

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 27, 2025 11:24 AM  
**To:** Jack Bradley  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas; Rey Carrion; Mike Failing; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group; Mike Mason; Jonathan Schuppe; Noelle Williams; Lorain Daily; David Yost AG; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass; Sheriff Jack Hall; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt; Mike Massie; Clevescene News; Joseph LaVeck; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

### Warning: Unusual link

This message contains an unusual link, which may lead to a malicious site. Confirm the message is safe before clicking any links.



Read the comments and decide if you still want to ignore me. This is gaining steam and the settlement is going away soon. It's not going to get any better.

< **Mike Mason**  
13h · 🌐

Lorain police chief retires after reportedly making veiled threats.



cleveland19.com  
**Lorain police chief retires after reportedly making veiled threats**

🔖 Love    💬 Comment    📧 Send    ➦ Share

👤 You and 1 other    7 shares

Most relevant ▾

**Aaron Knapp**  
Thank you for reporting this [Mike Mason!](#) I really appreciate you putting it out!  
12h Like Reply 1 👍

📷 Comment as Aaron Knapp 🗨️ GIF 😊

< **19 Cleveland 19 News**  
14h · 🌐

TENOR  
14h Like Reply 3 🗨️

**David Shutt**  
Hope get some Medical help there's no sense of wanting to take somebody out turn; to Jesus. My Brother blessed are the peace makers.  
5h Like Reply 3 🗨️

**Barbara Miszczak**  
Why not make some of the old guys chief .  
52m Like Reply

**Gonzales-Givens Sandra**  
Disgusting but sadly these days I'm not surprised about a LEO  
13h Like Reply 9 🗨️

View 5 replies...

**Bill Hayes**  
They take care of their own  
12h Like Reply 7 👍

**Matt Black**  
I mean come on guys has anyone seen super troopers I knew it was farva in disguise  
1h Like Reply

📷 Comment as Aaron Knapp 🗨️ GIF 😊



**Sally Mills**

Remember, cops are the enforcers for the political class. They all make "veiled" threats every day. Obey them or they will arrest you. Resist and they will kill you if that's what it takes to get compliance.

1. ALL cops accept as pay, money taken under threat of force. (taxes). Pay or else. Decent people don't do that.

2. ALL cops agree to enforce the law when they become cops. Many laws are silly, unfair, or even downright wrong, but cops enforce them all the same. ("Just doing my job; I don't write the laws, I just enforce them."). Decent people don't agree to do that stuff.

3. Despite whether they are ot... See more

21m Like Reply



**James F. Masters**

The worst kind of corruption, comes from those who are supposed to be serving, protecting and enforcing the law. They make everyone who serves honorably, look bad, and erodes trust in such entities.

4h Like Reply

4 🗨️



**Richard Borecky**

Comment as Aaron Knapp



**Richard Borecky**

Thought police are coming for us. Many of us talk like this and I guess at some point they will put us in jail for it 😬

3h Like Reply

1 🗨️

View 2 replies...



**Shonda Lay**

We will hear about him doing some criminal crime in the future 🤔🤔

30m Like Reply



**James Stafford**

Soft.

3h Like Reply



**Debra Taylor**

Is he fired yet. Why not

1h Like Reply



**Gregory O'Dell**

Retired with full tax paid benefits if he's threatening people he shouldn't be retiring on citizens dimes

4h Like Reply

3 🗨️



**Anthony Pizzuto**

He was just doing his job

5h Like Reply

3 🗨️

Comment as Aaron Knapp



**Adam Reed**  
Looks like farva from super troopers  
12h Like Reply 5 🍌👍  
View 1 reply...

**Patricia Karnok**  
He looks like he voted for trump  
8m Like Reply

**Cynthia Washington**  
Congratulations it's time to enjoy retirement congratulations Sir thank you for your service.  
13h Haha Reply 16 🍌👍

**Laura McCollum**  
Needed someone taken care of hmmm wonder who  
59m Like Reply

**Marie Rickmann**  
Not at all a surprise.  
1h Like Reply

**Michael Gilligan**  
Exactly why I've never trusted cops. I've known a few , they weren't exactly top notch that's for sure. 🍌  
3h Like Reply 1 🍌

Comment as Aaron Knapp 🍌 GIF 😊

3h Like Reply 1 🍌  
**Lovely J Brown**  
He look like he said it 🍌  
12h Like Reply 6 🍌  
View 2 replies...

**Jim Gwinn**  
Looks like he wants a liter of cola  
6h Like Reply 1 🍌

**Richard M Freehat**  
Where ya gonna find another Irishmen in Lorain  
13h Like Reply 4 🍌👍

**Jennifer Robakewicz-Sweeney**  
Why does he look like Farva?  
44m Like Reply

**Robert Moe Drake**  
Wifey must've been getting handcuffed outside of home 🍌🍌🍌🍌  
2h Like Reply

**Simon Belmont**  
While not appropriate to say, it seems people wanted him out of the job so that they could potentially get in. We don't work there -so we can't judge if the intention was really something truly evil or if it is a

Comment as Aaron Knapp 🍌 GIF 😊

< **19** Cleveland 19 News 14h · 🌐

**John Brown**  
Overthrow the pig class  
1h Like Reply

**Char Guzman**  
All I can say is Karma!!!  
2h Like Reply

**Shawn Bryan**  
Bro looks like Farva.  
4h Like Reply



TENOR

14h Like Reply

...

< **19** Cleveland 19 News 14h · 🌐

**Chuck Burger**  
Disgrace to the badge!  
13h Like Reply 8 👍

**Aaron Knapp**  
Chuck Burger agreed.  
13h Like Reply 1 👍

Write a reply...

**Katy Rizer**  
OK sooooo is he in jail? Because I'm sorry if a citizen said anything like this you're throwing the book at em. I mean if a student makes a threat name or no name involved there is discipline right? Yetttttt this now former police chief makes a threat like this name or no name RETIRES and is walking all willy nilly KNOWING HES A NOW EX COP AND CAN NOW EASILY EXCUTE HIS THREAT!!!!!! OK because this all makes sense  
1h Like Reply 1 👍

**Rob Wii**  
What's messed up is I scrolled right past the headline and thought I know this guy.. yep ..

They are missing one tho I won't say what

Comment as Aaron Knapp



Comment as Aaron Knapp





**Rob Wil**  
What's messed up is I scrolled right past the headline and thought I know this guy.. yep ..

They are missing one tho I won't say what cat his last name is from but he's in Norwalk

2h Like Reply



**Jeff Polzner**  
Sounds like he already is? 🤔

2h Like Reply



**Lee Travis**  
Ive said way worse at work

1h Like Reply



**John O'Callaghan**  
Now for the rest..

7h Like Reply



**Angie Frye**  
Your mayor of LORAIN IS A DANCER TO YOUR COMMUNITY...

54m Like Reply



**Nia Bailey**



1h Like Reply

Comment as Aaron Knapp



14h Like Reply

2 🗨️



**Damien Parker** · Follow  
\*GASP!\*  
A dirty cop?! How SHOCKING!



14h Like Reply

13 🗨️ 🤔 🤔



**Ruthy Esther Vazquez**  
THE ROACHES ARE FALLING

13h Like Reply

1 🗨️



**Jordan Rivera**  
Makes you wonder how many people he's had killed

2h Like Reply



**Andre Smith**  
Good riddens

12h Love Reply

2 🍷 🍷



**Tommy Whitman**  
👍 🚔

4h Like Reply

1 🍷



**Pat Kelley**  
Aww man

28m Like Reply



**alliotrx**

Comment as Aaron Knapp





**Fredrickd Turner**  
Lock down

1h Like Reply



**Jennifer Schmitt**  
Gross

1h Like Reply



**John Laws**  
Lemme get a liter of Cola.

6h Like Reply



**Mark Schroeder**  
Usual suspect behavior. Criminal lives matter strikes again. Culture. Common denominator. Typical. He will say he ain't did nuffin. Pattern. GN & JKS 👍👍👍

13h Like Reply

1 🗨️



**Aaron Knapp**  
**Mark Schroeder** agreed

13h Like Reply



**Stephen McDuffie**  
Looks republican.

13h Like Reply

14 👍👎



**Aaron Knapp**

Comment as Aaron Knapp



# LORAIN POLICE CHIEF RETIRES AFTER REPORTEDLY MAKING VEILED THREATS



👍 Like    💬 Comment    📧 Send    ➦ Share

👍👍👍 Garon Petty + 254

97 shares

All comments ▾



**Aaron Knapp**  
Mayor Bradley,

Thanks for clarifying that "Denied" is your administration's official stance on whistleblower retaliation and civil rights violations. I'll make sure that quote is framed prominently in future filings and coverage. It says more in one word than most press conferences do in twenty.

Just one question:

Was that reply vetted by legal counsel, or was that another off-the-cuff move you'd prefer the public not take literally?

