

December 1, 1931

Mr. John J. McBride
Chief of Police
Cambridge

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find copy of an order of the Cambridge City Council adopted on November 24, 1931, which order contains many charges against Patrolman James D. Russell of the Cambridge Police Force, and orders me as Mayor of the City to set in motion the machinery for a complete investigation of the said Patrolman.

Kindly conduct an exhaustive investigation of these charges immediately and take such action in the premises as your findings resulting from such investigation warrant.

I am sending a communication to the Cambridge City Council advising that honorable body of my action in the premises and suggesting that the Councillor who introduced the order containing the charges and who apparently has personal and exclusive knowledge of evidence to warrant such charges and that all other members of that honorable body who have any evidence bearing on the said charges report to you forthwith and make a complete statement of such evidence to you.

Yours respectfully,

/s/ Richard M. Russell

Mayor

RMR:LMK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

December 1, 1931

To the Honorable, the City Council

I transmit herewith a copy of a communication which I have forwarded to the Chief of Police with reference to order of the City Council adopted November 24, 1931, which, in part, reads as follows:

"That His Honor the Mayor set in motion the machinery for a complete investigation of Patrolman James D. Russell."

While the document characterizes the conduct of this officer in violent language, the charges are not specific in their nature. While in its form it is an order of the City Council, the charges apparently were made by the Councillor who introduced the order and not the City Council, as the language of the document is in the first person singular. I therefore suggest that the Councillor who introduced the aforesaid order make the said charges specific and definite and report forthwith to the Chief of Police and make a statement of all the evidence in the possession of the said Councillor bearing on the charges contained in said order.

Yours respectfully,



Mayor

RMR:LMK

from the Mayor, transmitting
~~me from~~ a copy of a communication
forwarded by the Mayor to the Chief
of Police relative to investigation of
Patrolman James D. Russell

DEC 1 1931
In City Council

PLACED ON FILE

Frederick H. Burke City Clerk

CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

December 1, 1931