

From: [Sharon Kilfoy](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Shadayra Kilfoy-Flores](#)
Subject: Common Council Agenda Item # 47 Tonight
Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 5:45:52 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to you to formally voice my opposition to the sanctioning of my daughter, Shadayra Kilfoy-Flores, resulting from a complaint having been made against her by a representative of the police union to the ethics board. Although I was not able to log into the Zoom meeting at which my daughter was sanctioned and make my voice heard, I was in “attendance” for the entire meeting. There are so many things wrong with this entire picture, I hardly know where to begin. This encounter, like so many, is a microcosm of what many of us know - that there still remains, live and well, two Madisons – that of the happy, healthy, entitled, mainly white folk, and then the others – the disenfranchised, the marginalized, those who struggle with repeated, repeated trauma, mainly people of color. Perhaps looking at the impulse that compels a citizen to “serve” on a city board illustrates the difference. We all know those mainly white – often male board members – lawyers, architects, and other self-important citizens who, because of their birth heritage, have the institutional wealth that allows them to “donate” their time and their decision-making capabilities to the city.

That is not why my daughter became part of the Police Commission Oversight Board – hardly. My daughter was compelled to do so by the trauma of having one of her children’s friends gunned down in the 1100 block of Williamson Street by a police officer. This is why she helped bring the PCOB into existence. Chris Taylor, a neighbor (and now a judge) who was buying gas at the gas station across the street at the time of the killing, was so traumatized, she went on to codify the law that says the police cannot investigate themselves when a police officer has killed a citizen. The PCOB is a board that is essential in trying to make this a town that has some semblance of equality, equity, justice, safety for all. It is a far cry from how many stories new construction may have and whether the view of the lake/capital/ whatever is blocked – not that I disagree that those concerns matter. Perhaps you cannot understand the difference unless it is your child / your grandchild whose life is on the line. It is no longer a theoretical concern – it is visceral – it hits you in the gut. That is why we need a PCOB in Madison.

I have followed the evolution of the PCOB from its inception. It became obvious to me at some point that the city was being duplicitous in it’s support of this board, so it is easy to imagine that the training on ethics was insufficient. The city offered bad advice on how many candidates to interview for the oversite position – if only two candidates are interviewed, what happens – one withdraws – and the board is back to square one. That was just the start. As to the ethics hearing, I urge you all to watch the proceedings. The rep from the police union was like a guard dog in her determination to prove that my daughter was in the wrong. She went on and on and on. And then the rest of the ethics board decides on a sanction beyond what the police rep was seeking. At no point did anyone

say to my daughter, “That must have been very scary for you, to see the police threatening to take your daughter, to see the police put their hands on your son.” No show of empathy – from anyone. Can any of you imagine the trauma this invoked for her? The re - traumatization? Being called the horrible slur she was called by a member of your body? Continuously being singled out for derision by Chris Rickert? Being the victim of a recent drive-by shooting on Willy St? And now she is being sanctioned for asking, “DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?”

Perhaps you, and I, and all of us should be saying, “THANK YOU, SHADAYRA – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.” Thank you for not being afraid of the hard stuff. Thank you for trying to make this a better place for all of us.

Sharon Kilfoy

Director

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From: [Amelia Royko Maurer](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: The rest of my comment...
Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 9:36:27 PM

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...there was no quid pro quo and no ethics violation. But when that car door shut and her daughter, was taken away in a vehicle alone with armed, white male strangers who belong to a department with serious racial disparities in arrest and incarcerations rates, the officers knew Shadayra was informed and if those words gave her traumatized daughter the slightest bit of comfort and hope that she would be ok, good.

Shadayra did not use her role to get special treatment. Period. But if you think she did, would it be ethical for you to punish her given the fact that you have a pattern of forgiving the highest appointed members of city police, commissions and government without any action taken at all? No, it wouldn't.

Thank you,
Amelia Royko Maurer