Your constituents—and your liability insurer—will no doubt find your approach to documented misconduct refreshingly bold. I'm sure they'll appreciate the si... See more

5m Like Reply

Comment as Aaron Knapp



11:22



Cleveland 19 News

14h ·



**Aaron Knapp**

-- Forwarded Message --

From: Aaron Knapp

<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

To: Jack Bradley

<jack\_bradley@cityoflorida.com>

Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Carrion <rey\_carrion@cityoflorida.com>

Mike Failing

11:22

<  **Cleveland 19 News**   
14h · 

senseicobrakai@protonm  
<senseicobrakai@proton  
Steven Scharschmidt  
<:sscharschmidt@lcmdtf.cc  
<mmassie@lcmdtf.com>; C  
<news@clevescene.com:  
<joseph\_laveck@cityoflo  
lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com:  
jonathan.walsh@wews.cc

11:22 ↗

<  **Cleveland 19 News**   
14h · 

Board correspondence

13h Like Reply



**Aaron Knapp**

Disabled Veteran Denied  
In June 2021, I was turned  
on the River with my serv  
clear ADA protections. Th  
prompted a formal comp  
department's "investigati

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 16:07, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Jack,

“Denied.”

Impressive. A one-word masterclass in public accountability. I assume that’s the level of engagement Lorain taxpayers can now expect when raising allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and documented abuse of power.

If I wanted a Magic 8 Ball response, I’d have shaken one. Instead, I got the mayor of a city whose job—last I checked—is to serve, not sneer.

I’ll make sure your reply is framed accordingly when this story airs. You may want to keep your calendar open. Reporters tend to have follow-up questions—more than one word, usually.

– Aaron C. Knapp

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 15:17, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Denied!

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me be unambiguous.

You work for the people. You are not a passive participant in these events, nor are you free to dismiss public instructions with one-liners like “Thank you for your comments.” That may suffice in lesser matters—but not here, not when civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and federal crimes under color of law are on the record and under your watch.

I am not seeking your permission. I am instructing you, as my government, under the full protection of the Constitution of the United States. This communication is not a “comment”—it is a lawful directive from a constituent to an elected official.

You may choose to ignore that instruction. If so, you will face it again—through deposition, through discovery, and ultimately through public judgment.

Your job is not to issue pleasantries. Your job is to protect the civil liberties of the residents of Lorain. That includes me.

Failure to comply with this final directive and respond substantively to the settlement offer already presented will be taken as formal declination, and all further remedies will proceed through the courts and press as outlined.

Govern accordingly.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower  
4220 Talbot Lane | Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899 | a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 14:04, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 2:00 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey  
<Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike  
<Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org  
<lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org  
<trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason  
<Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe  
<Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams  
<Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>;  
David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>;  
Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com  
<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt  
<SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-  
Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me make something clear: I don't have to "understand" your political balancing act. That's your job—not mine. My job is to hold public officials accountable when they fail to act, enable misconduct, or try to sidestep responsibility behind vague references to "community interests."

What you've called "balancing" is, in reality, evasion. And I'm not obligated to tolerate it, respect it, or fall in line with it—especially when your administration green-lit or ignored retaliatory behavior that violated my rights.

You may think deflecting to your office or suggesting private meetings is enough to minimize public exposure. It's not. This is about public harm and public accountability. So yes, I will keep addressing you—and every official copied here—because silence and backdoor excuses are how corruption thrives.

You don't get to dictate the terms of this conversation. Not when your silence has cost me my career, my reputation, and my health.

You know what needs to be done. Either act with integrity—or keep trying to spin this while the public watches.

– Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 13:55, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments, but you need to realize that I have to balance the needs and interests of the entire community, not just yours. As I have told you in the past, if you have specific concerns, please feel free to schedule a separate meeting with my office. As always, your input is valuable in helping me understand the community's needs and concerns. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 1:48 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <agocares@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <sherry.glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <sscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <mmassie@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <scott.noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <jcaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**

<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

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Mayor Bradley,

I appreciate your comment that constructive suggestions are welcome. I would only add this:

Your role as Mayor does not entitle you to dictate how, when, or in what tone I speak on matters of public concern—especially those involving civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability-based targeting carried out under color of law.

This isn't about being "kept in the loop." I *am* the loop—because your administration made me part of it through a sustained campaign of retaliation and silence.

Your office gave tacit approval to Chief McCann's actions against me and others. At minimum, you permitted your subordinates to deny the existence of emails that I now have in hand. You failed to initiate—or demand—a thorough, impartial investigation. You allowed reputational and economic damage to mount unchecked. That is not passive oversight. That is abdication.

The buck stops with you.

The First Amendment protects my right to petition the government, expose misconduct, and hold public officials accountable. That right is not suspended because you've referred the matter to counsel. Nor does it vanish when the facts become inconvenient.

I will continue to document, publish, and pursue accountability through every lawful channel available. Direct communication with elected and appointed officials remains one of those channels—and always will be.

Respectfully,  
Aaron C. Knapp  
BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA**  
NASW Member ID: 886836612

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On Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 01:40:01 PM EDT, Bradley, Jack <jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I have no problem being kept in the loop (and all constructive comments and suggestions are appreciated). Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>

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Correction Friday June 27 2025.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 11:34, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mayor Bradley,

Thank you for your response.

While I acknowledge that the City has referred this matter to legal counsel, please be advised that I am fully within my constitutional rights to continue corresponding with elected and appointed public officials regarding matters of public concern—particularly those involving allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and misuse of public resources.

As a private citizen and whistleblower, my right to petition the government is explicitly protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. This includes the right to directly contact government officials in matters affecting public integrity, policy, and public safety.

- In *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that citizens (and public employees) have the right to speak on matters of public concern without fear of retaliation or suppression.

- In *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964), the Court affirmed that public officials are subject to public scrutiny and criticism as a core component of democratic accountability.
- *California Motor Transport Co. v. Trucking Unlimited*, 404 U.S. 508 (1972), further established the right to petition government bodies and officials as “among the most precious of the liberties safeguarded by

## the Bill of Rights.”

Furthermore, public officials may not shield themselves from direct accountability by unilaterally declaring that only legal counsel may be contacted, especially when the communication involves documented allegations of abuse of power under color of law (42 U.S.C. § 1983) and violations of anti-retaliation provisions under both Ohio and federal whistleblower laws.

If the City chooses to coordinate its formal response through legal channels, that is its prerogative. However, it does not—and cannot—preclude me from communicating directly with those entrusted to serve the public.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

NASW Member #886836612

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW,  
CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 10:48, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

This matter is being handled by our legal department. Please direct all further correspondence regarding this matter to our legal counsel. Thank you. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:21 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org

<lcp@lcprosecutor.org>  
; trothm@wingspan.org  
<trothm@wingspan.org  
>; City Council Mail  
Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup  
@cityoflorain.org>;  
Mike Mason  
<mike.mason@woio.co  
m>; Jonathan Schuppe  
<jonathan.schuppe@nb  
cuni.com>; Noelle  
Williams  
<noelle.williams@woio.  
com>; Lorain Daily  
<erik@loraindaily.com>  
; David Yost AG  
<agocares@ohioago.go  
v>;  
ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.go  
v>;  
paul.nick@ethics.ohio.g  
ov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.  
gov>; tips@wews.com  
<tips@wews.com>;  
Sherry Glass  
<sherry.glass@lcft.org  
>; Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountyshe  
riff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@proton  
mail.com  
<senseicobrakai@proto  
nmail.com>; Major  
Steven Scharschmidt  
<sscharschmidt@lcdtf.c  
om>; Mike Massie  
<mmassie@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.co  
m>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityof  
lorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.co  
m>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.  
com  
<jonathan.walsh@wew  
s.com>;

Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com  
>;  
JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com  
>

**Subject:** Re: Final  
Demand for Relief –  
Whistleblower  
Retaliation, Civil-Rights  
Abuses & Tortious  
Interference Final One-  
Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**  
<a4xbeaverman@yaho  
o.com>  
Make sure you trust this  
sender before taking  
any actions.

Dear Mayor Bradley,  
Director Carrion, Acting  
Chief Failing,  
Administrator Weitzel,  
and Applewood HR:

As an 80% service-  
connected veteran with  
PTSD, a NASW-  
licensed social worker,  
and a former  
Crossroads clinician, I  
have endured a two-  
year campaign of  
retaliation, defamation,  
and unlawful  
interference at your  
hands. Now, newly  
disclosed emails from  
Assistant Law Director  
LaVeck—most notably  
those exchanged with  
Bill Hegerty, a  
CSWMFT Board  
member—confirm  
beyond doubt how Chief  
McCann weaponized  
his office:

1. **Board  
Communicatio  
ns (Bill  
Hegerty) –  
Irrefutable  
Proof of  
Retaliation**

In May 2023, Bill Hegerty (CSWMFT Board member) emailed Chief McCann expressing shock that my protected complaints were portrayed as "unethical conduct." Those exchanges show McCann intentionally misrepresenting my advocacy to Hegerty, prompting a bad-faith licensing complaint that wasted thousands of city man-hours and resources.

