

From: Easthope, Christopher <CSEasthope@a2gov.org>

Date: Mon, Aug 2, 2010 at 5:15 PM

Subject: Your chronicle post

To: David Cahill

Cc: "**City Council Members (All)" <CityCouncilMembersAll@a2gov.org>, Dave Askins <dave.askins@annarborchronicle.com>, Ryan Stanton <stant1rj@gmail.com>, "Hines, Elizabeth" <EPHines@a2gov.org>, "Creal, Julie" <JACreal@a2gov.org>

"Couple that with the fact that then-Council members Chris Easthope and Joan Lowenstein wanted to be district judges and saw nothing wrong with voting to build themselves a plush new building – it's not a pretty picture."

David:

I'm not writing you to trade insults. However, I couldn't resist exercising my 1st amendment right to respond to your post. Your often repeated position that I voted for the police/courts building so I could have a plush office is so amazingly ludicrous that it really does beg a response. You love to fancy yourself as someone who knows all the facts.

A review of council meetings, Ann Arbor News front page stories and a basic working knowledge of the court's history would show that I, Joan Lowenstein and many others began working on this project in 2001. Ann Mattson didn't decide to retire until 2007. She was still eligible to run for re-election in 2008. As you know well, incumbent judges in this county are rarely challenged and if they are, rarely beaten.

So, your reckless statement to the public assumes the following:

1. That when I was elected in 2000, I knew that I wanted to run for judge;
2. When I realized how atrocious the police facilities were in 2000, I saw it as an opportunity to get myself a new office;
3. When I saw everyday MDOC prisoners convicted of murder and rape, walked down the middle of the court halls because the building was not equipped to handle the segregation of county and state prisoners, that an actual court building that met state standards for safety to the public in those same hallways, was, actually an opportunity for me to get a new office;
4. That taking a pay cut as an attorney to become a judge was OK because, hey, I get a new office and my own bathroom;
5. That I knew for 7 years while working on the project that I would eventually run against 3 qualified candidates for judge and that I would win nonetheless;
6. That council members would agree to continue the scheduling and funding long after I left

council.

7. That Ann Mattson, a tireless supporter of this project, wanted it to be built to help Joan and I achieve our “plush” surroundings, even though she supported another candidate for election;

8. That after many years of public service, I would sell out my reputation for a new chair and a view of the city center building and a parking lot.

Whats more amazing about your comment is that it comes on the heels of your ethical lapse when you tried to give Pat Lesko questions from Ryan Stanton to help in her campaign, notwithstanding that your wife is on council.

I’m very proud of my service to this community. However, I owe it to my kids and my family to stand up to people like you who think its OK to question my intentions and my integrity without facts to support it, when I was working hard to solve these issues on behalf of the city I grew up in.

Chris Easthope