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To the United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Fraud Section and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Public Corruption, Civil Rights, Color of Law, White Collar Crime divisions and to the Department of the Treasury Inspector General:

This document covers criminal level organized white collar crime, public corruption, local to federal fraud, color of law violations and election schemes taking place in the City of Birmingham, AL. Laws have been ignored at every level of government as if laws don't exist. We have no equal rights here if all the abuses continue without accountability.

On FBI.gov the following statement is written and this letter covers these violations and others in the City of Birmingham, Jefferson County Alabama, the State of Alabama, and several federal agencies

1. Government Program Fraud: "Are you aware of any individuals or groups receiving government program benefits by providing **false information?**"
2. Contracting Fraud: "Are you aware of any scheme that enables any individuals (including public officials) or businesses to take advantage of program intricacies to **defraud the government?**"
3. Color of Law Violations: "It's a federal crime for anyone to use their position to **willfully deprive or conspire to deprive a person of a right protected by the Constitution or U.S. law.**" "Failure to keep from harm: The public counts on its law enforcement officials to protect local communities. **If it's shown that an official willfully failed to keep an individual from harm, that official could be in violation of the color of law statute.**"
4. Examples of White Collar Crime / Corporate Fraud: the FBI focuses its efforts on cases that **involve accounting schemes and self-dealing** by corporate executives, as well as obstruction of justice (activities designed to conceal this type of criminal conduct); False accounting and/or misrepresentations of financial conditions
5. The FBI works with partners to investigate mortgage and **financial institution fraud cases.**

On the Public Integrity Section the following is stated:

1. The Public Integrity Section oversees the federal effort to **combat corruption** through the prosecution of **elected and appointed public officials at all levels of government.**

2. The section has exclusive jurisdiction over allegations of criminal misconduct on the part of federal judges and also monitors the investigation and prosecution of **election and conflict of interest crimes.**

My name is Brian K. Rice and I live in the city of Birmingham, AL where I have witnessed no government accountability in this democracy for African American underserved communities and businesses who reside here. Local public corruption led by majority African American political leadership and White corporate leadership is run without the accountability of public oaths of office or local laws or the laws and Constitution of the United States of America. We are not just dealing with traditional discrimination or racism of the past that Birmingham is known for, we are dealing with a double caste system here in Birmingham where African American political leaders are conspiring with Corporate entities depriving African American communities of equal protection of the law. The depths of systemic institutional public and corporate economic injustice are extensive here when public agencies of accountability also turn a blind eye to economic injustice, financial fraud, ethics laws, non-profit schemes, election schemes, federal program fraud, revolving doors, organized sophisticated white collar crimes, racketeering (RICO), IRS tax schemes, and color of law violations from local government to federal entities all affecting Ensley and other underserved communities in Birmingham, AL. I am asking the DOJ Criminal Division and FBI Public Corruption, Civil Rights, Color of Law divisions and the Department of the Treasury OIG to thoroughly investigate the actions of associated public agencies, public officials, public employees, public agents, public boards responsible for upholding the law who also turned a blind eye against the law and thereby approving public corruption. The actions of the AL Ethics Commission, AL Real Estate Appraisal Board, the Federal Appraisal Subcommittee, the Federal Reserve Board of Governors, the City of Birmingham, the Jefferson County Board of Equalization, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Southern Research Institute and the 2 private corporate entities who fraudulently deprived me of 100% of my equity by redlining me in a federal related transaction by appraising my buildings at \$0.00 must be investigated because every level of government I sought help from turned a blind eye to injustice and thereby deprived me of equal protection of the law. The City of Birmingham former Economic Development Director, Josh Carpenter and Mayor Randall Woodfin were at the center of all attached City of Birmingham fraud. The Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board is at the center of the appraisal fraud that started with FIRREA violations with Synovus Bank and CBRE appraisers, Barry Harvill and Ron Neyhart. If the state appraisal regulatory board would have done their job per the law to protect the public interest, appropriate actions could have taken place in 2019 or 2020 or even 2021 but they continued to cover up fraudulent appraisal and banking practices.

Systemic Economic Injustice is what I have experienced which are color of law violations at every level:

On 8/13/21 I filed a formal complaint with the Department of the Treasury Inspector General and I received an email receipt immediately afterward and nothing else in over 365 days. Here is the link:

[REDACTED]

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) have had supporting documents with attached "false letters to influence legislation" recreating redlining in 2018 through 2028+ in Birmingham, AL in the Ensley census tracts that knowingly defraud the government in other census tracts that would not have been approved without known false reports. I also sent the same documents I sent to the AL Ethics Commission on 2/22/22 to the OIG because new evidence was attached associated with revolving doors, color of law violations, and misuse of office violations for the city economic development director,

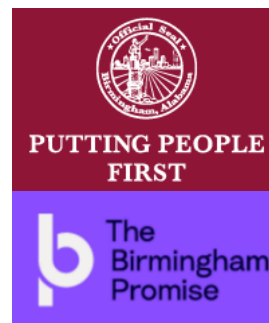
mayor of Birmingham, and president of UAB. The formal complaints connected federal laws 18 USC 666 Federal Program Fraud, 18 USC 371 Conspiracy to Defraud the US Government, 18 USC 1341/1343 mail/wire fraud, 31 USC 3279 False Claims that are directly related to AL Ethics Laws 36-25-26 False Reports to Influence Legislation, 36-25-5 Misuse of Office for Personal or Private Gain, 36-25-6 Candidate Contributions and more. Official documents were sent confirming the “false report” that deprived Ensley of federal incentives and resources with a known false report prepared by Josh Carpenter and signed by Mayor Randall Woodfin and concealed by both which is another violation of ethics law 36-25-17 for reports of violations by the Governmental Agency Head. The actions clearly involve more than 2 or more entities and persons regarding deprivation of rights and we are also dealing with 18 U.S. Code § 241 - Conspiracy against rights. I am asking the attached federal offices to thoroughly investigate each complaint submitted and the associated color of law violations for the agencies and agency representatives who chose to deprive me and my neighbors of our rights for choosing to turn a blind eye to justice and equal protection of the law.

