

## Heintz, Polly (CI-StPaul)

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**From:** Duane Johnson <falcon4645@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 2:18 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7  
**Subject:** ORD 212-9

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Dear Councilmember Prince,

My name is Duane Johnson (1872 Fairmount Ave). I live in Ward 3, but I wanted to reach all councilmembers because I missed the testimony deadline for tomorrow's hearing. No matter what Ward we live in, we all want to be safe in our neighborhoods. We want our police Department to maintain high standards to earn the trust that only comes from disciplined transparency and accountability. The death of Amir Locke was yet another needless tragedy for us all.

The supposed leaders who call for more police and stiffer penalties mislead at best and fan fan racial and class fears at worst. Those are not solutions. They don't work; they ignore the root causes of crime. And they're wasteful and expensive.

I believe we in St. Paul are one community, not warring factions. Together we can continue to develop a comprehensive public safety system. The Office of Neighborhood Safety is a beginning. We need to focus on prevention, especially for youth in things like after school programs. (I have worked in effective programs in Minneapolis, San Francisco and Oakland, Ca.) But we also need robust programs of rehabilitation and restoration for offenders. These are both just and economical solutions that will strengthen our St. Paul community.

Thank you.  
Duane Johnson