2. **Unlawful Disclosure & Defamation**  
McCann sent Applewood/Crossroads and Administrator Weitzel unredacted copies of my private LPD complaints (screens marked "CLEIRS Administrative") , falsely branding me "unhinged" and "erratic." That defamation destroyed my reputation and led directly to my termination—despite Hegerty warning McCann the allegations lacked any factual basis.
3. **Tortious Interference**

By leveraging his office to poison both Applewood and the Court against me, Chief McCann—acting with Weitzel's cooperation—intentionally induced breach of my employment agreements, costing me over \$49,000 in salary, benefits, sign-on bonuses, and five weeks' vacation. Applewood only reinstated my GAL role after I sued; they never restored my Crossroads clinician position, compounding my economic and reputational harm.

4. **Color-of-Law Abuse & Harassment**

Despite explicit requests to cease, Chief McCann continued emailing me from @cityoflorain.gov—violating Ohio's Telecommunications Harassment statute (R.C. 2917.21). Your own policies promise discipline for such conduct—yet none was taken.

5. **Disability-Based**

### **Targeting**

As a documented PTSD sufferer with a service dog, I was traumatized when McCann labeled my startle response "irrational" and exploited my disability to justify his misconduct.

---

## **One-Time Settlement Offer: \$450,000**

In light of these indisputable facts and to avoid protracted litigation, I hereby extend a one-time offer to release all claims against the City of Lorain, Mayor Bradley, Director Carrion, Chief McCann, Administrator Weitzel, and Applewood Centers—for a total settlement of **\$450,000**. This offer expires at **5 PM on Friday, July 12, 2025**. Please refer this email to your insurers or delay; if I do not receive a binding acceptance by that deadline, I will initiate suit immediately.

### **Why \$450,000 Is Exceptionally Fair**

- **Conservative Verdict Estimate:** A jury could easily award over \$1.2 million when accounting for lost wages, reputational

harm, emotional distress, and punitive damages.

- **Taxpayer Savings:** Settling at \$450K conserves city and court resources—avoiding costly depositions, discovery, and trial logistics.
- **Proportionality** : My demand is just 37% of the projected high-end verdict, striking a reasonable balance between the harm suffered and the risks of continued litigation.

The enclosed LaVeck ↔ Hegerty email chain leaves no room for doubt. I await your prompt acknowledgment.

---

**Addendum:**

I also strongly urge you to tender this settlement demand to your liability insurer—CORSA (or your designated provider)—immediately upon receipt, to ensure prompt coverage and avoid any unnecessary coverage disputes.

Respectfully,  
**Aaron C. Knapp**  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899  
[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)

**Enclosure:** LaVeck ↔  
Hegerty CSWMFT  
Board correspondence

**Aaron Christopher  
Knapp, BSSW, LSW,  
CDCA  
NASW Member  
ID: 886836612**

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## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 27, 2025 11:13 AM  
**To:** Jack Bradley  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas; Rey Carrion; Mike Failing; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group; Mike Mason; Jonathan Schuppe; Noelle Williams; Lorain Daily; David Yost AG; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass; Sheriff Jack Hall; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt; Mike Massie; Clevescene News; Joseph LaVeck; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Thanks for clarifying that “Denied” is your administration’s official stance on whistleblower retaliation and civil rights violations. I’ll make sure that quote is framed prominently in future filings and coverage. It says more in one word than most press conferences do in twenty.

Just one question:

Was that reply vetted by legal counsel, or was that another off-the-cuff move you’d prefer the public not take literally?

Your constituents—and your liability insurer—will no doubt find your approach to documented misconduct refreshingly bold. I’m sure they’ll appreciate the simplicity.

I look forward to your continued cooperation as this unfolds publicly and in court. You may want to keep “Deposed” ready for your next one-word response.

Regards,

Aaron C. Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Whistleblower | Social Worker

I'm Forwarding this chain to the News Media so they can see how you speak to a disabled Veteran seeking answers and justice.

Make it a wonderful weekend!

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 16:07, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Jack,

“Denied.”

Impressive. A one-word masterclass in public accountability. I assume that's the level of engagement Lorain taxpayers can now expect when raising allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and documented abuse of power.

If I wanted a Magic 8 Ball response, I'd have shaken one. Instead, I got the mayor of a city whose job—last I checked—is to serve, not sneer.

I'll make sure your reply is framed accordingly when this story airs. You may want to keep your calendar open. Reporters tend to have follow-up questions—more than one word, usually.

– Aaron C. Knapp

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 15:17, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Denied!

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org <lcp@lcpProsecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>**  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me be unambiguous.

You work for the people. You are not a passive participant in these events, nor are you free to dismiss public instructions with one-liners like “Thank you for your comments.” That may suffice in lesser matters—but not here, not when civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and federal crimes under color of law are on the record and under your watch.

I am not seeking your permission. I am instructing you, as my government, under the full protection of the Constitution of the United States. This communication is not a “comment”—it is a lawful directive from a constituent to an elected official.

You may choose to ignore that instruction. If so, you will face it again—through deposition, through discovery, and ultimately through public judgment.

Your job is not to issue pleasantries. Your job is to protect the civil liberties of the residents of Lorain. That includes me.

Failure to comply with this final directive and respond substantively to the settlement offer already presented will be taken as formal declination, and all further remedies will proceed through the courts and press as outlined.

Govern accordingly.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower  
4220 Talbot Lane | Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899 | a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 14:04, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 2:00 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

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Mayor Bradley,

Let me make something clear: I don't have to "understand" your political balancing act. That's your job—not mine. My job is to hold public officials accountable when they fail to act, enable misconduct, or try to sidestep responsibility behind vague references to "community interests."

What you've called "balancing" is, in reality, evasion. And I'm not obligated to tolerate it, respect it, or fall in line with it—especially when your administration green-lit or ignored retaliatory behavior that violated my rights.

You may think deflecting to your office or suggesting private meetings is enough to minimize public exposure. It's not. This is about public harm and public accountability. So yes, I will keep addressing you—and every official copied here—because silence and backdoor excuses are how corruption thrives.

You don't get to dictate the terms of this conversation. Not when your silence has cost me my career, my reputation, and my health.

You know what needs to be done. Either act with integrity—or keep trying to spin this while the public watches.

– Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 13:55, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments, but you need to realize that I have to balance the needs and interests of the entire community, not just yours. As I have told you in the past, if you have specific concerns, please feel free to schedule a separate meeting with my office. As always, your input is valuable in helping me understand the community's needs and concerns. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 1:48 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <agocares@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <sherry.glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com

<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <sscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <mmassie@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <scott.noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <jcaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference  
Final One-Time Settlement Offer

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<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

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Mayor Bradley,

I appreciate your comment that constructive suggestions are welcome. I would only add this:

Your role as Mayor does not entitle you to dictate how, when, or in what tone I speak on matters of public concern—especially those involving civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability-based targeting carried out under color of law.

This isn't about being "kept in the loop." I *am* the loop—because your administration made me part of it through a sustained campaign of retaliation and silence.

Your office gave tacit approval to Chief McCann's actions against me and others. At minimum, you permitted your subordinates to deny the existence of emails that I now have in hand. You failed to initiate—or demand—a thorough, impartial investigation. You allowed reputational and economic damage to mount unchecked. That is not passive oversight. That is abdication.

The buck stops with you.

The First Amendment protects my right to petition the government, expose misconduct, and hold public officials accountable. That right is not suspended because you've referred the matter to counsel. Nor does it vanish when the facts become inconvenient.

I will continue to document, publish, and pursue accountability through every lawful channel available. Direct communication with elected and appointed

officials remains one of those channels—and always will be.

Respectfully,  
Aaron C. Knapp  
BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 01:40:01 PM EDT, Bradley, Jack <jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I have no problem being kept in the loop (and all constructive comments and suggestions are appreciated). Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com

<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Correction Friday June 27 2025.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 11:34, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mayor Bradley,

Thank you for your response.

While I acknowledge that the City has referred this matter to legal counsel, please be advised that I am fully within

my constitutional rights to continue corresponding with elected and appointed public officials regarding matters of public concern—particularly those involving allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and misuse of public resources.

As a private citizen and whistleblower, my right to petition the government is explicitly protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. This includes the right to directly contact government officials in matters affecting public integrity, policy, and public safety.

- In *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that citizens (and public

employees) have the right to speak on matters of public concern without fear of retaliation or suppression.

- In *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964), the Court affirmed that public officials are subject to public scrutiny and criticism as a core component of democratic accountability.
- *California Motor Transport Co. v. Trucking Unlimited*, 404 U.S. 508 (1972), further established the right to petition

government  
bodies and  
officials as  
“among the  
most precious of  
the liberties  
safeguarded by  
the Bill of  
Rights.”

