

April 12, 2016

Clerk of the Court
United States District Court
Thomas Eagleton United States Courthouse
111 South 10th Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
Re: United States v. City of Ferguson, Case No. 4:16CV180 CDP

I have been a resident of Ferguson, Missouri for twenty-seven years. The message that I would like to express is simple. Since the Department's of Justice first engaged in the Ferguson, Missouri situation, it has demonstrated a bias against the local government of Ferguson and against the great number of Ferguson citizens who shared a perspective other than that of the noisy protesters.

I believe that the vast majority of Ferguson citizens would not agree that Ferguson government has been racist or insensitive to any ethnic or racial group. The opposite is true. Ferguson has long been a community of diversity and inclusion. Since August 2014 the Department of Justice has exclusively listened to a hate-filled mob. Many, if not most, of this mob have been professional protesters who are not Ferguson residents.

Since the Department of Justice has been involved, Ferguson has become a more dangerous place to live. The police have been intimidated and hamstrung by the Department of Justice. Random gunfire has become a common, nightly occurrence. Traffic safety laws are ignored with impunity. The criminal element has been emboldened because they understand that the Department of Justice supports them in defiance of local law enforcement.

Finally, the local government of the people of Ferguson faces severe financial hardship due to the punitive Department of Justice "consent decree." Taxes have been increased on everyone in Ferguson, including the economically disadvantaged, in order to submit to the Department of Justice's punishment.

I ask the court to retract the Department of Justice Consent Decree. We are not a racist community. We are one of the most integrated, diverse communities in the Midwest. Please do not allow the Department of Justice to financially and politically damage the very people they claim to protect.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Billy H. Tucker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Billy H. Tucker