

Janet Calderon

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 10:22 AM
To: Janet Calderon
Subject: Police authority

Janet.....for city council public opinion tonight, 2/1/22

Subject: Limits of Clayton police authority

About 10:30 am on Friday, Jan. 28, 2022 my wife called the Clayton police dept. She reported that our "door-ring" had activated and she had immediately looked at her phone. She indicated that a person had walked down our side entrance walkway but abruptly had turned around and left our premises. Apparently a police officer was already near our home and immediately called my wife. The officer told my wife that the police seldom respond to her type of call. The officer asked my wife to describe the person she had seen. As she was giving a description of the man the officer said that he could see the man described and he was in the garage of our next door neighbor. The officer told my wife that the person looked like he belonged at that location. My wife indicated she knew he didn't belong in our neighbor's garage. We have lived next door for over 20 years; the man was not dressed as a worker who may have been called to the residence and neither of our neighbors' cars were in the garage (the garage door had been left open, which unfortunately, is often the case). The officer said that due to today's social environment he was not able to do anything further. It would seem that the suspicion of possible unlawful entry to premises and/or potential robbery would at least allow an officer of the law to approach the person and ask for identification and inquire as to why the person was on another's personal premises. Such action might act as a deterrent to future similar situations. We would appreciate a personal response as to the legal limits of what an officer can, or can't do, in such a situation described.