



August 7, 2020

Dear District Attorney Jack Stollsteimer:

As elected officials who represent Ridley Township and Delaware County, we denounce the violence and intimidation aimed at Black Lives Matter supporters during a march that took place along MacDade Boulevard on Saturday, August 1st.

Young leaders from Delco Resists organized a peaceful march through Ridley in support of Black Lives. By all accounts —firsthand accounts from those of us who were there, community members with whom we have spoken, reporting by journalists on the scene, and videos posted on social media — the group marching in support of Black Lives was inclusive and peaceful.

The organizers attempted to engage Ridley Township and the Ridley Township Police Department in advance of the march after counter-protesters started organizing on social media and encouraging people to show up with weapons. They requested police engagement to protect public safety.

However, these peaceful protestors were met by a group of predominantly white men, some brandishing weapons and openly intoxicated, standing outside of the Ridley Township Police Station. They also experienced intimidation at the start of the march and along their route, as pick-up trucks stopped to burn smoke in front of them. Videos posted online clearly show hostile and vitriolic language hurled at our neighbors, some of whom marched with young children, and the violent act of ripping a BLM flag out of the hands of a protester.

Black Lives Matter protesters have reported being endangered by cars and motorcycles that swerved into their path, being physically assaulted, and being threatened with violent and racially intimidating language. Coverage by the Delaware County Daily Times also reported that counter-protesters repeatedly punched a journalist's phone out of her hands while she tried to do her job.

We are reaching out to you, as our District Attorney, to investigate the actions of violent counter-protesters and the response of the Ridley Township Police Department.

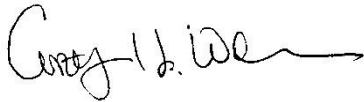
Sincerely,



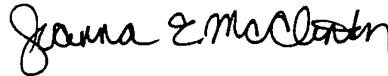
Leanne Krueger
161st Legislative District



Senator Tim Kearney
26th Senatorial District



Senator Anthony Williams
8th Senatorial District



Joanna McClinton
191st Legislative District



Dave Dellosa
162nd Legislative District



Brian Kirkland
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