

After reading in the newspaper about the claims of assaults and harassments filed against Meeker County Commissioners, I Understand why Sherburne County could not go forward with possible charges. They did not have enough evidence as they did not have the whole story.

It appears the Wright County investigators only interviewed the criminals and no Wright County investigator came to interview the victims, nor the residents or the nurse who witnessed the incident.

How did this all start? We residents attended a HRA board meeting on Oct. 5, 2009. There was talk of a changeover which the board members planned to do two apartments at a time. During the meeting one of the board members gave a portfolio to our executive director which contained instructions on getting ready for the changeover from affordable housing to assisted living.

We residents got together and decided to write letters to the editor of our local paper. Three were published in the Oct. 12, 2009 edition of the Enterprise Dispatch.

Late in the afternoon on Friday, Oct. 16, 2009, Wilde and Strand appeared at our apartment building when they knew the office would be closed. They knocked on our doors and told they were concerned about our welfare and that they had no intention of a changeover and had not even talked about it. They also discussed our letter writing.

On their tour of apartments, Wilde and Strand pressured one of the residents with their questions and remarks until she was in tears. At one of the apartments, Wilde admitted they would change apartments just two at a time.

When they were about to leave Wilde spotted this tall gentleman who had written a letter headed toward the community room for coffee time. Wilde became very angry and approached him from behind and grabbed his shoulder and twisted it so he faced her, and said, "You liar," repeatedly, with her voice getting louder and the gentleman's pain in his shoulder getting more excruciating with each quotation and her grip.

A crippled lady sitting at a puzzle table close by told Wilde, "Leave him alone". She decided to leave for a safer place and with the help of her walker went scurrying down the hall. Wilde caught up with her and grabbed her shoulder that had had recent surgery and pushed her other arm which had very recently had surgery on her crippled hand, causing pain. She went to see her doctor.

What about the man whose shoulder she twisted? He is legally blind in one eye and does not see very well with the other one and is diabetic. After this traumatic experience, his blood sugar level escalated to a dangerous level, high enough for him to slip

into a diabetic coma. He knew he had to exercise, so he walked twenty times from one end of the building to the other that day. And he has been unable to sleep on the side of his injured shoulder for many months.

There were several residents and a nurse who came to see a client who witnessed the fiasco. When the nurse checked her client's blood pressure at his apartment, it had risen to a dangerously high level. She was about to call 911 when the pressure started to recede.

On Oct. 19, 2009, Wilde and Strand barged in on our executive director and her assistant who were working in the office. They criticized and harassed them for several hours. I was asked to come to the office to verify if I had written my letter to the paper. So I witnessed all of this activity.

The newspaper story said it was a complete investigation. However, our people who were assaulted and harassed were denied the right to state their side of the story. Why did we lose our rights in our democratic form of government? Are not all of our citizens deserving of protection? How could anyone assault such vulnerable human beings and then say it did not happen?

Justice has not been served. The guilty parties seem to have decided the outcome of this situation.

We residents do not invent stories that are unfounded nor do we carry grudges against any elected officials but we do respond when incidents threaten our security and our rights to a peaceful existence.

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*Meeker County Resident Council / Meeker County*

*Management Corp.*

*10-18-2010*