Furthermore, public officials may not shield themselves from direct accountability by unilaterally declaring that only legal counsel may be contacted, especially when the communication involves documented allegations of abuse of power under color of law (42 U.S.C. § 1983) and violations of anti-retaliation provisions under both Ohio and federal whistleblower laws.

If the City chooses to coordinate its formal response through legal channels, that is its prerogative. However, it does not—and cannot—preclude me from communicating directly with

those entrusted to serve the public.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

NASW Member #886836612

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW,  
CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 10:48, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

This matter is being handled by our legal department. Please direct all further correspondence regarding this matter to our legal counsel. Thank you. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo

o.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24,  
2025 11:21 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J.  
Gargas  
<rjgargas@gmail.com>  
>; Carrion, Rey  
<Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike  
<Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>;  
lcp@lcprosecutor.org  
<lcp@lcprosecutor.org>  
>; trothm@wingspan.org  
<trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail  
Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>;  
Mike Mason  
<mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe  
<jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle  
Williams  
<noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily  
<erik@loraindaily.com>  
>; David Yost AG  
<agocares@ohioagov>;  
ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>;  
paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com  
<tips@wews.com>;  
Sherry Glass  
<sherry.glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@protonmail.com  
<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major  
Steven Scharschmidt  
<:sscharschmidt@lcdtf.c

om>; Mike Massie  
<mmassie@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.co  
m>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityof  
lorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.co  
m>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.  
com  
<jonathan.walsh@wew  
s.com>;  
Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com  
>;  
JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com  
>

**Subject:** Re: Final  
Demand for Relief –  
Whistleblower  
Retaliation, Civil-Rights  
Abuses & Tortious  
Interference Final One-  
Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**

<a4xbeaverman@yaho  
o.com>

Make sure you trust this  
sender before taking  
any actions.

Dear Mayor Bradley,  
Director Carrion, Acting  
Chief Failing,  
Administrator Weitzel,  
and Applewood HR:

As an 80% service-  
connected veteran with  
PTSD, a NASW-  
licensed social worker,  
and a former  
Crossroads clinician, I  
have endured a two-  
year campaign of  
retaliation, defamation,  
and unlawful  
interference at your  
hands. Now, newly  
disclosed emails from  
Assistant Law Director

LaVeck—most notably those exchanged with Bill Hegerty, a CSWMFT Board member—confirm beyond doubt how Chief McCann weaponized his office:

1. **Board Communications (Bill Hegerty) – Irrefutable Proof of Retaliation**

In May 2023, Bill Hegerty (CSWMFT Board member) emailed Chief McCann expressing shock that my protected complaints were portrayed as “unethical conduct.” Those exchanges show McCann intentionally misrepresenting my advocacy to Hegerty, prompting a bad-faith licensing complaint that wasted thousands of city man-hours and resources.

2. **Unlawful Disclosure & Defamation**

McCann sent Applewood/Crossroads and Administrator Weitzel unredacted copies of my private LPD complaints (screens marked “CLEIRS Administrative”), falsely branding me

“unhinged” and “erratic.” That defamation destroyed my reputation and led directly to my termination—despite Hegerty warning McCann the allegations lacked any factual basis.

3. **Tortious Interference**

By leveraging his office to poison both Applewood and the Court against me, Chief McCann—acting with Weitzel’s cooperation—intentionally induced breach of my employment agreements, costing me over \$49,000 in salary, benefits, sign-on bonuses, and five weeks’ vacation. Applewood only reinstated my GAL role after I sued; they never restored my Crossroads clinician position, compounding my economic and reputational harm.

4. **Color-of-Law Abuse & Harassment**

Despite explicit requests to cease, Chief McCann continued emailing me from

@cityoflorain.go  
v—violating  
Ohio's  
Telecommunica  
tions  
Harassment  
statute (R.C.  
2917.21). Your  
own policies  
promise  
discipline for  
such conduct—  
yet none was  
taken.

5. **Disability-  
Based  
Targeting**

As a  
documented  
PTSD sufferer  
with a service  
dog, I was  
traumatized  
when McCann  
labeled my  
startle response  
"irrational" and  
exploited my  
disability to  
justify his  
misconduct.

---

## **One-Time Settlement Offer: \$450,000**

In light of these  
indisputable facts and to  
avoid protracted  
litigation, I hereby  
extend a one-time offer  
to release all claims  
against the City of  
Lorain, Mayor Bradley,  
Director Carrion, Chief  
McCann, Administrator  
Weitzel, and Applewood  
Centers—for a total  
settlement of **\$450,000**.  
This offer expires at **5  
PM on Friday, July 12,  
2025**. Please refer this  
email to your insurers or  
delay; if I do not receive

a binding acceptance by that deadline, I will initiate suit immediately.

**Why \$450,000 Is Exceptionally Fair**

- **Conservative Verdict**  
**Estimate:** A jury could easily award over \$1.2 million when accounting for lost wages, reputational harm, emotional distress, and punitive damages.
- **Taxpayer Savings:**  
Settling at \$450K conserves city and court resources—avoiding costly depositions, discovery, and trial logistics.
- **Proportionality**  
: My demand is just 37% of the projected high-end verdict, striking a reasonable balance between the harm suffered and the risks of continued litigation.

The enclosed LaVeck ↔ Hegerty email chain leaves no room for doubt. I await your prompt acknowledgment.

---

**Addendum:**

I also strongly urge you to tender this settlement demand to your liability insurer—CORSA (or your designated

provider)—immediately upon receipt, to ensure prompt coverage and avoid any unnecessary coverage disputes.

Respectfully,  
**Aaron C. Knapp**  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899  
[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)

**Enclosure:** LaVeck ↔  
Hegerty CSWMFT  
Board correspondence

**Aaron Christopher  
Knapp, BSSW, LSW,  
CDCA  
NASW Member  
ID: 886836612**

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## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:54 AM  
**To:** Jack Bradley  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas; Rey Carrion; Mike Failing; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group; Mike Mason; Jonathan Schuppe; Noelle Williams; Lorain Daily; David Yost AG; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass; Sheriff Jack Hall; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt; Mike Massie; Clevescene News; Joseph LaVeck; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Your “Denied” response was not just unprofessional—it was a dereliction of your duty as a public servant. When presented with documented allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, defamation, and abuse of office under color of law, your reply was a single word. That silence speaks volumes.

Let’s be clear: you work for the people of Lorain. You don’t get to cherry-pick which constituents deserve answers. You don’t get to stonewall when misconduct surfaces. And you certainly don’t get to reduce matters of constitutional significance to dismissive quips.

You’ve now been placed on written notice—repeatedly—that your administration enabled and engaged in retaliatory, defamatory, and discriminatory actions. You’ve been offered a one-time resolution that would have saved the City substantial resources. You chose evasion over engagement.

That choice has consequences.

As previously stated, failure to respond substantively constitutes formal declination. Legal proceedings will begin as outlined, and public scrutiny will follow. Your “Denied”

email will be Exhibit A—an emblem of your administration’s hostility toward transparency and accountability.

I encourage you to consult with your legal counsel, your insurer, and your conscience—if not for me, then for the taxpayers who will soon foot the bill for your inaction.

Govern accordingly.

You’ll be hearing from the press—and the courts.

Respectfully,

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Whistleblower | Public Advocate

(216) 659-9899 | a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 16:07, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Jack,

“Denied.”

Impressive. A one-word masterclass in public accountability. I assume that’s the level of engagement Lorain taxpayers can now expect when raising allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and documented abuse of power.

If I wanted a Magic 8 Ball response, I'd have shaken one. Instead, I got the mayor of a city whose job—last I checked—is to serve, not sneer.

I'll make sure your reply is framed accordingly when this story airs. You may want to keep your calendar open. Reporters tend to have follow-up questions—more than one word, usually.

– Aaron C. Knapp

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 15:17, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Denied!

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org <lcp@lcpProsecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com

<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>;  
JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses &  
Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me be unambiguous.

You work for the people. You are not a passive participant in these events, nor are you free to dismiss public instructions with one-liners like “Thank you for your comments.” That may suffice in lesser matters—but not here, not when civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and federal crimes under color of law are on the record and under your watch.

I am not seeking your permission. I am instructing you, as my government, under the full protection of the Constitution of the United States. This communication is not a “comment”—it is a lawful directive from a constituent to an elected official.

You may choose to ignore that instruction. If so, you will face it again—through deposition, through discovery, and ultimately through public judgment.

Your job is not to issue pleasantries. Your job is to protect the civil liberties of the residents of Lorain. That includes me.

Failure to comply with this final directive and respond substantively to the settlement offer already presented will be taken as formal declination, and all further remedies will proceed through the courts and press as outlined.

Govern accordingly.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower  
4220 Talbot Lane | Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899 | a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 14:04, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 2:00 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org <lcp@lcpProsecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SSscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph

<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me make something clear: I don't have to "understand" your political balancing act. That's your job—not mine. My job is to hold public officials accountable when they fail to act, enable misconduct, or try to sidestep responsibility behind vague references to "community interests."

