

 **End the Minneapolis
Police Department!
Are you serious?
(Yes, you are!)**

By Steve Bakke  December 26, 2020



In the wake of skyrocketing resignations and retirements in the Minneapolis Police Department, some on the council are seeking to hire more police to help reduce the exploding crime in the city. And a writer is outraged.

A November 25 writer pretends to understand those conflicted about the issue of defunding the Minneapolis Police Department: “I wholeheartedly agree [that] ‘It’s possible to be conflicted and know what the right thing to do is’.” This statement follows: “The existence of conflicting opinions about the fate of the MPD does not diminish the fact that the unequivocally right thing to do is to stop funding a force that has essentially unfettered power to kill Black and brown people with near impunity.”

To smooth the shock of the original plan, some have begun using the term “Reimagining the police.” But that’s not what the writer is hoping for: “The City Council’s pledge to begin the process of ending the MPD stands in stark contrast to the council’s most recent decision to award a significant amount of money to the same Police Department that killed George Floyd.....”

And again, this is offered: “I understand that people are uncertain and afraid during these trying times, but the City Council owes a duty to the residents it promised to protect by defunding the MPD.”

The best repudiation of this foolish strategy is to quote the radical statements being made, and then reading them over and over again. It’s sad that we even discuss “ending” the MPD.