

Date: _____

Problem Identified: Lt. Andrews drafted a document that identified serious issues within the Chicago Police Department covering the period of February 2009 until now. Please refer to <http://highwayroadrunner.blogspot.com> to read the entire document.

Issue: Lt. Andrews put his opinions and observations in writing and identified himself as the author of the article. He is now being threatened by the Superintendent with an internal investigation and possibly loss of his job.

What needs to be changed: Whether you agree or not with his opinions or observations, the fact exists that we should all be free to express our experiences in writing as a 1st Amendment Right.

How do we implement this change: What is the legal justification for an investigation that is instituted on a person who is expressing their opinion? Any good leader and manager should be open to hearing legitimate criticism from his/her experienced staff. The Chicago Police Department supervisors should not have to fear any retaliation or retributions for voicing their opinions/observations to other co-workers including the leader of our organization.

Closing : Importance of this cause: We as supervisors of the Chicago Police Department need to take a stand and inform our Superintendent of Police that we will not tolerate abusive tactics such as "threatening job loss" as his answer to keeping us quiet. The issue is not whether you agree with what was expressed in Lt. Andrew's document. The issue is the fact we should all be able to express our opinions and observations without fear of retaliation. Let us join together in informing the Superintendent of Police that we are proud to speak up, give our opinions, give our recommendations and be identified in matters that need immediate action.

We, call on Jody Weis, the Superintendent of Police, to stop all retaliatory actions (including IAD investigations) on CPD supervisory employees for exercising their 1st Amendment Rights pertaining to Freedom of Speech.

Print Name

Signature