

Police Department

Edward A. Flynn Chief of Police

October 21, 2009

Alderman James A. Bohl Fifth Aldermanic District 200 East Wells Street – Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202 Alderman Michael J. Murphy Finance & Personnel Committee Chair 200 East Wells Street – Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE:

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

STAFFING

Dear Aldermen Bohl and Murphy:

This letter is in response to your correspondence, dated October 2, 2009, wherein you address the ongoing issue of staffing in the Milwaukee Police Department's Office of Police Information Systems. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update regarding this matter.

Mr. John Louzecky has filed a claim with the city of Milwaukee for non-payment of services rendered. The City has not responded to this claim; however, the City Attorney's Office has informed us that he has six (6) years in which to file a lawsuit.

The District Attorney and City Attorney's offices reviewed the case and they have opined that they will not pursue this matter legally. Internally, the investigation has been suspended pending further information.

This incident did create the opportunity to improve both police and city practices in a number of ways. As you know, in July of this year, the Milwaukee Police Department hired Ms. Deborah Lewis as our new Director of Information Technology. We are confident that with her knowledge, skills and leadership, the Department's IT concerns will be addressed in an effective and efficient manner.

In addition, the Milwaukee Police Department created an Information Technology committee, consisting of well-respected IT experts from the private sector who have volunteered to assist us in our information technology needs.

It is obvious that the Milwaukee Police Department did not, at the time, have the required experience or skill in-house to make the correct decisions when it came to contracting IT services. City Purchasing has also stepped up, taking a much more hands-on approach to the approval and purchasing process when it comes to using consultants. There are also new rules in place at the municipal level regarding the hiring of consultants.

Based upon the possibility of pending litigation, I will leave further discussion of this issue at the Finance and Personnel Committee level to your discretion.

Sincerely,

CHIEF OF POLICE