On 2/22/22 I filed an ethics complaint with the Alabama Ethics Commission with 240+ supporting pages of evidence covering 4 public officials and employees that involve felony level violations and misuse of office or position. Here are the links and follow up links to responses from the AL Ethics Commission which you can reference later in your review of evidence:

- 2/22/22 Ethics letter #1: <https://1drv.ms/b/s!AtQUAm5eAbJtgsNSzv3XPS6DUxC33w?e=fxRwj6>
- b. The 8/13/21 letter sent to DOJ Department of the Treasury from above was sent as well
- c. 3/19/22: Ethics response to questions regarding Josh Carpenter and Ray Watts:
[REDACTED]
- 4/6/22: Ethics and Alabama Attorney General Letter expressing concerns as a whistleblower and that all city councilors at the City of Birmingham could be charged with felonies specifically concerning Birmingham Promise and the revolving door actions of Josh Carpenter primarily
[REDACTED]
- e. 7/1/22: Ethics response to AL Ethics Commission saying they didn't see any evidence on the face when the evidence is overwhelming
[REDACTED]

I submitted City of Birmingham, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Southern Research Institute, and Birmingham Promise, official letters, official minutes, official press releases, news articles, official videos, official budgets, official financial reports, timelines, social media screenshots, policies, related laws and other supporting documents to confirm multiple violations by several of the same elected and appointed public officials and employees and the ethics representatives reviewing the files turned a blind eye to justice.

1. The evidence confirmed **\$10 million dollars in associated “revolving door” violations** with city tax dollars and an additional \$8 million in IRS write offs which are federal write offs with Birmingham Promise that was also illegally tied to a local election campaign scheme. The mayor (Randall Woodfin), the city economic development director (Josh Carpenter, who was also still employed at UAB), and the city economic development employee (Rachel Harmon) all were present when they presented the \$10 million plan at city hall on 7/16/2019. The local **city council** approved the \$10 million in funding



with \$2 million allocated each year for 5 years and then **6 months later** not 2 years for revolving door requirements, the city employee responsible for creating the private 501c3 resigned from city hall was now the executive director of the 501c3. All 9 city councilors and the mayor turned a blind eye to misuse of public funds and associated revolving doors. The city council has approved \$2 million each year since for this **felony level scheme and misuse of tax dollars**. The 501c3 promoted the mayor during his election campaign which is a 501c3 violation as well. UAB President (Ray Watts) and UAB was the first public school to support this fraudulently created 501c3. The AL Ethics Commission turned a blind eye to this injustice. Per the AL Ethics Commission policy, it states they have 180 days to complete their investigation, 180 days was 8/22/22.

- a. (City of Birmingham public officials and employees showed that they are not willing to following their own local ordinance which mean they have shown they are not willing to follow state or federal laws for misuse of office for personal or private gain as well.) The City Council and Mayor and public attorneys ignored the City of Birmingham own ordinances which state:
 - i. A. Mayor Council Act: "Sec. 8.06. Officers and **employees not to be privately interested** in city's contracts: No member of the council, officer or employee elected or appointed shall be interested, **directly or indirectly**, in any contract for work or material, **or the profits thereof, or services to be furnished or performed for the city**, and no such member of the council, officer or employee shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract for work or material, or the profits thereof, or services to be furnished..." "Every such contract or agreement shall be voidable by the mayor or the council."
2. If Birmingham Promise is created out of a known "revolving door" and "inside deal" with city tax dollars from the highest official and \$10 Million has already been approved illegally where the 501c3 was created under Mayor Woodfin and Josh Carpenter, the city economic development director, and Carpenter's direct report Rachel Harmon, then what is created out of fraud / corruption is bound to be connected to more fraud and public corruption.



When Prosper Birmingham, another 501c3 was announced with over \$50 Million from local corporations which was an initiative planned out of city hall public and private partnerships by the same people who setup Birmingham Promise immediately after Birmingham Promise was fraudulently launched with revolving door inside deal violations and campaign schemes, it was bound to me more corruption as corruption was and still is the culture.

501c3's were the cover to move money around. Both of these money moves put helping Black kids or businesses on the front line and this was a great tactic to get a poor community and the local enforcement or federal enforcement to turn and look the other way with all the money and how the deals were set up. The DOJ Criminal Division and FBI need to investigate the flow of money and the change of hands.

Prosper Birmingham first money move was \$8 million given to Birmingham Promise where Mayor Woodfin was the presenter of the additional “revolving door” check to his former employee Rachel Harmon and now executive director of Birmingham Promise. Mayor Woodfin also serves on the board of Prosper Birmingham. This is a serious \$18+ multi million dollar minimum scheme now for Birmingham Promise which was created out of a known misuse of office scheme. Mayor Woodfin and Josh Carpenter, city economic development director presented the \$10 million request to Birmingham city council with city employee Rachel Harmon who was responsible for creating Birmingham Promise in her Talent and Workforce development role under Josh Carpenter seated immediately behind them in the official City of Birmingham city council meeting video on 7/16/2019 which the council approved 10/15/2019. Visual chart is attached later in this letter.

Woodfin as the City of Birmingham Governmental Agency Head who was a former City Prosecutor, is very familiar with ethics law turned a blind eye because it was part of a fraudulent public corruption scheme from the beginning. Woodfin nor his campaign team never said anything about Birmingham Promise promoting Woodfin election page on their website during campaign season either. Woodfin political and campaign schemes used Birmingham Promise and the amount of funding that has gone to them over and over and over throughout his 2021 campaign even when the funding is created out of local, state and federal violations.

There are clear local, state, and federal violations and there are likely several more with the associated 501c3's and I'm asking the FBI and DOJ Criminal Division to investigate as these are all of our tax dollars and misuse of office and positions for personal and or private gain and election campaign schemes

3. Also in the AL Ethics Commission complaint were undeniable revolving door violations and misuse of office or position for personal and / or private gain by the former city of Birmingham economic development director, Josh Carpenter who also worked for UAB, a state school directly in the office of the president of UAB, Ray Watts where “conflict of interest” was ignored by both the city of Birmingham and UAB. The violations directly affect federal resources allocated by the Department of the Treasury / IRS. The violations directly affect city, county, and state tax dollars as well.
 - a. On 3/6/2018 Josh Carpenter – City Economic Director and Mayor Randall Woodfin sent an official city letter with known “false report to influence legislation” to Governor Kay Ivey. Governor Ivey at the state executive branch level approved the nominated census tracts in the fraudulent prepared report as submitted and then The Department of the Treasury / IRS along with President Trump approved the fraud from the local level immediately causing present day redlining and a redirection of federal resources from underserved census tracts based on known false information that defrauded the federal government. In Birmingham, AL the fraudulent preparers went above and beyond and they boldly submitted a written “false report to influence legislation” where the material facts are recorded evidence that deprived Downtown Ensley of federal incentives and resources. Josh, other employer which is UAB benefitted more than any other area in the city of Birmingham with over \$600 million in adjacent developments supported by a known false letter sent to influence legislation. Josh newest employer, benefitted by the same false

