

OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER

October 08, 2020

Mr. Matthew Chambers, ITC Director
One Manchester Blvd
Inglewood, Ca 90301

Artie Fields, City Manager
One Manchester Blvd
Inglewood, Ca 90301

Kenneth Campos, City Attorney
Mailed Certified & Regular Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Dear Matthew:

I am in receipt of your memorandum dated September 25, 2020. I was out of town when the memorandum was delivered to my office.

POINT ONE:

These are my thoughts. On August 18, 2020, Mayor James Butts discussed from the City Council dais at a City Council meeting **STREAMED LIVE for the WORLD to VIEW:**

1. Discussed my health HIPAA Violation
2. Violated my privacy HIPAA Violation
3. Discussed my undergoing treatment for cancer HIPAA Violation
4. Questioned and demeaned my professional qualifications
5. Attacked my character
6. Said I was providing false financial information about the city to residents
7. Said I was attempting to extort medical benefits
8. Said HE was going to take away my Charter given duties (Council colleagues vote not needed)
9. Said HE was going to reduce my salary (Council colleagues vote not needed)
10. Utilizes certain City executive as weapons against me.

POINT TWO:

Matt, Let me now point out, it is glaringly obvious to the point it is downright laughable that this memorandum was written in its entirety by Mayor Butts. This memorandum REEKS of the mayor's on going rage towards this 32 year elected City Treasurer, the venom, language, style, tone, misleading contents, and lastly, the memorandum is full of LIES! I've known you for 20 years, I know you!

ACCORDING TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH I AM ENTITLED TO MY OPIONION! IN MY OPINION:

1. The mayor has become a liability to the City.
2. The mayor has become an embarrassment to the City.
3. The mayor is a bully, intimidator and harasser of women.
4. The mayor is responsible for the firing and or forcing out, or to retire, five women.
5. The mayor lacks debt and budget management skills, and lacks adequate financial skills.
6. The mayor will caused financial harm and more embarrassment to the City, from the \$12,000,000 lawsuit to be filed by his Fired former Executive Assistant, Melanie Mc Dade.
7. The mayor has put the City in further financial jeopardy regarding the vehicle accident he caused while driving a City vehicle instead of his own as we other elected officials drive our own vehicles. A policeman, a female driver and her daughter were injured. Her car was totaled by the mayor. \$7500 was quickly paid via approval by Claims Review Committee. She and the policeman filed a claim against the City. The video shows the mayor ran a RED light!

8. The mayor is responsible for hiring incompetent people for critical city positions, For example David Esparza, Asst. City Mgr/CFO, has no accounting and finance experience or education. He is a former policeman from San Jose. His most recent municipal experience was with the Housing Department with Los Angeles City. Sharon Koite was determined to be "unqualified" when former Chief Financial Officer/Asst/City Administrator Jeff Muir interview her for the position of Finance Director 10 years ago. Ten years later she remains assistant finance director to David Esparza, who lacks zero accounting and finance education and experience. David Esparza has had more complaints filed against him then any former City employee!
9. Assistant City manager Louis Atwell who in my opinion is not qualified to head the public works department due to the fact he has never held responsibility for a project as large as the Century Blvd P212 project combined with the Senior Center and other city projects.
10. Louis Atwell hiring was approved by Mayor Butts. Mr. Atwell has often referred to Mayor Butts as "My Daddy." Some say he has played the mayor like a ukulele! In spite of a \$12,000,000 budget for his staff and approval by the mayor and council of \$7,000,000 to hire consultants to help him operate his department and public works projects, he made a \$2,049,372.84 gigantic misallocation error for reimbursement from LAMTA who flatly rejected public works request for reimbursement. In January 2017 he pleaded with this Treasurer to approve reimbursement for the LAMTA rejected costs. This Treasurer demanded a written explanation for the error. Mayor Butts called and told me I had to sign the approval. I told him I do not and will not without a full written explanation from Louis. The mayor made a similar call when the State Finance Department demanded payment for disallowance of RDA Successor Agency Projects on December 18, 2014 for \$24,580,254. I was told by the mayor once again to sign approval. I told the mayor he had precluded me from attending the meetings regarding this issue and I won't sign without appropriate supporting documentation. Royce Jones, the City's consultant from Kane, Ballmer, Berkman whose firm receives \$700,000 annual fees, provided nearly 800 pages of documentation and an e-mail explaining the necessity for the payment the day the payment was due.
11. Mayor Butts in my opinion is petty, divisive, dishonest, with an intentional intimidating persona.

