

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

Commissioner Nancy Jester has been leading the charge to make it appear as if DeKalb County and I have been woefully negligent of the status of this property.

The Truth:

It's not about you Larry Johnson.

It is about the safety of the people of DeKalb County.

Commissioner Nancy Jester has been leading the charge (you did get this correct) to actually get real results and help for the people of south DeKalb County. As much as you want this to be about you and politics as usual, it is not. It is about the people of DeKalb County and the fact that this deplorable situation has been going on for years.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

As with most issues, Commissioner Jester does not acquaint herself with the facts before contacting the media.

The Truth:

The fact is that Nancy Jester has taken a new approach in DeKalb County. This approach is to open up county government, expose the good and bad to the taxpayers, and work to make DeKalb strong again. This open style of honest government is in sharp contrast to Larry Johnson who presides over a scandal plagued, ineffective BOC in utter disarray.

Facts are all that Nancy Jester works with. It is Larry Johnson who tried (and failed) to silence DeKalb taxpayers during public comment time. It is Larry Johnson who has refused to open up and expand public comment time at BOC meetings.

The reason why? Larry Johnson hates it when facts are exposed in the sunshine of transparent and honest government.

The difference between Larry Johnson and Nancy Jester is evidenced by their actions and records not by this cheap political attack. CBS 46 and WSB TV have done a total of 5 stories in 4 days. Commissioner Jester was available to the public via the media and Larry Johnson failed to show up.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

I have a long history with advocating for assistance with Creekside Apartments. I have put forth energy and resources to seeing positive changes throughout my District, Creekside included.

The Truth:

The deplorable conditions at Creekside Forest Apartments have existed for years. If Larry Johnson wants to claim a "long history advocating for assistance with Creekside Apartments", then the simple truth is Larry Johnson has admitted (even if he does not realize it) that he has failed the people of south DeKalb County.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

As with any change it takes time. As stated, my office has been working on this issue for some time.

The Truth:

The deplorable conditions at Creekside Forest include dangerous mold, an unsafe swimming pool full of dangerously infested Zika threat water, gang signs, unsecured buildings, bug and rodent infestation, trash strewn across the property, buildings with no water and / or electricity, gushing water, flooded basements, exposed electrical wires, weeds taller than buildings, and one of the highest and most dangerous list of police calls to any property in south DeKalb.

Larry Johnson is a failed politician who is acting in a deplorable manner. Larry wants the people of south DeKalb to accept his false premise that it takes time to deal with this humanitarian crisis. The truth is, people who live in the real world, and not the privileged political world of Larry Johnson, know that every hour of every day these innocent people are at risk of disease and criminal behavior.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

The county does not have the authority to go onto private property to clean up, board up or evict/eject residents unless health and safety issues are involved.

The Truth:

If Larry Johnson does not understand and / or refuses to admit and accept that the conditions at Creekside Forest Apartments present a severe threat to health and public safety, he needs to resign – immediately.

The truth is, there is no excuse for Larry Johnson not to have demanded years ago that the people victimized by the deplorable conditions at this property get help and relief because of the severe health and public safety threats they face on a daily basis.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

Although the media would have you to believe that actions were taken because of their so called “exposure” that is patently untrue.

The Truth:

The unacceptable conditions have existed for years. The deplorable conditions for a number of months. We are talking years and months - not weeks and hours. It is not certain how Larry Johnson proves he even knew about these deplorable conditions, much less has done any “hard work” on this matter. However, there is a clear timeline, which can be proven via media reports, that within four days of Commissioner Nancy Jester becoming aware of this crisis, real action and real results took place on the property.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

It is unfortunate that Commissioner Jester takes great delight in helping to give DeKalb a black eye.

The Truth:

It is the failed leadership of Larry Johnson as Presiding Officer of the DeKalb BOC which has given DeKalb County multiple black eyes and a few broken bones and blunt force trauma blows. It is Larry Johnson who is the Presiding Officer of the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners.

What Commissioner Nancy Jester has demonstrated is the courage to expose the truth of the black eyes and other deplorable results of the failed leadership of Larry Johnson.

The False Charge from Larry Johnson:

This was a situation well under control

The Truth:

Every school day DeKalb County school buses drive up to the property and children exit the buses with no adults around. Everyday those children are at risk to gang members and sex predators.

Senior citizens live with exposed doors and windows with gang members who – at the point of a gun – demand they “pay rent.”

Just the other day there was gang shoot out – while DeKalb police were on site.

For Larry Johnson to have the unmitigated gall to state this was a situation well under control demonstrates he either is unaware of the reality of south DeKalb or he is a liar. Either way, this statement is inappropriate and an insult to the good people of south DeKalb County.