

10-08-09

Dear Mayor Ballard:

Although I am not a resident of Indianapolis proper, I do work and interact with countless veterinary hospitals in your city.

With regard to the events taking place at the IACC, I have read and heard enough to believe this is merely a political power struggle. So you understand, I remained neutral on this issue when it was presented to me, taking the time to ask questions, read, watch, and listen.

Nothing that has been presented by the city supports the dismissal of Doug Rae. They are WEAK and the spin is pathetic! The dismissal of Warren Patitz is only more proof to me that the cronies you appointed could not deal with a differing opinion, suggestion, or idea so they acted to silence their adversaries! I thought good debate and contention were healthy when solving problems! I am deeply disappointed because it looks to me like the city of Indianapolis is no better when it comes to corrupt and dirty politics than the notorious Chicago "machine" where I grew up!

When you were elected Mayor, many of us (even though we could not vote for you) celebrated and had great hopes for the city's reputation and improvement. By allowing those who 'liked the status quo' (the union workers that did not work) to build a false case against this director, only 6 months into a job that WAS showing improvement, you have taken your city backward. I don't buy the spin on the delays in response when you neglect the remaining facts causing the delays! I don't buy the numbers Renner used in his press conference to make his case because I have read ALL the numbers and they do not support dismissal. I have lost respect for you. It may not mean much coming from an "outsider", but I know I am not alone.

Our current national, state, and local politics have awakened a good many of us in the "silent majority". We are at a point of saying enough is enough!

To allow union control of our city's offices, is unacceptable! To publically use incomplete statistics to justify your decisions is offensive! This issue will not leave your administration. We will not trust the information that comes out of your office.

One question that came to my mind with the new "acting director" appointment: If your office is boasting about Kendrick's successful prosecution of "animal abuse" cases, how did she not know about the abuses at the IACC before it was made public last year by volunteers? Why weren't the workers at the shelter or the director at the time, held accountable for their abuse and neglect of the animals in their care. Yes...they were abused.

Those acting on your behalf were given testimony and/or pictures during the hearings a year ago. You feigned shock and ignorance during your interview with Teri Stacey on

WIBC when she asked about dogs taken out back and used for target practice, but that atrocity is documented.

I suggest you consider who you appoint to these open positions in the future...very carefully. Your administration cannot afford more scandal, and we will be vigilant in our watch from now on.

Sincerely,
Sallie L. Mayer