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Rosemary Ginty



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

March 8, 1984

Hon. Anthony M. DeFino  
Mayor  
Office of the Mayor  
West New York, New Jersey 07093

Dear Mayor DeFino:

I am sorry that you became upset about Commissioner Ward's reported remarks before the Public Safety Committee of the City Council. Let me assure you that he never said the pushers from the Lower East Side should do business in New Jersey. The Commissioner merely meant we intend to arrest pushers wherever they are located in New York City, unfortunately, we cannot follow them into New Jersey, across the state line. Additionally, based on police observations a significant number of autos, one-third to one-half, coming into the Pressure Point area display New Jersey registration plates. Latest police observations indicate that this figure has dropped to approximately eleven (11) percent.

I can assure you that neither Commissioner Ward nor I condone pushers and their potential customers doing business anywhere, here in New York or in New Jersey.

Sincerely,

Edward I. Koch  
MAYOR

EIK:cmw



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ANTHONY M. DE FINO

February 7, 1984

Mayor Edward I. Koch  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

My Dear Mayor:

I have long admired your dedication and loyalty to the people of New York City. There is no question you have proven to be a fine Mayor and, overall, a good person.

I wish to report to you that in an article appearing in the Jersey Journal (a local Hudson County newspaper) today the Police Commissioner of New York City is quoted as making a comment to the City Council's Public Safety Committee regarding this state which, if true, is totally unacceptable and irresponsible. It is alleged that, while addressing the Committee on the effectiveness of his "Buy and Bust" program for dealing with drug pushers, the Commissioner said, "I hope they go to New Jersey." He, therefore, allegedly indicated that the pushers being driven out of the Lower East Side should do business in New Jersey.

What an irresponsible remark! A remark that, if not correctly quoted, should immediately be denied and if correctly quoted, should stand out as a badge of dishonor upon the person by whom it was made.

If this community, and I am sure any other community in New Jersey, had need of such a program and there was the slightest indication that the routed persons would go to New York, the first aim would be to notify the New York City authorities and certainly not make a remark such as attributed to the Commissioner.

Mr. Mayor, I have every belief that you are a just man, and I have every belief you are an honorable man; and I believe this matter should be clarified without hesitation. The people of New Jersey, just as the people of New York, are citizens of the greatest country in the world. We subscribe to provincial loyalty, but never at the expense of our neighbors, especially

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Mayor Edward I. Koch

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February 7, 1984

when it involves activity which would be deleterious and inimical to the interests of our young people.

I await anxiously your reply and action by the Police Commissioner.

God bless you and give you the good health to continue the daily responsibilities of your office.

Very truly yours,



Anthony M. DeFino

Mayor

cc: Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward  
Editor, Jersey Journal  
Editor, Hudson Dispatch  
Editor, Daily News  
Editor, Trenton Times  
Editor, New York Times  
Editor, Newark Star Ledger.

AMD/pma