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Title: Motion expressing lack of confidence in Chief of Police Arthur L. Jones' leadership of the Police Department.

Sponsors: ALD. DONOVAN

Indexes: POLICE DEPARTMENT, SOCIAL CONCERNS

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result	Tally
12/20/2002	0	COMMON COUNCIL	ASSIGNED TO		
12/20/2002	0	COMMON COUNCIL	REFERRED TO	Pass	11:5
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021281
ORIGINAL

ALD. DONOVAN
Motion expressing lack of confidence in Chief of Police Arthur L. Jones' leadership of the Police Department.

This motion expresses the Common Council's lack of confidence in Chief of Police Arthur L. Jones' leadership of the Milwaukee Police Department.

Whereas, Chief Arthur L. Jones has been chief of the Milwaukee Police Department since November 1996; and

Whereas, Under his stewardship of the Police Department, compared to other major cities, the City of Milwaukee has experienced persistently high crime rates, particularly for homicide; and

Whereas, Recent increases in police response times for high-priority calls have become a source of concern among the members of the Common Council as well as the residents of the City of Milwaukee; and

Whereas, During the Chief's tenure, claims filed against the City for police actions have resulted in substantial payments by the City; and

Whereas, In recent years, the Police Department has undertaken increased numbers of internal investigations against police officers, impacting on officers' morale and hampering officers' ability to

arrest law violators and investigate crimes; and

Whereas, During Chief Jones' tenure, relatively large numbers of police officers have left the Police Department due to a variety of reasons, including terminations and resignations; and

Whereas, In 2001 and 2002, actual police overtime expenditures surged dramatically, far exceeding budgeted amounts, with no discernable correlation established between police overtime spending and declines in crime; and

Whereas, The Chief's policy relating to seizure of firearms has resulted in fewer firearms seized from felons in possession of firearms as well as from other sources of firearms that facilitate their unlawful possession; and

Whereas, Moreover, the Chief has filed a charge of discrimination against the City of Milwaukee and the Fire and Police Commission with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, requiring expenditure by the City of substantial sums of money to retain an outside attorney to represent the City and the Fire and Police Commission; and

Whereas, Over the last several months, the Chief has been reluctant to work cooperatively with members of the Common Council and leaders of community organizations, as evidenced by unreturned phone calls and letters, and has declined invitations to neighborhood meetings; and

Whereas, The Chief's recent name-calling and outbursts against members of the Fire and Police Commission and various elected officials have been inflammatory and disrespectful, and have sharply diminished his credibility as a public official; now, therefore, be it

It is moved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Common Council expresses its lack of confidence in Chief Jones' leadership of the Milwaukee Police Department.

LRB 02627-1
TWM/rk
12/4/2002