANC Commissioner and Chairwoman Holly Muhmmad." I went on to request, " I call upon your office investigate this matter immediately and a copy of the recording and chat session from tonight's meeting be delivered via email at the earliest convenience. I'd also like to see if Commissioner Muhammad covered any of the topics which I asked her to review earlier in the week via email."

This request sparked a back and forth between Ms. Muhammad and myself in which she makes false claims that I am associated with the proud boys of Charlottesville and where she directs me to no longer contact her, she copies MPD 6D representatives in an attempt to intimidate me saying, "You don't dictate to me. I don't take instructions from the Proud Boys from Charlottesville. Don't email me again." In another email she informs me "I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO".

On July 21, 2021, I sent a second FOIA request directly to Ms. Muhammad among other things I requested she provide me with a copy of the recoding of the ANC Meeting which she ejected me from along with the chat dialogue. This and all FOIA requests have been ignored to this day.

At this point I decided to take action to inform my neighbors and to request they consider whether this behavior would rise to the level where Ms. Muhammad should be removed from office.

On July 23, 2021 I filed notice of intent to recall with the DC Board of Elections. Within this notice I described the job related causes I would request my neighbors consider when supporting my attempt to have Ms. Muhammad recalled from her elected position. On August 4, 2021 I received Ms. Muhammad's response to my recall notification from Jack Gilmore, Attorney Advisor of the DC Board of Elections. In her response, Ms. Muhammad chooses to attack me personally with lies intended to turn my fellow black neighbors against me.

"Tom Donahue has been threatening, harassing, and disrespecting me since he moved into this neighborhood His words and conduct toward me is that of a racist, bully and misogynist On the eve of election night, he charged at me in a threatening manner yelling that he was going to challenge me He recently threatened to expose my fellow Commissioners to the media if they did not support his recall petition. He has been keeping my neighbors under illegal surveillance with his cameras making racist remarks about who enters their homes"

At no point within her 198 words does she address any of my job-related concerns which I base my request for the recall. Rather she decides to attack me personally claiming falsehoods intended to discredit me and to create doubt with our neighbors, the very neighbors who would be considering signing the recall. Additionally, the information she provided would also become a matter of public record. By doing this any search attempt using my name could provide her response as a matter of record that could follow me forever and without context or discussion it could play a role in decision making for future jobs or any future political ambitions I may have in the future. I shared these concerns at the Board of Elections Meeting on August 26, 2021. The petition has been tabled in hopes to seek legal guidance No one would want any of the lies that Holly has put on that petition associated with them. A simple search now or in the future of my name could result in a negative opinion being formed about me especially without context.

On August 14, 2021, I filed an appeal with Alana Burnett, Executive office of the Mayor as each request FOIA request had been ignored. On November 15, 2021 I received a letter from the Mayor's office of Legal Counsel saying that since the Office of the ANC responded as a result of their inquiry that the obligation of the district had been fulfilled saying "OANC responded to your appeal on September 20, 2021, and stated that it "does not have responsibility for fulfilling DC FOIA requests of ANC records, although [it] will carry out FOIA Officer responsibilities upon request from the affected ANC." The Office also informed you that it had not received such a request for assistance from ANC 8A in connection with your DC FOIA request." It went on to say "While DC FOIA does indeed apply to Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, as they are public bodies of the District Government, an agency is not required to seek out responsive records that are outside of its possession or control."

I reject this explanation as from my understanding a simple request could have been made to the Office of the Chief Technology Officer, or OCTO to search ANC 8A's government-hosted email accounts for emails responsive to my request. This was never offered. Ms. Muhammad has since ejected me from another meeting, blocked my ability from obtaining information on when the meeting is and what the url is to obtain access, in fact she has gone as far as to block my email from permitting the Zoom system from even allowing me to enter the meeting or even request the information necessary to join the meeting. Not only has Ms. Muhammad refused to comply with two FOIA requests, but she has also blocked my ability to report matters from within my neighborhood. Important matters this takes me back to my business I wanted to share with the ANC lights under the underpass which led to Anacostia Park continued to be out I wanted to address this as walking under the bridge was dark. Sadly, on October 21, 2021 Sharon Robinson, a homeless woman was shot and killed in the immediate vicinity of the overpasses. One will never know whether action on my concern would have prompted the lighting to be fixed and changing a dark area to now be lit enough to prevent such a tragedy.

I registered to vote, and I voted. I didn't vote for Ms. Muhammad however she still represents me. As a result, Ms. Muhammad no longer (nor do I feel she ever wanted to) represent me. I want to recall her because she called me a proud boy of Charlottesville, she demanded me to no longer contact her, she told me she was not my Negro. No one would want to be represented by someone who says such things.

Furthermore, through this process she has given me more reasons like the refusal to respond to my FOIA request, her ejecting me from ANC meetings her blocking me so I could not know when and how to attend my ANC meetings. Looking forward I have no idea how long she plans to block me from attending these meetings I have a right to attend.

Mr. Inspector General, I ask that you take whatever steps you are afforded by law to address this matter. I believe she has and will continue to stomp on my constitutional rights. Nothing in the very oath she swore to protect gives her the right to do what she has and continues to do. I ask that you please respond with as much urgency as you can so I can begin attending my ANC Meetings and so I can hold her accountable.

Lastly an unknown man delivered flyers labeling me a scammer and that I bully females and they placed them all around my neighborhood, not that it should be relevant but I'm gay, I don't have any issues with women however upon reminding me a neighbor reminded me that Holly used the word bully in her response to my recall. It is the only time I have been ever accused of being a bully and find it suspect that bullying was used on this flyer. I don't know to what degree this can be investigated however I will not be intimidated by politics.

I write to ask for your help, I frankly don't know whether you are able to assist however please please know that I am at the end of my resources on whom to reach out to. My Councilman of Ward 8 along with each at large member has been notified of this matter and have not responded indicating to me that I am on my own with this. I'm not sure how to file in Superior Court to force her to comply with the FOIA request however after giving your office a chance to assist if that effort bears no fruit, then I will be forced to obtain legal counsel and move forward with the court system. I would most definitely prefer not having to do that however Ms. Muhammad needs to not only be checked she needs to be held accountable.

Right now I have a tabled petition before the Board of Elections, Its tabled because they have given me two options 1) approve the petition with Ms. Muhammad's false personal attacks (This could follow me her false claims could, without context, could be reasoning for rejection of employment opportunities given it her response will become searchable public record) or 2) decline the petition on basis of her verbiage and my petition then becomes mute. I don't want to approve it in fear her false accusations could haunt me but I also don't want her not being held accountable. I'm stuck.

Thank you for your time in this matter, I do ask that I receive some sort of response within seven business days to know you have at the very least reviewed this letter. I look forward that you'll sense my distress and offer whatever assistance you can. I thank you in advance for any time you or your staff assists, and I hope for a positive resolution.

Very respectfully,

Tom Donohue
Owner, TMD Enterprises
Ward 8 Resident

PS, Ms. Muhammad also has me blocked on all forms of social media where she shares information pertaining to her single member district.