What you've called "balancing" is, in reality, evasion. And I'm not obligated to tolerate it, respect it, or fall in line with it—especially when your administration green-lit or ignored retaliatory behavior that violated my rights.

You may think deflecting to your office or suggesting private meetings is enough to minimize public exposure. It's not. This is about public harm and public accountability. So yes, I will keep addressing you—and every official copied here—because silence and backdoor excuses are how corruption thrives.

You don't get to dictate the terms of this conversation. Not when your silence has cost me my career, my reputation, and my health.

You know what needs to be done. Either act with integrity—or keep trying to spin this while the public watches.

– Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 13:55, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments, but you need to realize that I have to balance the needs and interests of the entire community, not just yours. As I have told you in the past, if you have specific concerns, please feel free to schedule a separate meeting with my office. As always, your input is valuable in helping me understand the community's needs and concerns. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 1:48 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason

<mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe  
<jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams  
<noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily  
<erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG  
<agocares@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com  
<tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass  
<sherry.glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@protonmail.com  
<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven  
Scharschmidt <sscharschmidt@lctdf.com>; Mike Massie  
<mmassie@lctdf.com>; Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<scott.noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<jcaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower  
Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference  
Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**

<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

I appreciate your comment that constructive suggestions are welcome. I would only add this:

Your role as Mayor does not entitle you to dictate how, when, or in what tone I speak on matters of public concern—especially those involving civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability-based targeting carried out under color of law.

This isn't about being "kept in the loop." I *am* the loop—because your administration made me part of it through a sustained campaign of retaliation and silence.

Your office gave tacit approval to Chief McCann's actions against me and others. At minimum, you permitted your subordinates to deny the existence of emails that I now have in hand. You failed to initiate—or demand—a thorough, impartial investigation. You allowed reputational and economic damage to mount unchecked. That is not passive oversight. That is abdication.

The buck stops with you.

The First Amendment protects my right to petition the government, expose misconduct, and hold public officials accountable. That right is not suspended because you've referred the matter to counsel. Nor does it vanish when the facts become inconvenient.

I will continue to document, publish, and pursue accountability through every lawful channel available. Direct communication with elected and appointed officials remains one of those channels—and always will be.

Respectfully,  
Aaron C. Knapp  
BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 01:40:01 PM EDT,  
Bradley, Jack <jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I have no problem being kept in the loop (and all constructive comments and suggestions are appreciated). Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org <lcp@lcpProsecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe

<Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams  
<Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily  
<erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG  
<AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com  
<tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass  
<Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@protonmail.com  
<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven  
Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike  
Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower  
Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference  
Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any  
actions.

Correction Friday June 27 2025.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE  
THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Jun 25, 2025, at 11:34, Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mayor Bradley,

Thank you for your response.

While I acknowledge that the City has referred this matter to legal counsel, please be advised that I am fully within my constitutional rights to continue corresponding with elected and appointed public officials regarding matters of public concern—particularly those involving allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and misuse of public resources.

As a private citizen and whistleblower, my right to petition the government is explicitly protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. This includes the right to directly contact government officials in matters affecting public integrity, policy, and public safety.

- In *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968), the U.S.

Supreme Court recognized that citizens (and public employees) have the right to speak on matters of public concern without fear of retaliation or suppression.

- In *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964), the Court affirmed that public officials are subject to public scrutiny and criticism as a core component of democratic accountability.
- *California Motor Transport Co. v. Trucking Unlimited*, 404

U.S. 508 (1972),  
further  
established the  
right to petition  
government  
bodies and  
officials as  
“among the  
most precious of  
the liberties  
safeguarded by  
the Bill of  
Rights.”

Furthermore, public officials may not shield themselves from direct accountability by unilaterally declaring that only legal counsel may be contacted, especially when the communication involves documented allegations of abuse of power under color of law (42 U.S.C. § 1983) and violations of anti-retaliation provisions under both Ohio and federal whistleblower laws.

If the City chooses to coordinate its formal response through legal

channels, that is its prerogative. However, it does not—and cannot—preclude me from communicating directly with those entrusted to serve the public.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

NASW Member #886836612

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW,  
CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 10:48, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoffo rain.org> wrote:

This matter is being handled by our legal department. Please direct all further correspondence

regarding this matter  
to our legal  
counsel. Thank  
you. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24,  
2025 11:21 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J.  
Gargas  
<rjgargas@gmail.com>  
; Carrion, Rey  
<Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike  
<Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>;  
lcp@lcprosecutor.org  
<lcp@lcprosecutor.org>  
; trothm@wingspan.org  
<trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail  
Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>;  
Mike Mason  
<mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe  
<jonathan.schuppe@nbuni.com>; Noelle  
Williams  
<noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily  
<erik@loraindaily.com>  
; David Yost AG  
<agocares@ohioagov>;  
ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>;  
paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com  
<tips@wews.com>;  
Sherry Glass  
<sherry.glass@lcfc.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountyshe

riff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@proton  
mail.com  
<senseicobrakai@proto  
nmail.com>; Major  
Steven Scharschmidt  
<sscharschmidt@lcdtf.c  
om>; Mike Massie  
<mmassie@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.co  
m>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityof  
lorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.co  
m>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.  
com  
<jonathan.walsh@wew  
s.com>;  
Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com  
>;  
JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com  
>

**Subject:** Re: Final  
Demand for Relief –  
Whistleblower  
Retaliation, Civil-Rights  
Abuses & Tortious  
Interference Final One-  
Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**

<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear Mayor Bradley,  
Director Carrion, Acting  
Chief Failing,  
Administrator Weitzel,  
and Applewood HR:

As an 80% service-  
connected veteran with  
PTSD, a NASW-  
licensed social worker,  
and a former  
Crossroads clinician, I

have endured a two-year campaign of retaliation, defamation, and unlawful interference at your hands. Now, newly disclosed emails from Assistant Law Director LaVeck—most notably those exchanged with Bill Hegerty, a CSWMFT Board member—confirm beyond doubt how Chief McCann weaponized his office:

1. **Board Communications (Bill Hegerty) – Irrefutable Proof of Retaliation**  
In May 2023, Bill Hegerty (CSWMFT Board member) emailed Chief McCann expressing shock that my protected complaints were portrayed as “unethical conduct.” Those exchanges show McCann intentionally misrepresenting my advocacy to Hegerty, prompting a bad-faith licensing complaint that wasted thousands of city man-hours and resources.
2. **Unlawful Disclosure & Defamation**  
McCann sent Applewood/Crossroads and Administrator Weitzel unredacted copies of my

private LPD  
complaints  
(screens  
marked  
"CLEIRS  
Administrative")  
, falsely  
branding me  
"unhinged" and  
"erratic." That  
defamation  
destroyed my  
reputation and  
led directly to  
my  
termination—  
despite Hegerty  
warning  
McCann the  
allegations  
lacked any  
factual basis.

3. **Tortious Interference**  
By leveraging  
his office to  
poison both  
Applewood and  
the Court  
against me,  
Chief  
McCann—  
acting with  
Weitzel's  
cooperation—  
intentionally  
induced breach  
of my  
employment  
agreements,  
costing me over  
\$49,000 in  
salary, benefits,  
sign-on  
bonuses, and  
five weeks'  
vacation.  
Applewood only  
reinstated my  
GAL role after I  
sued; they  
never restored  
my Crossroads  
clinician  
position,  
compounding  
my economic  
and reputational  
harm.

4. **Color-of-Law Abuse &**

**Harassment**

Despite explicit requests to cease, Chief McCann continued emailing me from @cityoflorain.gov—violating Ohio's Telecommunications Harassment statute (R.C. 2917.21). Your own policies promise discipline for such conduct—yet none was taken.

5. **Disability-Based Targeting**

As a documented PTSD sufferer with a service dog, I was traumatized when McCann labeled my startle response “irrational” and exploited my disability to justify his misconduct.

---

**One-Time  
Settlement  
Offer:  
\$450,000**

In light of these indisputable facts and to avoid protracted litigation, I hereby extend a one-time offer to release all claims against the City of Lorain, Mayor Bradley, Director Carrion, Chief McCann, Administrator

Weitzel, and Applewood Centers—for a total settlement of **\$450,000**. This offer expires at **5 PM on Friday, July 12, 2025**. Please refer this email to your insurers or delay; if I do not receive a binding acceptance by that deadline, I will initiate suit immediately.

**Why \$450,000 Is Exceptionally Fair**

- **Conservative Verdict Estimate:** A jury could easily award over \$1.2 million when accounting for lost wages, reputational harm, emotional distress, and punitive damages.
- **Taxpayer Savings:** Settling at \$450K conserves city and court resources—avoiding costly depositions, discovery, and trial logistics.
- **Proportionality:** My demand is just 37% of the projected high-end verdict, striking a reasonable balance between the harm suffered and the risks of continued litigation.

The enclosed LaVeck ↔ Hegerty email chain leaves no room for doubt. I await your prompt acknowledgment.

