

Mayor Mario M. Kranjac

July 30, 2018

Dear Residents,

In my continuing effort to relay all relevant information to you, set forth below is an email that I sent to Englewood Police Chief Michael Cioffi last night in reaction to recent discoveries that have surfaced from his surreptitious recording of over 120 conversations since I became Mayor.

We are clearly on the last vestiges of breaking with the past and my team and I are reforming our municipal government to benefit everyone in Englewood Cliffs and not just a chosen few whose partisan newsletters serve only their own needs. I want everyone to know what goes on.

Please read my email below and if you agree that the recordings should be released to the public, please send an email to me at mkranjac@englewoodcliffsnj.org supporting release, or call Borough Hall and leave a message for me at (201-569-5252). This is an important step in reconciling with the past and moving forward to being the best town in New Jersey.

Best regards and wishes,

Mario

My email to the Chief follows:

“Chief Cioffi's Over 120 Surreptitious Audio Recordings of Borough Employees and Elected Officials

Dear Chief Cioffi,

It has been several months since we learned of your over 120 surreptitious audio recordings (now confirmed by you to have been made starting the day after I became Mayor during business hours using a borough issued recording device) of your conversations with witting and unwitting Borough employees (including police officers), elected officials (including me) and others. There were also recordings without your voice but with others' voices and bathroom sounds on them. I don't record people and can't understand why you would except for nefarious purposes. Many of our residents feel the same way and have let me know.

You may recall that when I became Mayor in January 2016, I stated (and I repeated it frequently thereafter) that Borough employees simply need to show up for work, do their jobs to the best of their ability and remove politics from the workplace as our citizens deserve a reformed government after 42 years of one party and one family governance.

I have now had an opportunity to listen to your recordings. While there are many legal (civil and criminal -- see below) issues raised with your recordings and the contents thereof, I believe in full transparency and the right of our citizens to hear your and others' words (including other ECPD officers) (as hurtful, xenophobic, sexually explicit and deplorable as they may be) and therefore **I hereby demand that all these recordings (along with all others that exist) be provided to the Borough Clerk for uploading to the Borough website so that the good citizens of Englewood Cliffs can also listen to them and draw their own conclusions** about how the fifth highest paid police chief in NJ (at \$232,000 given to you by the previous administration) and the second highest paid police force in NJ use their time and mis-spend our citizens' money. The only recordings that should not be produced would be those in which the Borough's attorneys are speaking as those are attorney-client privileged.

No one cares about the endless publicity stunts that you execute to distract our citizens from what is really going on at the ECPD (non-sequitur lawn signs, protest marches at community events, rudeness and unprofessionalism at public meetings, hypocritical Stigma-Free Zone support, etc.), so I strongly suggest you spend your remaining time as Chief being transparent and reconciling with the Borough and its citizens rather than more misguided antics. I write this now knowing from your tapes that you and your affiliates (Borough employees and non-employees) targeted me and other elected officials in a number of questionable and perhaps unlawful ways -- someone else will judge that. If the worst thing I did was to win the election for Mayor, I am emboldened to continue my mission of municipal government reform knowing that one only gets flak when one is flying over the target -- I am clearly over the target -- and I hope the judge also releases these tapes to the public if you fail to do so.

As I previously wrote to you, your recordings are better than the proverbial "fly on the wall" because the recordings prove everything my team and I have been saying all along.

Your assertion of the Fifth Amendment's right against self-incrimination during your deposition last week in a case that you commenced against the Borough and elected officials (including me) was also a watershed event for a senior law enforcement officer and I am very concerned for the future of the ECPD and those officers who have managed to act properly.

This email will be made available to the public consistent with their right to know.

With all rights reserved.

Mario M. Kranjac
Mayor of Englewood Cliffs"