

Timothy Casey (Secretary to the Board)

From: vet2crump@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 8:00 AM
To: Tanya Anthony (Bureau of Administration)
Cc: CookCounty Board (Secretary to the Board); CookCounty Ethics (DHRE); Cookcountydistrict1@gmail.com; Brandon Johnson (Board of Commissioners); Gary D. Whyte; Sharon Stokes; Chicago Marines; John Barrientos (Inspector General); HENRY CHEATHAM; chicmyatt@aol.com; samuel scaife; Peter Bencak; Willie Mack (Bureau of Administration); Alexis Jenkins (Bureau of Administration); info@tonipreckwinkle.org
Subject: Cook County Board Veterans Committee Meeting

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Greetings Chief Anthony,

I have been made aware that you have personally invited Homer Bizzle to an upcoming Cook County Board Veterans Committee Meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 1:00 pm., to speak on behalf of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County.

Your decision is very disappointing, tainted, and biased. Several of us took you at your word, to only communicate with Willie Mack, as it relates to the Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County (VACCC) as a fair decision made due to the division of the VACCC membership, and the ongoing dispute over who the legal Commander is. So why is Homer Bizzle the only VACCC member personally invited to this important meeting? This is a breach of your decision, and in particular because you have received written documents as evidence of alleged wrongdoing of Homer Bizzle and the self appointed members of the VACCC, including the alleged attempt to misappropriate the veterans funds and were falsifying public records in which was reported to you and the OIIG. To your credit you stepped in and secured the funds. You also were sent documents of evidence of illegal meetings held to remove me five (5) times illegally from the Board, and as the legal Commander.

Homer Bizzle is not the Commander, he was never legally appointed or elected as the Commander, and he also abandoned his elected duties as the Senior Vice Commander. He has been the alleged main culprit of the misdeeds, continued chaos, unethical and immoral business practices of the VACCC. There have been ongoing OIG complaints from different VACCC members to you allegedly regarding Homer Bizzle, amidst looming other complaints that you are aware of, and yet you have extended a personal invitation to him to make decisions for the VACCC.

I assume you have had alleged complaints about me as well, and the only difference is that they were allegedly frivolous lies from illegal self appointed Board members, who produced no documented evidence of any wrongdoing, violations of ethics, immoral or unethical behavior.

I realize that this is a very complicated matter, and most would like to see it come to an end; and to your credit, you did attempt to end this disgraceful public discord in May, 2020, however you pulled away even with the alleged documented evidence that the members were not telling the truth, were illegally and with no authority holding meetings and elections. As you see now the membership records that have been submitted by Willie Mack are proof of the illegal membership who have been voting at the illegal meetings held over more than a year. The best interest of the VACCC has never been the agenda of some of the contentious members who has created an alleged toxic and unsafe environment for employees in the office, including verbal bullying, threatening and intimidation in which was reported to you and the OIG, and yet you personally invite Homer Bizzle to speak on behalf of the VACCC.

The meeting held to elect a new Superintendent is like all the other meetings that have been held by the self appointed members, they are alleged illegal, and have been attended by members who have no voting rights within the VACCC.

In addition, involving veterans from another County to talk about "mentoring" Cook County veterans is insulting and sends the wrong message to Cook County veterans about your direct involvement in this matter with Homer Bizzle. The IACVAC has no authority or jurisdiction to make decisions for the VACCC. In addition they fail to represent the voices of all Cook County veterans and the **outside representative from the IACVAC and who represents various other Counties that are different from Cook County.** In my opinion they are not the experts, and fail to represent sound reasoning of the antiquated 330 IL Military Veterans Act, and have stirred up more unwanted dissension among members.

I hope that you will reconsider your decision to have only Homer Bizzle speaking on behalf of the VACCC, and I encourage you not to shut out the voices of veterans in Cook County who have been marginalized and ignored as a strong voice for fairness and equity for all veterans.

Respectfully,
Rochelle Crump, MS CED, Commander
Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County

President/Founder
National Women Veterans United (NWWU)
SGT Simone A. Robinson (* 2009, Fallen Soldier)
Military Women Veteran's Center
8620 South Pulaski (Lower Level)
Chicago, IL 60652
Office: (872) 731-2150 Fax (773) 424- 4127
NWWU Website www.nwvu.org E-mail: nwvu.org@gmail.com
Cell - (773) 895-8015 - Best Way to reach me
Personal Email: Vet2crump@gmail.com

* Recording Secretary Montford Point Marine Association