letter with over \$300 million in adjacent developments while Downtown Ensley has received \$0.00 in adjacent developments due to the same false letter. Josh blamed a “clerical error” for several years regarding why Ensley was left out until I found the official letter which show there were no clerical errors. Downtown Ensley census tracts were fraudulently affected more than any other underserved census tracts in the city. Downtown Ensley is the largest majority own African American commercial district in the city and state of Alabama and it was no clerical error which is an admission to negligence at a minimum but no correction that excluded Ensley of needed federal incentives and resources. The AL Ethics Commission has all of the felony level undeniable evidence and they said there is no evidence on the face playing it politically correct to protect their fellow state employees and that is why I am reaching out to the Department of Justice and FBI to review the submissions and to investigate Color of Law violations.

- b. Just imagine you were able to assume the City of Birmingham highest economic development position and you were allowed to write out your own economic plans as if if misuse of office laws and public corruption don’t exist supporting an \$84 million development and you walk back into city hall as the president of the \$84 million development and you are approved violating revolving door laws less than 1 year later by all city councilors, attorneys, and mayor of the city. We’ll that is exactly what the city of Birmingham former economic development director did in 2020 and in 2021. Official documents were sent to the AL Ethics Commission and they turned a blind eye to abuse of power and misuse of office from public officials and employees.
- c. The City Council and Mayor and public attorneys ignored the City of Birmingham own ordinances which state:
 - i. A. Mayor Council Act: “Sec. 8.06. Officers and employees not to be privately interested in city's contracts: No member of the council, officer or employee elected or appointed shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract for work or material, or the profits thereof, or services to be furnished or performed for the city, and no such member of the council, officer or employee shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract for work or material, or the profits thereof, or services to be furnished...” “Every such contract or agreement shall be voidable by the mayor or the council.”

On June 20th 2019 the same day there was a Congressional hearing on the Appraisal Industry on Capitol Hill in the White House, CBRE the largest appraisal company in the country and world completed the most fraudulent appraisal performed by Barry Harvill and Ron Neyhart that I could have ever expected. On June 21st 2019, Synovus Bank performed an internal appraisal review. On June 24th 2019 the retail banker, Bill Inabinet called me and said the bank had completed the internal review and immediately before hanging phone up, he stated “You are not going to like it”. I received the email moments later and I went to the valuation page and there was \$45,000 allotted for my land and \$0.00 allotted for my 8 multi story building structures in the sales comparison approach. All rental income at the time was omitted from the income approach to appraisal value. I filed a formal complaint with state appraisal regulatory agency, the Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board (AREAB) whose mission is to protect the public from unscrupulous appraisers under the FIRREA Act (The Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989). I was deprived of my rights and have been dealing with accruing injury daily since that day being locked out of 100% of my equity to improve my real property to increase

commerce through the property. It took AREAB over 12 months on 9/25/2020 to respond when the federal policy state less than 1 year and their response was the most vague response you could imagine protecting the violations of CBRE appraisers and Synovus Bank. AREAB total response: *"In accordance with your complaint filed with the Board, the complaint has been reviewed and investigated by the Board. Action as deemed appropriate by the Board has been taken. We appreciate you bringing this matter to our attention."* So now I have a state agency who has conspired with 2 or more to deprive me of my rights to real property and to equal protection under the law. We are not just dealing with FIRREA Act violations we are dealing with antitrust violations, 18 U.S. Code § 241 - Conspiracy against rights as well as other laws. I contacted AREAB immediately after receiving their vague response and the attorney stated she was not aware if they looked at unfair comps or if they looked at the omission of rental income and she would follow up. To this day of this letter her follow up has never happened and has been left open, ongoing and incomplete.

- a. 1/10/22: This is my last joint letter with the Federal Appraisal Subcommittee, Jefferson County Board of Equalization, AL Real Estate Appraisal Board showing the USPAP violations, FIRREA Act violations, the over Taxation of fraudulent appraised \$0.00 buildings and cover ups on a federal related transaction. [REDACTED]
- b. I filed a complaint with the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and they turned a blind eye to the fact that my buildings were appraised less than a single U.S. penny regarding the internal approval of Synovus Bank.
- c. I filed a formal tax protest to my real property ad valorem taxes from Jefferson County which fall under the Alabama Department of Revenue and the deprivation of rights continue with these entities and employees operating in their official capacity. The Jefferson County Property Appraiser who assessed my properties stated in my pre-hearing to protest my property taxes that Jefferson County have known for a while that there are bad appraisals taking place in Ensley. The Property Appraiser, The Chair of the Board of Equalization and a 3rd Party appraiser met me at my buildings on 8/13/2021 the same day I submitted my complaint to the DOJ Department of the Treasury Inspector General and they all stated, there is no way my buildings could be worth \$0.00 and they would have to charge me taxes. They stated they would lower the taxes to help me on my upcoming bill but they could not lower to \$0.00 and if I didn't approve of the new value I could protest and I would be assigned a hearing with the Board of Equalization. I protested the new value and was denied the hearing and now I'm being taxed for buildings by Jefferson County and Alabama Department of Revenue and being denied 100% of my equity at the same by the Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board, CBRE appraisers and Synovus Bank. This is taxation without representation and unequal protection of the law.
- d. I filed a formal complaint with the Federal Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC) who is the federal regulatory agency for the Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board under the FIRREA Act and they said they have no jurisdiction to help me or communicate to me and for me to go back to the Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board. I sent a response to the ASC which stated "I'm concerned with federal policy associated with ASC if there is no ability to utilize section 1118 [12 USC 3347] regarding the actions that can be taken against a state licensed or certified appraiser who willfully violates professional code of conduct of USPAP and FIRREA. I'm concerned that the section regarding imposing sanctions against a state agency that fails to have an effective appraiser regulatory program and imposing interim actions as describe in ASC policy and statues below really don't protect the public if they can't be used. If real property owners can be abused at will to deprive

them of 100% of equity and value by a state regulatory agency then who can the public victims reach out to for help and how can ASC correct true violations? I don't know what to do but if there is no public agency to help above the state agency then policy is missing a key safeguard for the public who have to use appraisers, banks, and go to the state appraisal regulatory agency for help and if all three are involved with unethical actions then there is no checks and balances. If section 1118 exist as shown below from your policy and it can't be used then the law must be abandoned or it must be revised to ensure ASC truly has federal oversight over state regulatory agencies if the letter Jim Park prepared is true. From a public point we need to push for a change of the law because we have public accountability to depriving African Americans of real property rights. I truly believe ASC has the ability to make a difference per the law. I want ASC to know that my buildings reside in a commercial district with over 100 buildings and over the last 40+ years African American commercial property owners have only been able to get 1 commercial loan from a local bank. We are redlined and we have no help."

