



**MINNESOTA STATE LODGE
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**

STATE OFFICE • P.O. BOX 270026 • GOLDEN VALLEY, MN 55427
952-895-0405 • FAX: 952-736-3378 • www.mnfop.com

GARY CAYO
PRESIDENT
Minnetonka Police Department
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345
952-939-8500
Fax: 952-939-8245

February 5, 2007

Maplewood Police Civil Service Commission
c/o Steven Gunn, Chair
1830 East County Rd B
Maplewood, MN 55109

Re: FOP Member John Banick

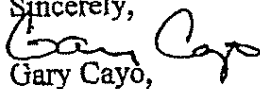
Dear Commissioners:

My name is Gary Cayo, President of the Minnesota Fraternal Order of Police (FOP). The Minnesota FOP is a fraternal and professional organization of law enforcement officers that currently has approximately 2,400 members in Minnesota. Nationally, our organization has over 322,000 law enforcement members. Deputy Chief John Banick is a member of our organization.

I am writing to you to impress upon you that FOP member John Banick's case is of high importance to our organization and members both at the state and national level. Because of the Police Civil Service Law implications, his case could have substantial impact on police officers throughout Minnesota. As police officers serving the public and protecting the public safety, we undertake our duties of law enforcement with relatively few legal protections. The Police Civil Service law in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 419 is one of the few legal protections that is essential to securing our rights. To that end, we view the Maplewood City Council's actions and legal position taken against John Banick as a direct subterfuge and clearly contrary to the Civil Service Law, and therefore, potentially harms all of our members. Therefore, we are committed to expending vast resources in support of his case at the state and national level should that become necessary.

Therefore, I respectfully would ask, on behalf of our organization, that you exercise your duties as Commissioners in this case and not let the City undercut your authority. We urge you, on behalf of law enforcement officers throughout Minnesota, to please uphold the Police Civil Service Law that protects us. Thank you for the opportunity to understand our views in this matter.

Sincerely,


Gary Cayo,

President Minnesota Fraternal Order of Police