Matthew, the order to shut my PC down completely from the mayor had absolutely NOTHING to do with the claim in the memorandum written by him, such as the language is "insulting, offensive, disrespectful, demeaning,." The mayor ordered you and Artie to sign his memorandum. Matt, I am certain you broke the sound barrier getting to the mayor's office to sign his memorandum, Artie likewise. The order to shut down my PC had EVERYTHING to do with my e-mail communications to SEIU Labor employees.

SEIU President, Alicia Howard stated quite clearly they didn't share Mayor Butts positive outlook, in that "the City complained that it was in a \$15,000,000 deficit this fiscal year and likely a \$12,000,000 deficit in the upcoming budget." Alicia went on to say when "we started asking questions, the City's reasoning started to fall apart. Mayor Butts was not able to call upon Sharon Koite to prop himself up as he used her against this Treasurer time and time again. I am in total agreement with SEIU group. My financial presentations to the residents coincide with SEIU group, particularly since the mayor is projecting a (5) five year deficit position for the next five years. Then again, the state's top Treasurer, Betty T. Yee's Internal Control Report supports this Treasurer's truthful financial reporting as well as State Senator John Moorlach's report regarding 10 cities with DEBT MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS, AND INGLEWOOD HE LISTS AS NUMBER (5)FIVE!

SEIU Union is concerned about possible future furloughs and layoffs. This Treasurer is concerned about the same and predicts furloughs are quite possible when one consider the \$12,000,000 deficit this fiscal year and the \$12,000,000 deficit in the UPCOMING BUDGET, plus (5) years of upcoming DEFICITS! Layoffs has already started. Kenyetta Hinton, Budget was let go less than three months ago, Mario Inga, and Albert Mendoza, Senior Engineer, Public Works both let go, less than 7 months ago.

12. Matthew, Mayor Butts discussed my health, invaded my privacy, discussed my being treated for cancer, attacked my character, accused me of providing false financial information to residents and attempting to extort medical benefits, ALL OF WHICH CAN BE VIEWED LIVE ON FACE BOOK, as oppose to my opinion of him and others which I am entitled to, and was viewed by less than 50 city employees. **My opinions expressed in my e-mails as stated in the memorandum were "insulting, offensive, disrespectful, demeaning" to an individual reader as reported by the memorandum while Mayor Butts REMARKS ABOUT THIS CITY TREASURER WERE VIEWED LIVE BY THE WORLD! TREASURER BROWN IS INSULTED, OFFENDED, DISRESPECTED, AND DEMEANED!**
13. The vast majority of City employees are petrified of the mayor. They realize that their job is in his hands no matter how long they have worked for the City. Job security don't exists with this mayor. Captain Martin Sissac who wrorked for City 21 years was wrongfully terminated. It was well known he didn't get along with the mayor and the mayor disliked him. He filed a wrongful termination lawsuit and won! **The MAN fought back! In my opinion, the mayor is an EXPERT intimidating, bullying, and harassing WOMEN, particularly any WOMAN FIGHTING CANCER!**

**Matthew Chambers, ITC Director, it is my understanding you are also the "Administrator."
I need the following questions answered:**

1. I took the COVID 19 mandatory testing and am unable to get the results because my PC has been unjustifiably ordered disabled. As mentioned, I have been treated for cancer with chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation. **HOW CAN I GET THE RESULTS SINCE THE RESULTS IS POSTED TO MY PC AND YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO UNJUSTIFIABLY SHUT IT DOWN? MY HEALTH IS NOW IN JEOPARDY DUE TO THE SHUT DOWN! I NEED TO KNOW IF THE RESULTS IS POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE IMMEDIATELY!**
2. I need to make a correction to a bond purchase for the City. How can this be accomplished?
3. I need to refer to a file for a prior bond purchase that is scheduled to settle this month. How can that be accomplished?
4. I need to refer to the bond listing for verification. How can that be accomplished?
5. I need to access several reports I was working on prior to September 25th. How can this be accomplished.
6. I need to access my PC files for my upcoming City Treasurer Student Intern Program and the Community Work Program? How can this be accomplished?
7. I've been notified via phone calls of important e-mail communications have been sent to my PC that I need to respond to. How can this be accomplished?