- e. I filed a 2nd complaint with the Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board after I was denied of my real property ad valorem tax protest and I used the new assessed value assigned by the Jefferson County to file the 2nd complaint on 11/22 2021 and on 12/2/2021 AREAB Attorney responded saying "I will take this complaint back to the Board". "The Board will only consider the complaint you have in connection to Harvill and Neyhart." The Board has no jurisdiction over CBRE or any other appraisal company.
- f. We need equal protection of the law. I am asking federal agencies to investigate public agencies and the associated bank and appraisal company as systemic institutional public and corporate economic injustice is depriving me and my neighbors of our equal rights. It is no coincidence this community has led the city in death by homicide as there is no public help to secure resources to create alternatives, jobs, businesses and constructive spaces in our properties. We need help here, We have no equal rights unless one public agency stand up to the constitution and the laws of the United States of America to help us.



**The next section is a visual overview of the
summary from 8/13/21 to 2/22/22 and
6/20/19**



The first section is the 8/13/21 Department of Justice Department of Treasury Inspector General Complaint where Josh Carpenter, City Economic Director economic interest with UAB and Southern Research become more obvious and they cause “economic personal injury” through public fraud to Ensley real property owners and other underserved areas that overwhelmingly benefit Carpenter, UAB, and SRI and others to be discovered who were apart of the scheme

(1) Open Public Corruption involving Governor Ivey, Mayor Woodfin, City of Economic Director, UAB, SRI regarding Federal Program Fraud and local leaders turn a blind eye



Just imagine, Birmingham's largest employer which happen to the State of Alabama largest employer who is also one of the largest real property owners in the city and the institution is allowed to have one of their highest officials placed over the highest position of economic development for all citizens and companies in Birmingham and that official was allowed to create tailor made economic plans for his already established economic interest and at the exact same time fraudulently exclude federal resources from smaller business districts and all city leaders turn a blind eye. Insider dealing is bad but what is worse is everyone turned a blind eye to undeniable "false report to influence legislation" where 1 abused his position for financial gain and at the same provided false information causing more structural disadvantages for the underserved. 10 of 10 City of Birmingham elected officials are affected as all turned a blind eye when they had a duty to report local, state and federal violations

Josh Carpenter: UAB, Southern Research, and City of Birmingham AL Ethics Violations and Federal Program Fraud

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(1) Ray Watts, UAB President:
Largest State Employer
Interim President & Chairman of
Southern Research: a Biotech,
Medical Research, R&D 501c3

(2) Josh Carpenter, UAB
Employee:
VP of External Affairs for
Office of the President

(3) Mayor Randall
Woodfin, City of
Birmingham

(4) Josh Carpenter, City
Employee:
City of Birmingham Economic
Development Director

(5) Woodfin sign and send **tax incentive False Report to Influence Legislation** prepared by Carpenter office to Governor Ivey 3/6/18. Governor Ivey made all Federal Opportunity Zone nominations in the order of **the false report** and link UAB area as the poorest area in the entire city and most **"distressed" and "struggling economically"** per Carpenter. This is the first sign of a potential 36-25-13 revolving door violation which also affect 36-25-5 for using office for personal gain which is a result of 36-25-17 for False Reports to Influence Legislation. UAB benefit from false report and Ensley owners receive personal & economic injury.

(#12 Revolving Door(s) Confirmed) 6/1/21 Carpenter become new Southern Research President/CEO, 7 months after leaving City Hall after all UAB and Southern Research area developments are moving forward with tax incentives designed in 2018 first acts under Carpenter with False Report to Governor Ivey. (1) March 2018 Woodfin and Carpenter send False Report to Influence Legislation to Governor Ivey (2) March 2018 Carpenter "re-design tax incentive strategy and prioritize R&D". (3) December 2019 City Framework plans while Carpenter was in office are updated to include Southern research as a focus area. (4) October 2020 Carpenter Economic Development plans include Southern research in biotech and R&D development. (5) November 2020 Carpenter resign from City Hall after economic development plans are approved and implemented around UAB and Southern Research. (6) June 2021 Carpenter is hired under his former boss Ray Watts, UAB President and Interim President and Chairman of Southern Research Board

New Southern Research President/CEO Carpenter, on Nov 17th 2021 and less than 12 months since leaving city hall speak at City Hall Design Review Committee seeking approval for Southern Research biotech site development that is was planned out by former public employee Carpenter's 2018 -2021 in City of Birmingham Economic Development Strategic Plan. At this moment Carpenter violate revolving door ethics law **36-25-13** for UAB, Southern Research and City of Birmingham when UAB President Ray Watts re-hired Carpenter. Carpenter also violate using public office for personal gain **36-25-5**. Carpenter 2018 scheme to exclude Ensley and other areas through known false report sent o influence legislation violate **36-25-26** to make sure UAB is included and this act now confirm Federal Program Fraud **18 USC 666** and Conspiracy to Defraud the US Government **18 USC 371** to make sure federal funds are not directed as the federal program was intended. Carpenter violated revolving door ethics law again **36-25-13** when he spoke before City of Birmingham Design Review Committee seeking approval to **develop sites for biotech development** and the tearing down of a historic registered building less than 2 years since leaving office. The Governmental agency head, Mayor Randall Woodfin have never reported the known violation which also violates **36-25-17** for reports of violations.

(6) Carpenter 3/16/18 wrote in his first economic strategic plan shared as part of the Woodfin Way **"When re-designing tax incentive strategy, prioritize R&D"**

(7) Woodfin and Carpenter 3/23/18 send 2nd false report confirming acts of secrecy and concealment and never reporting the truth to ADECA of the many false reports inside the original 3/6/18 letter which is also a violation for the governmental agency head under **36-25-17** for reports of violations. **Downtown Ensley is excluded for 10 years. Public is not aware of any of this.**

UAB SR SOUTHERN RESEARCH

(11) March 2021 UAB President/ Interim President of Southern Research Ray Watts purchases \$10.9 million of additional land for biotech and R&D development adjacent to Southtown Court Development on east side of Southern Research.

