

**Statement of Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.**  
**January 18, 2007**

In light of the State Election Board's action yesterday regarding the recall election in the 6<sup>th</sup> Aldermanic District, I am urging the city Election Commission to expedite its actions so that this process is ended as quickly as possible. The residents of the 6<sup>th</sup> District are ill served by a lengthy, long-winded and confusing recall specter that has siphoned Ald. McGee's time and energy away from his critical duties as alderman.

Although I recognize that the recall is a legal process that starts automatically on a certain date, I do not think it should be allowed to languish and detract from service to our citizens and to the business of the Milwaukee Common Council.

I am very troubled by the allegations of fraudulent illegal activities in this recall and note that there is an ongoing John Doe criminal investigation into the whether recall signatures were collected in violation of election laws. I realize that we must err on the side of caution rather than to act hastily, however I also believe we can ill afford to proceed with a recall effort that has possibly compromised and tainted the Democratic recall process. The desire to dispose and unseat any elected official by a potentially small minority of voters cannot supersede preserving the integrity of Democracy for all residents.

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