

# MS. MARSHA PLAFKIN

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Chief Eric Winstrom  
Grand Rapids City Police  
1 Monroe Center NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(616) 456-3364

May 22, 2024

Dear Chief Winstrom:

I was at the Police Station yesterday regarding reports by Rabbi David Krishef used for Probate Court harassment. For the record, I am a 4th generation member of Congregation Ahavas Israel, located at 2727 Michigan Ave NE in Grand Rapids.

At the Station, I saw a Thin Blue Line Police Flag installed behind the desk. I requested to speak with you about removing this and was put off by your attendant who tried to downplay the Flag as a "Banner". The Thin Blue Line Flag is used by police to improperly draft on the authority of the actual American flag, described in U.S. Flag Code, 4 USC §1, as: *"Stripes and stars on the flag of the United States shall be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; and the union of the flag shall be forty-eight stars, white in a blue field."*

If this were a copyright lawsuit, I'd say that the Thin Blue Line Flag infringes on a design (the actual US Flag) owned collectively by American Citizens. If this were a public integrity suit, I'd say that you have misappropriated tax dollars by installing this flag in a public building. If this were a nuisance or intentional infliction of emotional harm suit, I would say that this flag is offensive and frightening to me personally, sowing fear and division, and suggesting an improper Police State within the actual State.

The Amended US Flag Code protects your right to Free Speech, but does not require me — or any taxpayer -- to fund this.

You may buy the Thin Blue Line Flag, put it up on your private property, and even march around with it on city streets within certain guidelines which exclude doing so in uniform. I am asking you to please remove the Thin Blue Line Flag from the building at 1 Monroe Center NW — and thank you kindly.

Sincerely,  
Marsha Plafkin

cc: John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court

*Attached: GRPD PHOTOS (2)*

**5290 Southbrook Court, Condo 45 Hudsonville MI 49426**  
**(616) 209-5209 (310) 650-1990**



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