3 opportunity zone developments are confirmed adjacent to Southern Research. Ascend Student Housing, \$40 million Building Trades Tower, \$300 million Southtown Court redevelopment

(10) Nov 2020, Carpenter leave City Hall and 7 months Carpenter become the president of Southern Research, a biotech, R&D, 501c3, in the medical district under Ray Watts.

(9) October 2020, Carpenter 2018 -2021 Economic Development Strategic Plan is uploaded on City official website 1 month before Carpenter leave City Hall. Economic Plan state: **"Birmingham should invest in precision population health" and "Develop sites for biotech development with proximity to core assets such as medical district."**

(8) UAB Southern Research area added as focus area in Birmingham City Center master plan 12/4/2019 under Carpenter. UAB area benefit with over **\$300 million** in new private developments connected to false report for Federal Opportunity Zone **tax incentives** which increases UAB student housing options where UAB has 5 consecutive years of increase in student body.

UAB SR SOUTHERN RESEARCH

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UAB area is labeled “struggling economically” in public statements

Carpenter created the perfect biased economic development environment for UAB and it's affiliate SRI. Carpenter was allowed to manipulate free and open market openly and then labeled the UAB area as struggling economically but the Birmingham Business Journal Crane Watch show Ensley and the entire western side of Birmingham as struggling economically. Map below shows major construction projects in Birmingham over a 4 year period from 2017-2022.

Also adjacent to SRI, Carpenter played a significant role in the city economic plans for Southtown Projects as Economic Development Director and then he leave the City of Birmingham and go and work with UAB affiliate SRI next door.



3/6/2018 Opportunity Zone False Report to Influence Legislation is sent to Governor Ivey with original letter prepared by Woodfin and Carpenter and others to be discovered during the ethics investigation

Note in zip code 35233 which is the area immediately around UAB encompasses Railroad Park and several hundred million in new student housing for UAB. This zip code is key because it is apart of Census Tract 45 where Southern Research and UAB reside. This area is ranked number 1 in Carpenters' market manipulated "data driven" "false report". False data is omitted more than once for Ensley and other west Birmingham majority Black areas which let's me know there was no "clerical error" as stated by Carpenter that excluded Ensley under the "Color of Law". 28 corporations were apart of the planning and the 28 supporting letters and not a single city councilor statement or review appeared to be included. When tracts were selected there were concerns regarding Downtown Ensley and everyone turned a blind eye.

City Scoring Chart sent to the Governor shows that Ensley has "0" City Assets and "1" Brownfield Site

Table 1: Community & Economic Development Assets Located in Birmingham by Zip Code and Prioritization of Zip Codes*

Zip Codes	Brownfield Sites	City Assets	Co-Working Spaces	Commercial District	Education Institution	Foreign Trade Zones	Incubator/Accelerator	Transit Nodes	Overall Ranking
35233	21		2	2	1	1			88
35203	11		2	2			3	1	68
35222	10			1			3	1	51
35204	4	6							30
35212	2	1	2	1		2			25
35205	2	1		2			1		22
35217	2	3				1			16
35234	5								15
35215	1	2			1				13
35218	1	1		1	1			1	12
35211	1	1							12
35206	2			1					10
35214	2	1				1			10
35209	3								9
35254					1				6
35229					1				6
35210	2								6
35208				1				1	6
35207	2								6
35064					1				6
35020							1		5
35224		1							3
35294									
35244									
35242									
35223									

FORMULA: (BROWNFIELD SITES)*1+ (CITY ASSETS)*3+ (CO-WORKING SPACES)*1+ (COMMERCIAL DISTRICT)*4+ (EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS)*6+ (FOREIGN TRADE ZONES)*1+ (INCUBATORS & ACCELERATORS)*5+ (TRANSIT NODES)*2

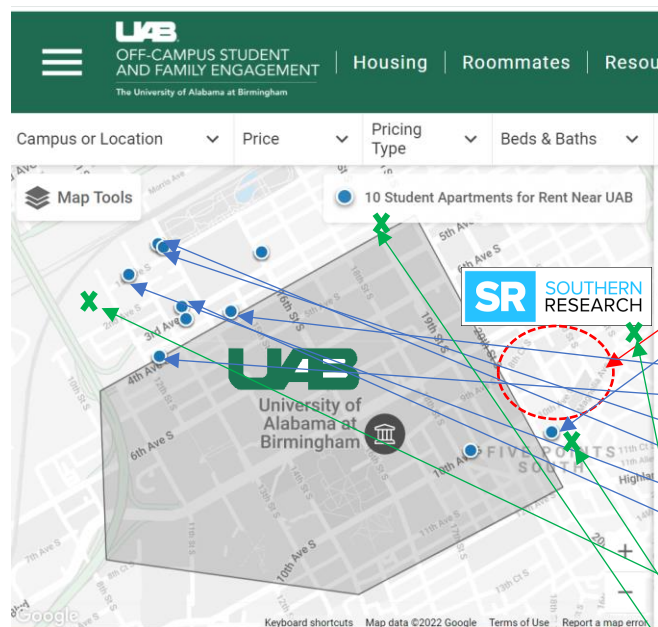
Ensley is highlighted with a red dashed line and a green circle around the "0" in the City Assets column.

NO ELIGIBLE TRACTS

This slide is content from Brian K. Rice, www.briankrice.com, federal complaint against the City of Birmingham for Obstruction of Commerce in majority Black Communities in Birmingham



Carpenter was working under the office of UAB President Ray Watts (and Chairman of SRI board) as the UAB Director of External Affairs when this document was being created but submitted 3/6/2018 when he was employed at the City over the highest economic position under Woodfin. UAB is also a public institution that fall under the same ethics laws as the city of Birmingham so there were immediate violations associated with personal gain where Carpenter continued to be employed at UAB for several more years while working as city director. Carpenter left City Hall after all surrounding development plans were implemented. Behind Southern Research on the adjacent block, the Building Trades Development benefitted from known opportunity zone “false report” sent to Governor Ivey to influence legislation. Adjacent to Southern Research on the eastern side is the Southtown Development that benefits from the known opportunity zone “false letter” sent to the Governor. UAB adjacent student housing and apartments benefitted from the known false opportunity zone letter sent to Governor Kay Ivey. The Marshall \$55 Million development and the 20 Midtown \$110 million developments are just 2 of several developments that benefitted from Woodfin and Carpenter false reports and signed letter sent to falsely influence legislation for private development for student housing adjacent to UAB medical district. 7 months before Carpenter leave City Hall, UAB purchase \$10.9 million property for Southern Research adjacent developments. Carpenter prepare City strategic plan to include biotech site development and Carpenter resign and go work for biotech research institution and benefit from his actions immediately violated 36-25-5 and 36-25-13 and other laws. Woodfin is the City governmental agency head who move at the will of UAB and it is proven over and over throughout this document. Below are just some of the developments that sped up or just benefitted from the false report. It is always nice to have 100% capital gain write offs as additional incentives to invest in areas “struggling economically” adjacent to the largest employer in the state, largest funded University in the state, where students can easily pay for luxury student housing with federal financial aid when there is already several years straight of record student enrollment. Carpenter plans served his known economic interest and local public officials, and attorneys turn a blind eye.