---

**Addendum:**

I also strongly urge you to tender this settlement demand to your liability insurer—CORSA (or your designated provider)—immediately upon receipt, to ensure prompt coverage and avoid any unnecessary coverage disputes.

Respectfully,  
**Aaron C. Knapp**  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899  
[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)

**Enclosure:** LaVeck ↔  
Hegerty CSWMFT  
Board correspondence

**Aaron Christopher  
Knapp, BSSW, LSW,  
CDCA  
NASW Member  
ID: 886836612**

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## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 4:07 PM  
**To:** Jack Bradley  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas; Rey Carrion; Mike Failing; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group; Mike Mason; Jonathan Schuppe; Noelle Williams; Lorain Daily; David Yost AG; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass; Sheriff Jack Hall; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt; Mike Massie; Clevescene News; Joseph LaVeck; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Jack,

“Denied.”

Impressive. A one-word masterclass in public accountability. I assume that’s the level of engagement Lorain taxpayers can now expect when raising allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and documented abuse of power.

If I wanted a Magic 8 Ball response, I’d have shaken one. Instead, I got the mayor of a city whose job—last I checked—is to serve, not sneer.

I’ll make sure your reply is framed accordingly when this story airs. You may want to keep your calendar open. Reporters tend to have follow-up questions—more than one word, usually.

– Aaron C. Knapp

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 15:17, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Denied!

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>**  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me be unambiguous.

You work for the people. You are not a passive participant in these events, nor are you free to dismiss public instructions with one-liners like “Thank you for your comments.” That may suffice in lesser matters—but not here, not when civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and federal crimes under color of law are on the record and under your watch.

I am not seeking your permission. I am instructing you, as my government, under the full protection of the Constitution of the United States. This communication is not a “comment”—it is a lawful directive from a constituent to an elected official.

You may choose to ignore that instruction. If so, you will face it again—through deposition, through discovery, and ultimately through public judgment.

Your job is not to issue pleasantries. Your job is to protect the civil liberties of the residents of Lorain. That includes me.

Failure to comply with this final directive and respond substantively to the settlement offer already presented will be taken as formal declination, and all further remedies will proceed through the courts and press as outlined.

Govern accordingly.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower  
4220 Talbot Lane | Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899 | a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 14:04, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 2:00 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me make something clear: I don't have to "understand" your political balancing act. That's your job—not mine. My job is to hold public officials accountable when they fail to act, enable misconduct, or try to sidestep responsibility behind vague references to "community interests."

What you've called "balancing" is, in reality, evasion. And I'm not obligated to tolerate it, respect it, or fall in line with it—especially when your administration green-lit or ignored retaliatory behavior that violated my rights.

You may think deflecting to your office or suggesting private meetings is enough to minimize public exposure. It's not. This is about public harm and public accountability. So yes, I will keep addressing you—and every official copied here—because silence and backdoor excuses are how corruption thrives.

You don't get to dictate the terms of this conversation. Not when your silence has cost me my career, my reputation, and my health.

You know what needs to be done. Either act with integrity—or keep trying to spin this while the public watches.

– Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 13:55, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments, but you need to realize that I have to balance the needs and interests of the entire community, not just yours. As I have told you in the past, if you have specific concerns, please feel free to schedule a separate meeting with my office. As always, your input is valuable in helping me understand the community's needs and concerns. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 1:48 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <agocares@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <sherry.glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <sscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <mmassie@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <scott.noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <jcaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>**  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

I appreciate your comment that constructive suggestions are welcome. I would only add this:

Your role as Mayor does not entitle you to dictate how, when, or in what tone I speak on matters of public concern—especially those involving civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability-based targeting carried out under color of law.

This isn't about being "kept in the loop." I *am* the loop—because your administration made me part of it through a sustained campaign of retaliation and silence.

Your office gave tacit approval to Chief McCann's actions against me and others. At minimum, you permitted your subordinates to deny the existence of emails that I now have in hand. You failed to initiate—or demand—a thorough, impartial investigation. You allowed reputational and economic damage to mount unchecked. That is not passive oversight. That is abdication.

The buck stops with you.

The First Amendment protects my right to petition the government, expose misconduct, and hold public officials accountable. That right is not suspended because you've referred the matter to counsel. Nor does it vanish when the facts become inconvenient.

I will continue to document, publish, and pursue accountability through every lawful channel available. Direct communication with elected and appointed officials remains one of those channels—and always will be.

Respectfully,  
Aaron C. Knapp  
BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 01:40:01 PM EDT, Bradley, Jack <jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I have no problem being kept in the loop (and all constructive comments and suggestions are appreciated). Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt

<SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-  
Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Correction Friday June 27 2025.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE  
COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Jun 25, 2025, at 11:34, Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mayor Bradley,

Thank you for your response.

While I acknowledge that the City has referred this matter to legal counsel, please be advised that I am fully within my constitutional rights to continue corresponding with elected and appointed public officials regarding matters of public concern—particularly those involving allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and misuse of public resources.

As a private citizen and whistleblower, my right to petition the government is explicitly protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. This includes the right to directly contact government officials in matters affecting public integrity, policy, and public safety.

- In *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that citizens (and public employees) have the right to speak on matters of public concern without fear of retaliation or suppression.
- In *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964), the Court affirmed that public officials are subject to public scrutiny and criticism as a core component of democratic accountability.

- California Motor Transport Co. v. Trucking Unlimited, 404 U.S. 508 (1972), further established the right to petition government bodies and officials as “among the most precious of the liberties safeguarded by the Bill of Rights.”

Furthermore, public officials may not shield themselves from direct accountability by unilaterally declaring that only legal counsel may be contacted, especially when the communication involves documented allegations of abuse of power under color of law (42 U.S.C. § 1983) and violations of anti-retaliation provisions under both Ohio and federal whistleblower laws.

If the City chooses to coordinate its formal response through legal channels, that is its prerogative. However, it does not—and cannot—preclude me from communicating directly with those entrusted to serve the public.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

NASW Member #886836612

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 10:48, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

This matter is being handled by our legal department. Please direct all further correspondence regarding this matter to our legal counsel. Thank you. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:21 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>;  
Robert J. Gargas  
<rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey  
<Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>;  
Failing, Mike  
<Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>;  
lcp@lcprosecutor.org  
<lcp@lcprosecutor.org>;  
trothm@wingspan.org  
<trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council  
Mail Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason  
<mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan  
Schuppe

<jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>;  
Noelle Williams  
<noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain  
Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David  
Yost AG <agocares@ohioago.gov>;  
ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>;  
paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>;  
tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>;  
Sherry Glass <sherry.glass@lcft.org>;  
Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@protonmail.com  
<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>;  
Major Steven Scharschmidt  
<sscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike  
Massie <mmassie@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck,  
Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>;  
Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>;  
JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief –  
Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights  
Abuses & Tortious Interference Final  
One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**

<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before  
taking any actions.

Dear Mayor Bradley, Director Carrion,  
Acting Chief Failing, Administrator  
Weitzel, and Applewood HR:

As an 80% service-connected veteran  
with PTSD, a NASW-licensed social  
worker, and a former Crossroads  
clinician, I have endured a two-year  
campaign of retaliation, defamation, and  
unlawful interference at your hands.  
Now, newly disclosed emails from  
Assistant Law Director LaVeck—most  
notably those exchanged with Bill  
Hegerty, a CSWMFT Board member—

confirm beyond doubt how Chief McCann weaponized his office:

1. **Board Communications (Bill Hegerty) – Irrefutable Proof of Retaliation**

In May 2023, Bill Hegerty (CSWMFT Board member) emailed Chief McCann expressing shock that my protected complaints were portrayed as “unethical conduct.” Those exchanges show McCann intentionally misrepresenting my advocacy to Hegerty, prompting a bad-faith licensing complaint that wasted thousands of city man-hours and resources.

2. **Unlawful Disclosure & Defamation**

McCann sent Applewood/Crossroads and Administrator Weitzel unredacted copies of my private LPD complaints (screens marked “CLEIRS Administrative”), falsely branding me “unhinged” and “erratic.” That defamation destroyed my reputation and led directly to my termination—despite Hegerty warning McCann the allegations lacked any factual basis.

3. **Tortious Interference**

By leveraging his office to poison both Applewood and the Court against me, Chief McCann—acting with Weitzel’s cooperation—intentionally induced breach of my employment agreements, costing me over \$49,000 in salary, benefits, sign-on bonuses, and five weeks’ vacation. Applewood only reinstated my GAL role after I sued; they never restored my Crossroads clinician position, compounding my economic and reputational harm.

4. **Color-of-Law Abuse & Harassment**

Despite explicit requests to cease, Chief McCann continued emailing me from @cityoflorain.gov—violating Ohio’s Telecommunications Harassment statute (R.C. 2917.21). Your own policies

promise discipline for such conduct—yet none was taken.

