

First, I want to thank the Commissioners for recognizing June as Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome or PTSD month. As a retired, disabled, military-war veteran, who suffers from PTSD, I believe you are in the position of leadership due to military servicemen and women like myself, who have sacrificed our sweat, blood, tears, and in the most unfortunate of cases...lives, so you can be in this leadership position.

For some, you're in this position due to foot soldiers/civil rights activists such as Gloria Dandridge, Shirley Chisolm, Bea Gaddy, Ruby Bridges, Maya Angelou, and Angela Davis whose childhood home happens to be near my most admired and strongest foot soldier...my mom.

I come to you today because your constituents have witnessed some of the most disheartening, troublesome, and on some occasions...childish behavior during numerous Commissioners' meetings.

We have witnessed heated personality or ego arguments and a total disregard for Robert's Rules of Order due to the absence the Code of Civility you preach towards the public but falls on blind eyes when it is comes to you. This absence of civility has been attributed to ongoing litigation filed by two commissioners for expecting censorship of a commissioner from the previous administration to carry-over to the new administration. Furthermore, two commissioners felt compelled to defend a grown man's inability to file a free discrimination complaint with the MD Commission on Civil Rights or the Equal Employment Opportunity Office against another commissioner.

Hence, why are taxpayers shelling out approximately \$800k in legal fees for a \$52k per year, part-time commissioner job and an appointed county employee who makes more than four commissioners combined?

About a year ago today, I was labeled a sexist, which is defined as showing [prejudice](#), [stereotyping](#), or discrimination, typically against women, for asking...and listen to this carefully...a female commissioner how are you able to work as a part-time commissioner and work your full-time job? I asked in the order they were seated starting with two male commissioners, skipped one male commissioner because he has to work as a full-time commissioner, and asked a female commissioner, and lastly the female commissioner who was attending virtually.

For any elected official to accuse a constituent of being sexist is inappropriate and not becoming of an adult in public office considering the person I most admire is my mom, countless females as well as my long-time support of women-owned or women-ran organizations such as Charles Co. Women of Color, Beautiful & Empowered, Lifestyles, my Historically Black Sororities of the Divine 9, and Light The Way Organization which I happened to be assisting this whole week during our 7th Annual Summer Youth Film Camp at Howard University.

Moreover, I was accused of harassment, which is defined as a form of behavior which demeans, threatens, offends, humiliates or intimidates you and creates a hostile

environment, yet all my requests for information were requested via legal and/or administrative means. In the end, I received a letter of reprimand from the Board of Commissioners for defending myself against false accusations made from an elected official while the Ethics Commission found no harm in the commissioner's potential defamatory and/or slanderous comments.

So, as a certain group of commissioners try to hold one commissioner to the same civil standards, we have seen a consistent inconsistency display of civility. With that being said, will each of you agree to adhere to Code of Civility you expect the public to adhere to for the remainder of your current term?

Lastly, since 2014 to present, Charles County Government has spent millions of dollars feasibility studies or major renovation of County-owned buildings or potential capital projects but little to none on the Capital Clubhouse.

The County is about to embark on spending, whether local and/or state funds, a feasibility study for an approximately 40k sq/ft sports complex on naked land vs. on an already existing 90k sq/ft County-owned building.

Again, about a year ago today, I was told there was documentation regarding a feasibility study and/or comparative cost analysis for the Capital Clubhouse and Waldorf Senior and Recreational Center. A commissioner told me and several constituents research had been conducted. Well, either we were lied to or the evidence of such research has been displaced.

Can anyone on this Commission provide a feasibility study or tell us why one was never considered? In addition, are you ok with non-county residents having more access and use of the Capital Clubhouse vs. Charles County citizens?

Closing....Whether you agree or not, *insecure leaders surround themselves with yes people. Effective leaders surround themselves with the people who challenge them.* I will always challenge you to lead...by example.

V/r,

Derrick Terry
Waldorf