New UAB Student Housing that benefitted developers from Woodfin and Carpenter Federal Opportunity Zone False Letter that was signed and sent to Governor Ivey to influence legislation: violating **AL Ethics Law Section 36-25-26** False Reports to Influence Legislation

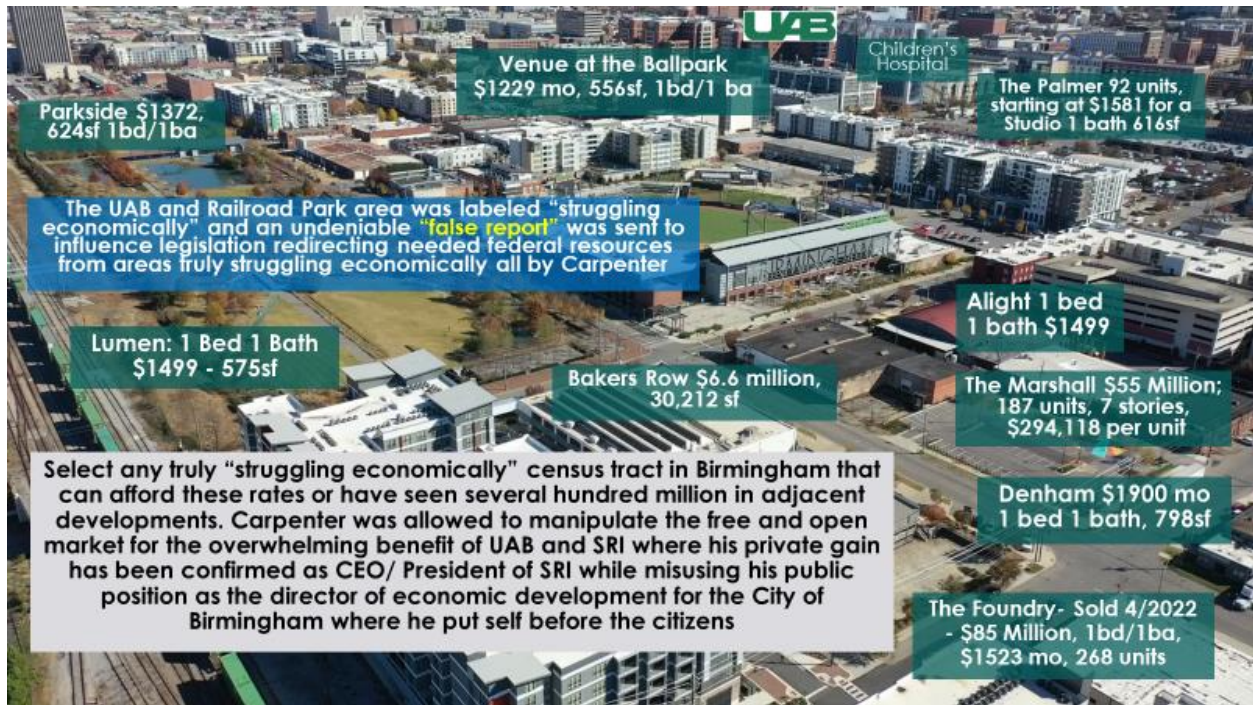
Southern Research Campus (Carpenter/CEO)
Apartments completed or under construction since FOZ approval

1. Ascend
2. The Palmer
3. The Marshall
4. Lumen in Birmingham
5. Lumen Above Railroad Park
6. Foundry Yards
7. Alight

Some Additional FOZ Developments:

8. Denham Building
9. Building Trades Tower
10. Southtown Development
11. 20 Midtown development

Turning a blind eye to the UAB Director of External Affairs assuming the City Economic Director position and all the associated plans that benefitted his former and current employer



City Councilman Darrell O'Quinn knew in 2020 that it wasn't right but just asking a question is not helping the situation. Every city council has the ability to investigate any departments at the city of Birmingham especially when fraud may be at play where citizen tax dollars are affected. I honestly still believe in O'Quinn but what I see is a pattern where city leaders have become lax several years. I strongly recommend that the City council secure their own attorney separate from close friends and associates hired for the mayor's office to protect the citizens by having a second non-biased eye.

8 6 2020 Councilman Darrell O'Quinn. I think the geography is really important," "There's been a lot of conversation around the federal Opportunity Zones – tax shelter basically – and there are places that we visit daily where you would not think would need any incentive for investment but yet they're included in the Opportunity Zone." (picture from Birmingham AL City Council about us page) (quote from 8 6 2020 Birmingham Business Journal Birmingham to consider capital improvement cooperative district)

Birmingham City Councilman
Darrell O'Quinn
(Image: Birmingham Watch)



(This document was sent to AL Ethics Commission in addition to several hundred pages and they responded on 6/22/22 saying they didn't have any evidence on the face) AL Ethics Commission or the Department of Justice, we need help in the City of Birmingham as all City Elected Officials and associated Public Employees **turn blind eye** on Ethics Violations associated with False Reports to Influence Legislation, Personal Gain, and Revolving Doors



State & Federal Violations: AL Ethics Law, Mayor-Council Act, Federal Program Fraud ignored for private gain

Mayor/Economic Director setup up recommendations for Federal Resources without input from City Council but instead 28 private entities; "False Report" created; Mayor sign and send to Governor which were approved in order of "scheme".

No City Council Involvement: Citizens had no voice from 9 elected representatives. Even after discovery of "false report", City Council, City Attorney, Mayor turn blind eye to ethics violations and federal resources being locked out of underserved areas where "false report" overwhelmingly benefit Conflict of Interest of Economic Development Director.

