



www.blackparentsworkshop.org

A CALL-TO-ACTION

DEMAND THE TERMINATION OF MAPLEWOOD POLICE CHIEF ROBERT CIMINO

After over one-year of waiting, and two requests through the Open Public Records Act (OPRA), the Maplewood Township Committee authorized the release of audio recordings and video recordings from the night of July 5, 2016

If you are not familiar with what unfolded that night, the Maplewood police herded a group of Black youth out of town after the township's Independence Day fireworks and forced them to walk to the city of Irvington despite the youth insisting they were residents of Maplewood and South Orange.

What we learned from the audio clips is that **upon the command of Chief Cimino**, Black children were pushed toward the Irvington border with the plan of sealing them out of their own town. In addition, some youth were pepper sprayed after there was an *alleged* altercation between several youths. The audio makes clear that the teens were not unruly, as is indicated by an officer on the audio tape, but were still corralled and pushed out of the city by our police.

WE URGE YOU TO:

1. E-mail or call Maplewood Mayor Vic DeLuca and demand that the Township Committee terminate Police Chief Robert Cimino. Mayor DeLuca's email is: **v.deluca@twp.maplewood.nj.us**. His office phone number is **(973) 762-7170** and his home phone number is **(973) 378-8906**.
2. Call the Office of New Jersey Attorney General Christopher S. Porrino and request that his office monitor both the Maplewood and South Orange police departments. His office number is **(609) 292-4925**.
3. **OPPOSE** New Jersey Assembly Bill No. **A1114** that calls for school districts, through their social studies curriculum, to instruct students on how to interact with police. We see this as the wrong approach and call for more comprehensive police reform measures that will hold local police departments accountable. Call bill sponsors **Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver, (973) 395-1166** and **Assemblywoman Mila Jasey, (973) 762-1886**.