



Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney
Vice Mayor

October 5, 2022

MOTION

WE MOVE that the administration prepare a REPORT on the Hamilton County Court’s “Housing Docket” to determine if disparate treatment exists for property owners according to the demographic factors of race, gender, age, or zip code. The REPORT is to include available data from the past five (5) years on race, gender, age, address, and zip code for the following:

1. Citations issued by the City’s Department of Building & Inspections for housing code violations
2. Housing code violation penalties added to the property owner’s property tax
3. Housing code violation penalties that resulted in foreclosure
4. Housing code violation cases referred to the Hamilton County Court’s “Housing Docket”
5. Actions taken on defendant-property owners in the Hamilton County Court on the “housing docket” involving any of the following:
 - a. Issuance of electronic monitoring devices (“ankle bracelets”)
 - b. Jail time
 - c. Transfer of title from the defendant-property owner to another owner or entity
 - 1) The name of the entity that acquired title
 - 2) The status of the property: vacant land, occupied dwelling, vacant dwelling, other
6. Any other information that the administration deems pertinent in determining whether property owners are treated disparately according to race, gender, age, address, or zip code.

WE MOVE that the administration give an update on the status of the REPORT at the ~~October 18,~~^{*} 2022 Public Safety and Governance Committee, present data gathered to date (e.g., information that the City has on citations as listed in Items 1,2 and 3 above), and suggest a time frame for the completed report.

Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney

Scotty Johnson

*AMENDED - NOVEMBER 1,

STATEMENT

Members of City Council have received ongoing complaints from African American residents who allege disparate treatment involving housing code violations, including losing their property in foreclosure or in "Housing Court" (the Hamilton County Court's housing docket scheduled weekly for Tuesday at 9 a.m.). Some of the allegations are that defendant-property owners are given the choice between jail time and surrendering title to their property, ordered to wear an EMU ("ankle bracelet"), or ordered to surrender title to their property. The report requested by this Motion is an attempt to gather pertinent data on the impact of the policies and practices concerning housing code violations.

CAL - Public Safety & Governance Committee

J-MCK

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