Fraudulent Report could have easily been corrected if City Council were involved representing voiceless Citizens.

100% capital gain write offs are available through federal economic incentives due to "false report"

City Economic Director who prepared false report who still worked for Conflict of Interest (COI) #1

Economic Condition of COI #1

COI #1 is Largest Employer in State
COI #1 is Largest funded University in State
COI #1 is in the most developed area in City
COI #1 area is labeled "Struggling Economically" and "Distressed" by Public Servant due to "false report".
Public Servants turn blind eye to undeniable false report. Record breaking hospital budget, record breaking grants, and record breaking student enrollment continue with \$7+ Billion Impact. Private developers receive 100% capital gain write off and build or has started building \$300+ Million of adjacent student housing benefitting from undeniable "false report" benefitting COI #1

Underserved areas like Downtown Ensley have no voice as elected officials, attorneys, and employees have turned a blind eye (#1) to federal resources being directed away from areas in need. **Public Servants turn blind eye again** to public employee planning out private gain in one of the most important positions in the city.

Local Public Servants:

Public Employees:

Josh Carpenter – Economic Development Director (IEO)
Ray Watts – UAB President
Nicole King – Head City Attorney (Mayor's Office)

FY18 Elected Officials:

Randall Woodfin – Mayor
Lashunda Scales – City Council D1 (current Clinton Woods)
Hunter Williams – City Council D2
Valerie Abbott – City Council D3
William Parker – City Council D4 (current JT Moore)
Darrell O'Quinn – City Council D5
Sheila Tyson – City Council D6 (current Crystal Smitherman)
Jay Roberson – City Council D7 (current Wardine Alexander)
Steven Hoyt – City Council D8 (current – Carol Clarke)
John Hilliard – City Council D9 (current – Latonya Tate)



City Economic Director resign from and is hired as CEO of COI #1 Affiliate under same COI #1 President he worked for who benefitted from the false reports. Birmingham is operating out of a "partial" and not an "impartial" government and we need AL Ethics Commission or the Department of Justice to help us here. **"Un"equal Protection of the law is the De Facto Law here in Birmingham, AL.** The underserved have no elected representatives standing in the gap.



2/22/22 AL Ethics Complaint connected Carpenter misusing and abusing the public trust of the citizens of Birmingham for his private gain and his actions.

At no point in recent history has the **Economic Development Director of the City of Birmingham** been involved in writing himself or herself into personal developments and violating ethics laws, associated state laws and federal laws. **(1)** The last major Birmingham situation was when former State Rep. Oliver Robinson received payments to mislead the citizens of North Birmingham. **(2)** The time before in Birmingham was when Mayor Larry Langford was sentenced for accepting more than \$156,000 in payments in exchange for “bond swaps” before becoming Mayor as a County Commissioner that benefitted banks by \$120 million that resulted in a \$3.2 billion bond debt contributing to the Jefferson County bankruptcy. **(3)** Langford allowed for “bond swaps” and Carpenter “swapped truly distressed census tracts with the most affluent tracts” in an undeniable “false report” where the data was manipulated to affect the free and open market to ensure federal resources went to support development around UAB and SRI area and fraudulently rob federal resources from Downtown Ensley.

Over \$600 in new development have started or has completed around UAB / SRI benefitting from Carpenter’s false report. **(4)** Carpenter continues and one month before Carpenter resign from the City of Birmingham Economic Development Director position, Carpenter revised and uploaded city plans that specifically benefit himself at SRI where he would be the president less than 7 months later where Carpenter former boss UAB President Ray Watts served as Interim President / CEO and Chairman of the board of SRI. Carpenter boldly moved without law as he continued to violate ethic laws for personal gain.

(5) In November 2021 Carpenter as CEO of SRI receive approvals from City for his City biotech development plans he wrote out as a City director barely a year earlier and to date no public official, public employee, has brought this before the public as these acts are truly violations of ethic laws, state laws and federal laws.

Downtown Ensley is suffering from economic barriers caused by Carpenter where UAB and SRI area experienced \$300+ million in record breaking luxury student housing developments from the same false reports produced by Carpenter. Carpenter was allowed to manipulate free and open market without accountability as if he and others are above the law. Please stand up for economic justice. Brian K. Rice

Birmingham Economic Director Write Himself into \$84+ Million Deal

Public Officials Turning a Blind Eye, Brian K. Rice

In Birmingham, AL we have a local government run without ethics and conflict of interest laws. Misuse of office for personal or private gain is the rule of law and oaths of office for associated “public official surety bonds” are statements on paper as those not in the inner circle of cliques are left out of an impartial government. In 2021 Dr. Josh Carpenter, recent UAB Director of External Affairs, recent City of Birmingham Economic Development

Director, and current President of Southern Research Institute (SRI) (UAB Affiliate) wrote himself, UAB, and SRI into an \$84+ million development through city economic plans from 2018- 2020 that he created and then walk back in city hall, less than 1 year later and secure approval and the design review committee, mayor, attorneys, public officials and employees **turn a blind eye**. Over \$300 million in SRI surrounding developments magically move forward while he was in charge of city economic plans. Once inside deals were set up, he resign and magically assumed the President position of SRI where his former boss and current UAB President was also the Interim President and Chairman of SRI. (link to key city file, last modified 10/12/2020, 1 month before Carpenter resign; https://www.birminghamal.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/IEO-Strategic-Plan_2018-to-2021.pdf)

The 35+ year historic fight to save the façade of Birmingham’s only castle that was placed on the National Historic Register ended with a “revolving door” violation especially for a former director for AL Ethics Law 36-25-13 and of other state and federal violations for manipulated city plans related to conflict of interest. (Historical Context) In 1993, the city purchased the castle. In 1999 in City Councilman Jimmy Blake asked for an investigation of the Quinlan Castle deal in which the city originally sold to Southern Research Institute. Blake said he recognizes SRI's importance to the city but said the council was **misinformed about the deal**. In 2021 either the council was misinformed or complicit with the inside deal, pushed forward by Carpenter, the new CEO and most recent economic director of the city. Jimmy Blake in 1999 said **“The city bought the facility in the first place to save the historical structure.”** In 2008, City Councilor Valerie Abbott, the only remaining city councilor today was the only “no vote” on the sale to SRI because there was no language in the sale protecting the historic façade. Carpenter also used the same language he used as the city economic director in April 2020 for the Historic Ramsay McCormack building in Downtown Ensley where the city violated it’s own historic ordinances for razing the building.