This Treasurer has received over 100 calls of protest from residents since the 09/15/20 Ordinance stripping this Treasurer of the Inglewood Charter provided duties who has served this city for 32 years! The Ordinance is nothing more than RELIATION by the mayor because this Treasurer CHALLENGED him. Several of the calls were from local pastors who expressed their disgust of the mayor's behavior and unbelievable pettiness. Several said the mayor is out of control!

Matthew, FYI, Resident Joseph Teixeira who attended council meetings regularly and always referred to Mayor Butts as a Bully and a Punk. He and another resident, Ethel Austin also made comments regarding the mayor's daughter Ashley Butts, I won't repeat out of respect for his daughter, not for the mayor. The mayor had Mr. Teixeira removed from the council meeting because his comments of him were "Insulting, Offensive, Disrespectful, and Demeaning," in the mayor's opinion. Mayor Butts also felt that Mr. Teixeira video of council meeting was, "insulting, Offensive, Disrespectful, and Demeaning," and his video a violation because the mayor believe the videoed council meeting were city property. The City sued Mr. Teixeira for his video of council meetings that ran on his web site. Mr. Teixeira fought back, filed a counter suit and won \$117,000 judgment against the city. The District Attorney Office Of Los Angeles Bureau of Fraud and Corruption Prosecutions concluded and notified Mayor Butts and his city council members they are guilty of violating the BROWN ACT!

Again Matt, I know you well! You have been to my home multiple times. I've invited you to BBQ's held at my home as I have many other city employees. The memorandum have the stench and venom of the mayor all over it! I know you have to hold your nose when you signed his memorandum.

It was DEFINITELY my communications with the SEIU Union that prompted the mayor to write the memorandum. SEIU UNION president, Alicia Howard saw through the mayor's positive Pie In The Sky outlook when "the City was in a \$15,000,000.00 deficit THIS FISCAL YEAR AND LIKELY A \$12,000,000.00 DEFICIT IN THE UPCOMING BUDGET." "THE CITY ALSO PRODUCED A FIVE (5) YEAR FORECAST PREDICTING THEY'S BE IN A DEFICIT FOR THE NEXT FIVE (5) YEARS!" In my opinion, it is the SEIU Union group that is holding this CITY OF INGLEWOOD GOOD SHIP LOLLY POP A FLOAT!

Layoffs has already happen, Kenyetta Hinton, Budget, Albert Mendoza, Senior Engineer, Public Works, Mario Inga, Parking Enterprise. All within the past seven months. Of course, none of Mayor Butts people will be let go, like Shalanda Stringer the mayor's friend from the Chamber of Commerce, the mayor's goddaughters Judy and Crystal Mc Glover, Marcus Psalms, Finance, Cinder Eller's brother, the mayor's buddy from LAX, Brian Walker and Emory Ward, Tiffany Hsieh, Legal Department, council member Dotson's relative Adrien Dotson, Police Department and City Attorney Kenneth Campos relative, Laura Campos who recently finished college and needs a job to get some experience. Hire THEM ALL Mayor Butts, ORDER. There are others, but, let's keep an eye on these!

I could go on and talk about the Mayor putting Ethel Austin and Jasmine Covington in a house known to be contaminated. This is the reason, Jasmine won the home in the FIRST TIME HOME BUYER PROGRAM, Government dollars funded. Perhaps to keep her from filing a lawsuit when she and her children became ill from living in the house. David Esparza who knew the house was contaminated put Jasmine and her children in hotels, etc, etc. You get the picture! Matt!

I KEEP TELLING THE MAYOR HIS ARMS ARE TO SHORT TO BOX WITH GOD!

Sincerely,

Wanda M. Brown

Inglewood City Treasurer

CC: Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Senators D. Feinstein, Kamala Harris/VP Nominee, DA J. Lacey

Mayor Butts, Council Members, Dotson, Padilla, Morales, Franklin