

Office of the Mayor
2100 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201
T 847.866.2979
shagerty@cityofevanston.org
www.cityofevanston.org

Stephen H. Hagerty
Mayor

November 1, 2020

Mr. Morton O. Schapiro
President
Northwestern University
Rebecca Crown Center
633 Clark Street, Suite 1100
Evanston, IL 60209

Subject: October 31st NU Protest

Dear President Schapiro,

I was concerned to wake up this morning, particularly after a safe and lovely night of trick-or-or-treating by so many families in Evanston, to learn that NU protesters ratcheted up their generally peaceful protest last night.

While I believe many Evanstonians support a reexamination and reimagining of policing in America (as we are trying to do here in Evanston), our residents do not support protesters who are marching through the streets of Evanston at night throwing bricks, stones, or other objects at police officers, shooting fireworks in their direction, and intentionally damaging and defacing property, all while hiding behind umbrellas and lasers aimed in the eyes of police officers. Protesters are not helping their cause by putting officer's safety at risk and defacing and damaging public property, ironically all in a City that, while still very much a work-in-progress, is the first in America to create a reparations fund.

While this 30-day protest is costing tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars, in overtime, which I anticipate NU will cover, I, like you, want to know that these protesters are safe. It is always on my mind that the protester is someone's child, and whether I agree or disagree with their efforts, they deserve to protest safely.

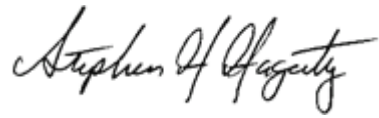
Likewise, I have a tremendous amount of respect for the officers who are keeping our sons and daughters safe, as well as protecting the property of our entrepreneurs and business owners. My expectation is that your administration will remind these Northwestern organizers that officers also have families and their safety is as important as the safety of the protesters. Our City will continue to arrest anyone who is seen

harming or threatening harm to police officers, as well as damaging or defacing public property.

While we cannot necessarily control the moment we are living in, we can all control our conduct and still use our right to peacefully assemble to ensure our voices are heard. We will always respect the public's right to peacefully protest in Evanston.

I appreciate your continued attention to the protesters and the safety and security of our collective community. I am always available to talk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen H. Hagerty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen H. Hagerty
Mayor, Evanston, Illinois

Copy:

Demetrious Cook, Evanston Police Chief
Dave Davis, Executive Director of Community & Neighborhood Relations
Kathleen Hagerty, NU Provost
Bruce Lewis, VP NU Department of Safety & Security
Craig Johnson, SVP NU Business & Finance
Erika Storlie, Evanston City Manager