

**POSITION PAPER
ON
CRIME!**

I believe in second and third chances. I'm sure we all know someone who has been convicted of a crime.

I spoke to Police Chief McManus and then DA Nico Lahood and both agreed:

1. crime is more likely to happen in an area where there is no neighborhood organization

Step No. 1

- (a) Organize all areas with neighborhood organizations. If a neighborhood organization doesn't exist, we will help that neighborhood to create one; and
- (b) where neighborhood organizations exists, we would help to strengthen them.

NOTE: This a litmus test! Some will chose not to do this because; **a)** it takes effort; and; **b)** we will see who's willing to "put skin" in the game by working to aleve crime in their neighborhood and who's willing to work to improve their neighborhood. This is for those who are serious about wanting to reduce crime in their neighborhood. As opposed to someone who just wants it "done for them" and those who just wanna give us lip service and complain.

2. **Step No. 2** Landlords and Tenants;

- (a) Landlords will be strongly encouraged to include background checks when renting or leasing. (*this doesn't mean if a person has negative remarks in their background, the landlord is prevented from renting to them*) What it does mean is, the landlord most do **everything** in his/her power to do, due diligence and protect those living in the neighborhood they are providing housing in. We want to know who they are renting to.
- (b) If a crime is committed or police are called to a particular address for a serious crime, the neighborhood association can take the person who's committed the crime along with the owner, renter/lessee to JP Court bringing charges against those individuals in Court. If the landlord didn't do a background check, the landlord could be facing charges as well. In most cases, based on what was found in the background check, it will be up to the landlord to make the decision to rent or not to rent.
- (c) And finally, the fine (if imposed by JP Court) a significant portion of the fee imposed will go to the neighborhood association.

This method puts the onus on the person who is occupying the "address" we are targeting the address. So, parents and grandparents will know if their children bring "stuff" to their home, the person's name on the deed, rental agreement or the name on the lease will be held as much as responsible for the actions that happen at the address. The hope is that those who are responsible individuals will want to live here. Those who just want to do dirt, will go elsewhere!

Re-Entry Program

For those previously convicted of a crime. Our CDC (BEST) will assist them with job placement which could allow that be directly working for BEST until something better can be found.

I like to end by saying, if you have ideas you would like to provide, I'm all open and you can call me directly. I truly want to help so, if you would be so kind as to trust me with your vote....

Vote Chris Dawkins

HELP IS ON THE WAY!!!