5. **Disability-Based Targeting**  
As a documented PTSD sufferer with a service dog, I was traumatized when McCann labeled my startle response “irrational” and exploited my disability to justify his misconduct.

---

## **One-Time Settlement Offer: \$450,000**

In light of these indisputable facts and to avoid protracted litigation, I hereby extend a one-time offer to release all claims against the City of Lorain, Mayor Bradley, Director Carrion, Chief McCann, Administrator Weitzel, and Applewood Centers—for a total settlement of **\$450,000**. This offer expires at **5 PM on Friday, July 12, 2025**. Please refer this email to your insurers or delay; if I do not receive a binding acceptance by that deadline, I will initiate suit immediately.

### **Why \$450,000 Is Exceptionally Fair**

- **Conservative Verdict Estimate:** A jury could easily award over \$1.2 million when accounting for lost wages, reputational harm, emotional distress, and punitive damages.
- **Taxpayer Savings:** Settling at \$450K conserves city and court resources—avoiding costly depositions, discovery, and trial logistics.
- **Proportionality:** My demand is just 37% of the projected high-end verdict, striking a reasonable balance between the harm suffered and the risks of continued litigation.

The enclosed LaVeck ↔ Hegerty email chain leaves no room for doubt. I await your prompt acknowledgment.

**Addendum:**

I also strongly urge you to tender this settlement demand to your liability insurer—CORSA (or your designated provider)—immediately upon receipt, to ensure prompt coverage and avoid any unnecessary coverage disputes.

Respectfully,

**Aaron C. Knapp**  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899  
[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)

**Enclosure:** LaVeck ↔ Hegerty  
CSWMFT Board correspondence

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW,  
LSW, CDCA  
NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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**Beko, Michele**

---

**From:** no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 31, 2025 9:08 AM  
**To:** joseph\_pritchard@cityoflorain.org  
**Subject:** Accepted Filing Notification for Case No. 2025-00524PQ (AARON C. KNAPP Requester v. LORAIN CITY COUNCIL Respondent)

**Warning: Unusual sender** <no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud>

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## Filing Accepted

Envelope Number: **177078**

The filing below was reviewed and has been accepted by the clerk's office. Be sure to click the link below to retrieve your file stamped copy of the document filed.

Filing Details	
<b>Court</b>	File & Serve
<b>Case Number</b>	2025-00524PQ
<b>Case Style</b>	AARON C. KNAPP Requester v. LORAIN CITY COUNCIL Respondent

<b>Date/Time Submitted</b>	7/31/2025 9:01 AM EST
<b>Date/Time Accepted</b>	7/31/2025 9:08 AM EST
<b>Accepted Comments</b>	
<b>Filing Type</b>	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE
<b>Activity Requested</b>	EFileAndServe
<b>Filed By</b>	Joseph Prtichard

### Document Details

<b>Lead File</b>	DOC.pdf
<b>Lead File Page Count</b>	2
	<a href="https://ohio.tylertech.cloud/ViewDocuments.aspx?FID=ec7fe44f-b2a4-4a82-8a43-e646e339174f">https://ohio.tylertech.cloud/ViewDocuments.aspx?FID=ec7fe44f-b2a4-4a82-8a43-e646e339174f</a>

**File  
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Copy**

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**Beko, Michele**

---

**From:** no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 31, 2025 9:02 AM  
**To:** Pritchard, Joseph  
**Subject:** Submitted Filing Notification for Case No. 2025-00524PQ (AARON C. KNAPP Requester v. LORAIN CITY COUNCIL Respondent)

**Warning: Unusual sender** <no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud>  
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**Filing Submitted**  
Envelope Number: 177078

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Filing Details	
<b>Court</b>	File & Serve
<b>Date/Time Submitted:</b>	7/31/2025 9:01 AM EST
<b>Filing Type:</b>	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE
<b>Activity Requested:</b>	EFileAndServe
<b>Filed By:</b>	Joseph Pritchard

Fee Details	
This envelope is pending review and fees may change.	
Case Fee Information	\$0.00
MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE	\$0.00
<b>Total: \$0.00</b> (The envelope still has pending filings and the fees are subject to change)	

Document Details	
<b>Lead File:</b>	DOC.pdf
<b>Lead File Page Count:</b>	2

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**Beko, Michele**

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**From:** no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 31, 2025 9:02 AM  
**To:** Pritchard, Joseph  
**Subject:** Submitted Filing Notification for Case No. 2025-00524PQ (AARON C. KNAPP Requester v. LORAIN CITY COUNCIL Respondent)

**Warning: Unusual sender** <no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud>  
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**Filing Submitted**  
Envelope Number: **177078**

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<b>Court</b>	File & Serve
<b>Date/Time Submitted:</b>	7/31/2025 9:01 AM EST
<b>Filing Type:</b>	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE
<b>Activity Requested:</b>	EFileAndServe
<b>Filed By:</b>	Joseph Pritchard

Fee Details	
This envelope is pending review and fees may change.	
Case Fee Information	\$0.00
MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE	\$0.00
<b>Total: \$0.00</b> (The envelope still has pending filings and the fees are subject to change)	

Document Details	
<b>Lead File:</b>	DOC.pdf
<b>Lead File Page Count:</b>	2

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**Beko, Michele**

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**From:** no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 31, 2025 9:08 AM  
**To:** joseph\_pritchard@cityoflorain.org  
**Subject:** Accepted Filing Notification for Case No. 2025-00524PQ (AARON C. KNAPP Requester v. LORAIN CITY COUNCIL Respondent)

**Warning: Unusual sender** <no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud>  
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Envelope Number: **177078**

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<b>Court</b>	File & Serve
<b>Case Number</b>	2025-00524PQ
<b>Case Style</b>	AARON C. KNAPP Requester v. LORAIN CITY COUNCIL Respondent

<b>Date/Time Submitted</b>	7/31/2025 9:01 AM EST
<b>Date/Time Accepted</b>	7/31/2025 9:08 AM EST
<b>Accepted Comments</b>	
<b>Filing Type</b>	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE
<b>Activity Requested</b>	EFileAndServe
<b>Filed By</b>	Joseph Prtichard

**Document Details**

<b>Lead File</b>	DOC.pdf
<b>Lead File Page Count</b>	2
	<a href="https://ohio.tylertech.cloud/ViewDocuments.aspx?FID=ec7fe44f-b2a4-4a82-8a43-e646e339174f">https://ohio.tylertech.cloud/ViewDocuments.aspx?FID=ec7fe44f-b2a4-4a82-8a43-e646e339174f</a>

**File  
Stamped  
Copy**

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[Contact Tyler Technologies](#)

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 4:07 PM  
**To:** Jack Bradley  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz; Rey Carrion; Mike Failing; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group; Mike Mason; Jonathan Schuppe; Noelle Williams; Lorain Daily; David Yost AG; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass; Sheriff Jack Hall; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt; Mike Massie; Clevescene News; Joseph LaVeck; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Jack,

“Denied.”

Impressive. A one-word masterclass in public accountability. I assume that’s the level of engagement Lorain taxpayers can now expect when raising allegations of civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and documented abuse of power.

If I wanted a Magic 8 Ball response, I’d have shaken one. Instead, I got the mayor of a city whose job—last I checked—is to serve, not sneer.

I’ll make sure your reply is framed accordingly when this story airs. You may want to keep your calendar open. Reporters tend to have follow-up questions—more than one word, usually.

– Aaron C. Knapp

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 15:17, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Denied!

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>**  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me be unambiguous.

You work for the people. You are not a passive participant in these events, nor are you free to dismiss public instructions with one-liners like “Thank you for your comments.” That may suffice in lesser matters—but not here, not when civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and federal crimes under color of law are on the record and under your watch.

I am not seeking your permission. I am instructing you, as my government, under the full protection of the Constitution of the United States. This communication is not a “comment”—it is a lawful directive from a constituent to an elected official.

You may choose to ignore that instruction. If so, you will face it again—through deposition, through discovery, and ultimately through public judgment.

Your job is not to issue pleasantries. Your job is to protect the civil liberties of the residents of Lorain. That includes me.

Failure to comply with this final directive and respond substantively to the settlement offer already presented will be taken as formal declination, and all further remedies will proceed through the courts and press as outlined.

Govern accordingly.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower

4220 Talbot Lane | Lorain, OH 44055

(216) 659-9899 | a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 14:04, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 2:00 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org <lcp@lcpProsecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley,

Let me make something clear: I don't have to "understand" your political balancing act. That's your job—not mine. My job is to hold public officials accountable when they fail to act, enable misconduct, or try to sidestep responsibility behind vague references to "community interests."

What you've called "balancing" is, in reality, evasion. And I'm not obligated to tolerate it, respect it, or fall in line with it—especially when your administration green-lit or ignored retaliatory behavior that violated my rights.

You may think deflecting to your office or suggesting private meetings is enough to minimize public exposure. It's not. This is about public harm and public accountability. So yes, I will keep addressing you—and every official copied here—because silence and backdoor excuses are how corruption thrives.

