

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 3:51 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Mary Watkins, RE Pakhar Singh's application for Sherman BP

CCF 161633

From: Mary Watkins [<mailto:desdemonaa@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 3:17 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Mary Watkins, RE Pakhar Singh's application for Sherman BP

To the Members of the HPC:

I am writing to register my objection to Pakhar Singh's application for a newly-constructed Sherman BP. Singh and his employees repeatedly displayed reckless and disrespectful behavior towards those who patronized their business. Last summer, it was not uncommon for gas station clerks to refer to black youth as "bitches" and "niggers". All of this culminated with Bhupinder Sidhu shooting at least five times into a crowd of black children waiting outside of this store (after which he bragged about making payments to the District 7 police department). This was the impetus for an extended boycott and, later, the unfortunate arson of his location.

Though strides have been made by many since last August, there is still so much more we need to do to contribute to the healing process. Having a racist, out-of-touch business owner reopen old wounds in a resurrected gas station is not the way to accomplish this. Please consider directing funds and assistance towards a person who is truly invested in something besides profit at Sherman Park. Someone who actually lives in the neighborhood and will give back.

Sincerely,

Mary Watkins

414-688-3087