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From: **Lauren Stephen** <

Date: Tue, 24 Nov 2020 at 15:59

Subject: Nov. 23 Bylaw Tickets

To: Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>, Municipal Law Enforcement <mle@hamilton.ca>

Hello Jason Farr,

I understand that Bylaw Enforcement Officers were in front of City Hall yesterday before noon, ticketing people for infractions of the city's mask bylaw.

I spoke with Gerri at Bylaw Enforcement yesterday at 3:42pm, and she informed me that no public complaint came in.

In that case, may I have some clarification about what prompted Municipal Law Enforcement to give out tickets in front of city hall at that particular time? My perception is that the gathering there is going above and beyond in terms of covid safety. Certainly compared to other recent protests we've seen, and compared to what I am seeing in some local businesses. I am curious what prompted what seems to be an exceptional action on the part of MLE.

As a frontline retail employee, I feel Hamilton's fairly toothless mask policy is not doing enough to protect workers like me. And yet suddenly when it is a matter of dealing with activists who are political opponents of MLE, the tickets start flying.

The MLE supervisor on location yesterday, the person in charge of the ticketing, whom I spoke with shortly after noon, was not wearing a mask, but rather a neck gaiter which barely covered his nose. This is not quite as safe as a mask, although I believe it satisfies the letter of the bylaw. It left a poor impression.

Regards,

Lauren Stephen