

This is not the time for dirty politics.

Charmaine McGuffey Press Conference

June 25, 2020

Today, Bruce Hoffbauer held a press conference to challenge my qualifications to be Sheriff of Hamilton County.

His accusations would be laughable except this is no laughing matter.

Bruce Hoffbauer stated that part of the City Council motion passed yesterday includes "banning the hiring of officers who were previously fired or resigned while being investigated for serious misconduct and or excessive use of force." What Mr. Hoffbauer failed to mention in his press conference is that he SHOULD have been fired for excessive use of force when he shot and killed Walter Brown, an unarmed Black man in 1990. In that case, the City Manager concluded that Hoffbauer used "excessive force" in the killing of Walter Brown. Then-City Manager Jerry Newfarmer stated:

"Excessive force was used in this instance; factually, that happened. There is no question this individual should not have died."

"I don't believe a human life should have been taken. This conclusion is based on the observation that the two professional police officers, working together, should have been able to cope with one unarmed, if violent, subject in a way that did not result in his death."

WALTER BROWN LOST HIS LIFE.

Despite this finding, Bruce Hoffbauer was never disciplined or criminally charged for it. If this occurred today, Bruce Hoffbauer knows the result would be different. He should be the last person claiming he is qualified to be Sheriff. Under the standards I will put in place when I'm Sheriff, Bruce Hoffbauer would be disqualified from holding any position in the Sheriff's Office.

Hoffbauer states I was fired for creating a hostile work environment. That's what happens when you stand up and challenge the use of excessive use of force by officers who were not held accountable for their actions.

I was told to stay quiet, to stay in my lane and stand down. I did none of those things because prisoners were being hurt and mistreated. Women officers and prisoners were being sexually harassed and abused.





The internal affairs report is a stark example of why more officers don't come forward to demand accountability. You take the risk of getting railroaded out. I would do it again today, knowing the consequences. I will also speak up and speak out about excessive use of force and mistreatment of prisoners and the public.

That is the kind of culture I will change when elected Sheriff. I will ensure that every use of force occurrence, especially lethal force, will be thoroughly investigated by an independent agency, and anyone found to have used excessive force will be held accountable.

I have been totally transparent about my record since announcing my campaign in May 2019.

Hoffbauer talks about my being on the Brady list.

I was put on the Brady List by Sheriff Neil in December 2018 for an incident that occurred in 2010 when I stood up to an unlawful police stop in Covington Ky where my friends and I were targeted coming out of a gay bar.

Timing is everything. At a time when I was challenging Jim Neil in the primary election, he submitted my name to the Brady List. I'll let you decide the motive behind that. By the way, because of the 10-year statute of limitations, my name is already off for that.

Citations given at the time were dismissed and expunged because they had no merit. Then Sheriff Leis gave me 5 days off work because he was mad I was at a gay bar. That was my offense. And yes, I know how it feels to be targeted by bad policing and I will fight every day to protect and serve all, equally.

I am also on there for an 'accusation' mind you, that I was dishonest in a conversation with Internal Affairs. That is not only in dispute and is at the core of my lawsuit for unlawful termination, as a reporter asked earlier, it doesn't rise to the level of a Brady List offense. Sheriff Neil was aware that this allegation was in dispute but he held the power to put me on the list regardless.

I have seen justice and I have seen injustice in my career and I am running for Sheriff because we need to restore justice to that department. No more shady abuse of power by those who want to move people like me aside for challenging the status quo, for challenging the lack of accountability for use of force against prisoners, for challenging the way women are treated as prisoners and as staff, and challenging the unlawful abuse of power over others.

Enough is enough. Now is not the time for dirty politics. There is too much at stake. Now is the time to restore justice to our justice system.





I am running for Sheriff of Hamilton County. If you believe as I do, that we need to bring accountability, transparency, and reform to the department, then I ask for your support.

For Additional Information, please contact Campaign Manager Mary Carol Melton @ 513-238-7005