You don't get to dictate the terms of this conversation. Not when your silence has cost me my career, my reputation, and my health.

You know what needs to be done. Either act with integrity—or keep trying to spin this while the public watches.

– Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 13:55, Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Thank you for your comments, but you need to realize that I have to balance the needs and interests of the entire community, not just yours. As I have told you in the past, if you have specific concerns, please feel free to schedule a separate meeting with my office. As always, your input is valuable in helping me understand the community's needs and concerns. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 1:48 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <agocares@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <sherry.glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <sscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <mmassie@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com <lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com <scott.noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com <jcaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>**  
**Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.**

Mayor Bradley,

I appreciate your comment that constructive suggestions are welcome. I would only add this:

Your role as Mayor does not entitle you to dictate how, when, or in what tone I speak on matters of public concern—especially those involving civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability-based targeting carried out under color of law.

This isn't about being "kept in the loop." I *am* the loop—because your administration made me part of it through a sustained campaign of retaliation and silence.

Your office gave tacit approval to Chief McCann's actions against me and others. At minimum, you permitted your subordinates to deny the existence of emails that I now have in hand. You failed to initiate—or demand—a thorough, impartial investigation. You allowed reputational and economic damage to mount unchecked. That is not passive oversight. That is abdication.

The buck stops with you.

The First Amendment protects my right to petition the government, expose misconduct, and hold public officials accountable. That right is not suspended because you've referred the matter to counsel. Nor does it vanish when the facts become inconvenient.

I will continue to document, publish, and pursue accountability through every lawful channel available. Direct communication with elected and appointed officials remains one of those channels—and always will be.

Respectfully,  
Aaron C. Knapp  
BSSW, LSW, CDCA  
Disabled Veteran & Public Advocate

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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On Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 01:40:01 PM EDT, Bradley, Jack <jack\_bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I have no problem being kept in the loop (and all constructive comments and suggestions are appreciated). Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org <lcp@lcprosecutor.org>; trothm@wingspan.org <trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov <paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>; tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt

<SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com>; jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>; Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>; JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>

**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-  
Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Correction Friday June 27 2025.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Jun 25, 2025, at 11:34, Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mayor Bradley,

Thank you for your response.

While I acknowledge that the City has  
referred this matter to legal counsel,  
please be advised that I am fully within  
my constitutional rights to continue  
corresponding with elected and  
appointed public officials regarding  
matters of public concern—  
particularly those involving allegations  
of civil rights violations, whistleblower

retaliation, and misuse of public resources.

As a private citizen and whistleblower, my right to petition the government is explicitly protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. This includes the right to directly contact government officials in matters affecting public integrity, policy, and public safety.

- In *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that citizens (and public employees) have the right to speak on matters of public concern without fear of retaliation or suppression.
- In *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964), the Court affirmed that public officials are subject to public scrutiny and criticism as a core component of

democratic  
accountability.

- California Motor  
Transport Co. v.  
Trucking Unlimited, 404  
U.S. 508 (1972), further  
established the right to  
petition government  
bodies and officials as  
“among the most  
precious of the liberties  
safeguarded by the Bill  
of Rights.”

Furthermore, public officials may not shield themselves from direct accountability by unilaterally declaring that only legal counsel may be contacted, especially when the communication involves documented allegations of abuse of power under color of law (42 U.S.C. § 1983) and violations of anti-retaliation provisions under both Ohio and federal whistleblower laws.

If the City chooses to coordinate its formal response through legal channels, that is its prerogative. However, it does not—and cannot—preclude me from communicating directly with those entrusted to serve the public.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp

BSSW, LSW, CDCA

NASW Member #886836612

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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On Jun 25, 2025, at 10:48, Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

This matter is being handled by our legal department. Please direct all further correspondence regarding this matter to our legal counsel. Thank you. Jack

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:21 PM  
**To:** Bradley, Jack  
<Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>;  
Robert J. Gargas  
<rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey  
<Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>;  
Failing, Mike  
<Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>;  
lcp@lcprosecutor.org  
<lcp@lcprosecutor.org>;  
trothm@wingspan.org  
<trothm@wingspan.org>; City Council  
Mail Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.or

g>; Mike Mason  
<mike.mason@woio.com>; Jonathan  
Schuppe  
<jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com>;  
Noelle Williams  
<noelle.williams@woio.com>; Lorain  
Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David  
Yost AG <agocares@ohioago.gov>;  
ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
<ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>;  
paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov  
<paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov>;  
tips@wews.com <tips@wews.com>;  
Sherry Glass <sherry.glass@lcft.org>;  
Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>;  
senseicobrakai@protonmail.com  
<senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>;  
Major Steven Scharschmidt  
<sscharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike  
Massie <mmassie@lcdtf.com>;  
Clevescene News  
<news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck,  
Joseph  
<Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>;  
lbischoff@gannett.com  
<lbischoff@gannett.com>;  
jonathan.walsh@wews.com  
<jonathan.walsh@wews.com>;  
Scott.Noll@wews.com  
<Scott.Noll@wews.com>;  
JCaniglia@plaind.com  
<JCaniglia@plaind.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Final Demand for Relief –  
Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights  
Abuses & Tortious Interference Final  
One-Time Settlement Offer

**External sender**

<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before  
taking any actions.

Dear Mayor Bradley, Director Carrion,  
Acting Chief Failing, Administrator  
Weitzel, and Applewood HR:

As an 80% service-connected veteran  
with PTSD, a NASW-licensed social  
worker, and a former Crossroads  
clinician, I have endured a two-year  
campaign of retaliation, defamation, and  
unlawful interference at your hands.

Now, newly disclosed emails from Assistant Law Director LaVeck—most notably those exchanged with Bill Hegerty, a CSWMFT Board member—confirm beyond doubt how Chief McCann weaponized his office:

1. **Board Communications (Bill Hegerty) – Irrefutable Proof of Retaliation**

In May 2023, Bill Hegerty (CSWMFT Board member) emailed Chief McCann expressing shock that my protected complaints were portrayed as “unethical conduct.” Those exchanges show McCann intentionally misrepresenting my advocacy to Hegerty, prompting a bad-faith licensing complaint that wasted thousands of city man-hours and resources.

2. **Unlawful Disclosure & Defamation**

McCann sent Applewood/Crossroads and Administrator Weitzel unredacted copies of my private LPD complaints (screens marked “CLEIRS Administrative”), falsely branding me “unhinged” and “erratic.” That defamation destroyed my reputation and led directly to my termination—despite Hegerty warning McCann the allegations lacked any factual basis.

3. **Tortious Interference**

By leveraging his office to poison both Applewood and the Court against me, Chief McCann—acting with Weitzel’s cooperation—intentionally induced breach of my employment agreements, costing me over \$49,000 in salary, benefits, sign-on bonuses, and five weeks’ vacation. Applewood only reinstated my GAL role after I sued; they never restored my Crossroads clinician position, compounding my economic and reputational harm.

4. **Color-of-Law Abuse & Harassment**

Despite explicit requests to cease, Chief McCann continued emailing me from

@cityoflorain.gov—violating Ohio’s Telecommunications Harassment statute (R.C. 2917.21). Your own policies promise discipline for such conduct—yet none was taken.

5. **Disability-Based Targeting**  
As a documented PTSD sufferer with a service dog, I was traumatized when McCann labeled my startle response “irrational” and exploited my disability to justify his misconduct.

---

## **One-Time Settlement Offer: \$450,000**

In light of these indisputable facts and to avoid protracted litigation, I hereby extend a one-time offer to release all claims against the City of Lorain, Mayor Bradley, Director Carrion, Chief McCann, Administrator Weitzel, and Applewood Centers—for a total settlement of **\$450,000**. This offer expires at **5 PM on Friday, July 12, 2025**. Please refer this email to your insurers or delay; if I do not receive a binding acceptance by that deadline, I will initiate suit immediately.

### **Why \$450,000 Is Exceptionally Fair**

- **Conservative Verdict**  
**Estimate:** A jury could easily award over \$1.2 million when accounting for lost wages, reputational harm, emotional distress, and punitive damages.
- **Taxpayer Savings:** Settling at \$450K conserves city and court resources—avoiding costly depositions, discovery, and trial logistics.
- **Proportionality:** My demand is just 37% of the projected high-end verdict, striking a reasonable balance between the harm suffered and the risks of continued litigation.

The enclosed LaVeck ↔ Hegerty email chain leaves no room for doubt. I await your prompt acknowledgment.

---

**Addendum:**

I also strongly urge you to tender this settlement demand to your liability insurer—CORSA (or your designated provider)—immediately upon receipt, to ensure prompt coverage and avoid any unnecessary coverage disputes.

Respectfully,

**Aaron C. Knapp**  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, OH 44055  
(216) 659-9899  
[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)

**Enclosure:** LaVeck ↔ Hegerty  
CSWMFT Board correspondence

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW,  
LSW, CDCA  
NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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