



DETROIT AND MICHIGAN CHAPTER
NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD

ESTABLISHED 1937



25 September 2008

Committee to Defend Catherine Wilkerson
Attn: Michelle J. Kinnucan
P.O. Box 8041
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

2008 SEP 30 AM 8:27
CITY OF ANN ARBOR
CITY CLERK
REC'D

**RE: Proposed Resolution regarding the
Protection of the civil rights of
Ann Arbor residents and workers**

Dear Ms. Kinnucan:

I am pleased to inform you that on September 11, 2008, the Executive Board of the Detroit/Michigan Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild voted unanimously to support the efforts of the Committee to Defend Catherine Wilkerson to encourage the Ann Arbor City Council to amend Ann Arbor's human rights ordinance to "clearly, broadly, and strongly protect people's right to freedom of opinion and expression." We expressly endorse the proposed amendment.

As you are aware, the National Lawyers Guild was founded in 1937 as the first racially integrated nation-wide organization of attorneys. Throughout our organization's history, our work has consistently focused on the establishment, enforcement and protection of civil rights. The goal of our organization, as stated in the preamble to our constitution, is to promote justice through focused organization and activism "to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests." We strongly believe that your proposed resolution furthers the goal of our organization.

We also endorse your draft resolution to this effect and its expansive call to protect "the rights of employees to freely engage in lawful political expression and other lawful conduct which does not interfere with job performance, including but not limited to, conduct when they are off their employer's premises during non-work hours." We urge the Ann Arbor Human Rights Commission to adopt this resolution in its entirety.

CMTE TO DEFEND C. WILKERSON
LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT
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With our endorsement, we pledge to do our best to further support your efforts by publicizing them to our membership. The draft resolution will be disseminated electronically to our membership listserv, published in the local NLG newsletter *In The Struggle*, and also will be posted on our website. You may use our endorsement to seek additional publicity and support for your endeavors.

Thank you for your time and effort in protecting the civil rights of Ann Arbor residents and workers.

Yours in the struggle,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TDP', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Tracie Dominique Palmer, President
NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD
DETROIT/MICHIGAN CHAPTER

cc: Ann Arbor Human Rights Commission
Ann Arbor City Council