



City of Aurora • Office of the Aldermen

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Date: February 12, 2009
To: Mayor Tom Weisner
From: Alderman-at- Large Richard Irvin *RI/cgh*
Re: Bullet Proof Glass in the new Police Department

It has been brought to my attention that there is a serious issue with the progress of the building plans at the new police department. I have been advised that there will not be bullet proof glass placed in the location to protect the officer assigned to the front desk of the police department. However, I am told that the Chief of Police & the command staff have bullet proof glass planned for their offices even though the general public has no direct access to those locations. Additionally, even more disturbing is the fact that if a civilian non-police officer is assigned permanently to that very same front desk location, then bullet proof glass is required.

It is unfortunate that we live in a world environment that requires citizens to lock their doors at night when they sleep. It is unfortunate that school administrators must put metal detectors in high schools and middle schools. It is unfortunate that we as a country must always be on high alert for terrorist attacks. Nevertheless, these are the realities of today. What is even more unfortunate is that we do not recognize all those same dangers in our own police department and proactively protect against any hazardous circumstances that might occur. It is clear that we recognize the potential of some dangers; otherwise we would not consider bullet proof glass for the command staff or civilian employees. The front desk officer is in the most vulnerable position in the police department. That person could face a host of unknown circumstances and threats. Bullet proof glass would protect that officer in many of those situations. It is our responsibility as a city to protect the men and women that work to protect us every day. That front desk officer needs the city to step-up and provide better protection. **WE NEED BULLET PROOF GLASS AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S FRONT DESK!**

To the argument that bullet proof glass will prevent a police officer from returning gun fire;
DEAD COPS DON'T SHOOT BACK!

Cc: Aldermen
Dave Hornburg, APPO President

RI: cgh