

4. Other comments and questions

The police department needs to learn how to police in the Wellington Heights Area; possibly in all the inner city neighborhoods. I keep looking to see some sort of arrest record for all the criminals in the city in the news paper beyond drunk driving and domestic abuse so I can feel there actually is something happening besides a bunch of blue jackets circling the neighborhood with windows up and air conditioning blasting, little else being accomplished. We all want to see arrests of drug dealers who generally make a mess out of our neighborhoods. I can't help but wonder how it is we, as civilians, can point out house after house where drug dealing is going on and no one seems to ever be arrested. It doesn't matter how many license plates you report, or anything else, nothing happens.

I have to wonder how it is violations of all sorts can be overlooked when it comes to leased housing. Garbage is piling up in the yards, grass isn't mowed, no inspections appear to be taking place within many of these homes for fear they will find something and have to kick someone out it seems. People who have to have their rent subsidized must have some illegal source of income when you find Rent-A-Center big screen T.V.'s, numerous bed room sets, refrigerators, stoves etc., these aren't the sort of things most low income people can afford at the amount it costs them to rent these items. If they are well off enough to afford all those rental payments, they are well enough off to rent a place without need of a subsidy. I am aware of others who have regular inspections, often without warning, but black trouble makers seem to slide under the radar. Local complaints are all but ignored and it looks like the city wants to make the land lords responsible for enforcement of the law their police department refuse to be responsible for.

I have often heard the rumor someone in charge within the police department doesn't want to have any discrimination suits by blacks and goes out of his way to make sure all activity will be covered six ways from Sunday to insure no discrimination. As a result, we have no arrests as well. I have witnessed as many as five cars of police showing up at ten in the morning to serve a warrant on one individual. This is a waste of time and money. As recently as this weekend I watched two cars with three patrol man stop to question someone on Fifth Avenue. It was apparent there were black people within the apartment, I don't know the result of the discussion, but both cars left and no party was arrested, so why the three police officers and two cars?

If Leased housing can't police these people and the police seem to look the other way when it comes to drug dealing here in the inner city, it appears the city needs to take responsibility for getting this taken care of. It isn't the land lord's responsibility. And while we are at it, I think it is time the city stop butting into individual home owners business with its discussions about home inspections inside and out of private property. They don't seem to have the time or inclination to inspect the properties they currently have to inspect, so why bite off even more? Stick with the job you already have that you aren't getting done, stop looking for other things to do besides the job you aren't getting done now.