

(a) **Retroactive Complaint Prohibition:**

No complaint for removal under this section shall be based on, or reference, conduct, actions, or allegations that occurred prior to the alder's most recent re-election. Complaints must be limited solely to events or conduct that took place after the commencement of the current term.

(b) **Due Process Assurance:**

All removal proceedings initiated under this section shall adhere to the following due process standards:

- **Timely Notice:** Prompt and clear notice of any complaint and the scheduled hearing.
- **Right to Counsel:** The opportunity to obtain legal representation and fully participate in the proceedings.
- **Impartial Hearing:** An unbiased process where the evidence is presented, contested, and evaluated fairly.
- **Electoral Mandate Consideration:** Recognition that re-election reflects public confidence, and only conduct occurring after re-election is subject to review.

(c) **Effect of Removal Vote:**

Any motion for removal initiated during the current term shall be based solely on events occurring after the start of this term, ensuring that the mandate conferred by the voters in the most recent election is fully respected.

I want to make it clear that my service on this Council is rooted in transparency, accountability, and the rule of law. The recent effort to remove me is based on allegations that have already been investigated. **An independent investigation conducted by the city with outside counsel concluded that no violation of APM 3-5 was sustained. The findings made it clear that the evidence does not support a violation. This process was carried out with careful attention to the facts, ensuring all perspectives were considered and that the conclusions were reached fairly and impartially.**

My re-election was a strong endorsement from the community of my record and dedication to public service. Any removal process must follow due process, which means that any complaint should only apply to actions taken after the most recent re-election. Retroactively applying allegations from before that election undermines both the integrity of our democratic system and the trust voters have placed in their elected officials.

If the Common Council President truly believed this process was necessary, she had multiple opportunities to raise it—whether in 2021 when I first won my seat or in 2023 when she endorsed my opponent. Instead, this ordinance is now being pushed forward after I secured 66% of the vote, raising serious concerns about political motivations rather than genuine accountability.

Since March 2024, I have observed efforts behind closed doors between the Council President and the City Attorney to craft an ordinance that disregards fundamental principles of due process. Elevating authority without ensuring fairness sets a dangerous precedent. The essence of justice is not in who holds power but in how that power is applied—equally, impartially, and in alignment with our legal and ethical standards.

I remain committed to serving this community with integrity. I urge my colleagues to uphold the principles of fairness and due process, ensuring that our decisions reflect justice rather than political maneuvering. The trust placed in us by the voters must always come before personal or political interests."