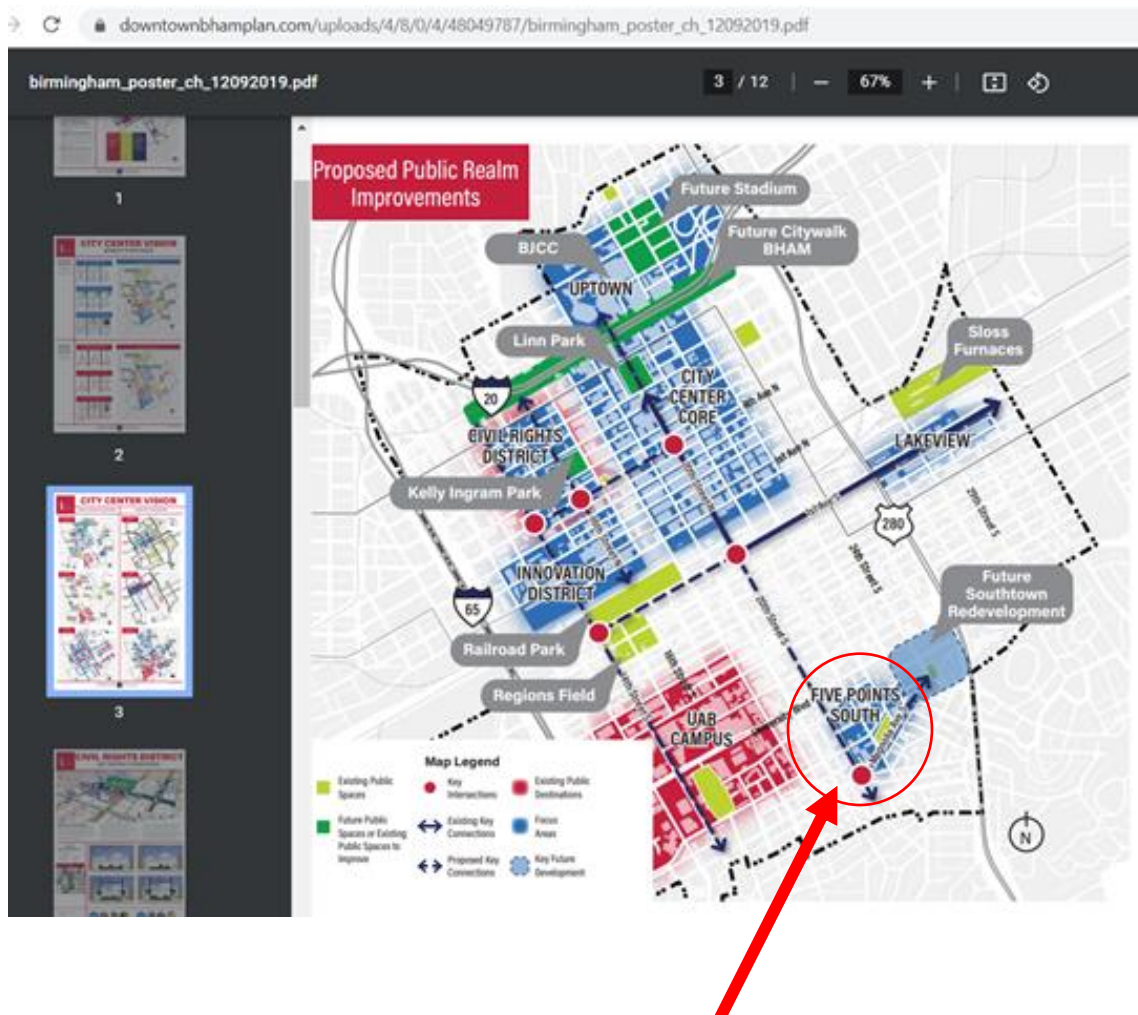
UAB and Southern Research related images showing Southern Research added as focus area shaded in blue in 2019 under Carpenter

In 2020 before Carpenter left there were other approvals to be uncovered in trial. In 2021 the current city council approved the open ethics violations and all turned a blind eye

Links: <https://www.downtownbhamplan.com/>

See page 3 of Birmingham Post link:

https://www.downtownbhamplan.com/uploads/4/8/0/4/48049787/birmingham_poster_ch_12092019.pdf



The insider dealing of Carpenter was playing both sides of economic development as the city director and the receiver as future president of Southern Research. Carpenter was focused on personal gain from Southern Research and UAB the entire time he was in office, 3/5/2018 to 11/27/20. Under the watch of Carpenter, as economic development director of the city, Southern Research become a focus area shaded in blue.

UAB and Southern Research “Revolving Doors” #1

October 12th 2020, City Economic Strategic Plan is completed and uploaded on City Website 1 month before Carpenter resign

1. This direct evidence of what Carpenter SRI President/ CEO was planning while still employed at City Hall and what the City approved violated revolving doors ethics law and many other laws:
2. Link to pdf file, last modified 10/12/2020; https://www.birminghamal.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/IEO-Strategic-Plan_2018-to-2021.pdf

City Document uploaded 1 month before Carpenter left City Hall, in 10/12/20

Precision Population Health

Birmingham's strong location quotient in healthcare jobs, in combination with UAB's demonstrated research expertise in precision medicine, informatics and population health provide an opportunity to grow Precision Population Health. In the wake of COVID-19, Birmingham should invest in precision population health.

OBJECTIVES

- C1. Construct pathways from education and research to industry for recent graduates with relevant skills and training.
- C2. Develop sites for biotech development with proximity to core assets such as medical district to recruit targeted companies or incubate new technologies.
- C3. Facilitate commercialization and technology transfer processes with creative R&D incentive initiatives and matching dollars.
- C4. Launch a biotech incubator program in partnership with anchor stakeholders to catalyze commercialization of research and leverage it to recruit and retain innovative companies.
- C5. Pursue extramural research funding and partnerships to attract more investment.

Carpenter boldly write himself into his own development plans and approvals from the City of Birmingham. Carpenter misused the trust of citizens of Birmingham for private at UAB and SRI violating state and federal laws.



DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY: CLUSTER STRATEGY 2018-2021				
INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT				
A three-pronged approach: job creation, job preparation and job access.				
CLUSTER STRATEGY				
A cluster-based strategy empowers regional growth by investing in specific sectors, occupations and related economic assets. The benefits of a cluster-based strategy are three-fold: (1) Companies can share specialized services and infrastructure in addition to purchasing inputs more efficiently; (2) Information and knowledge are more concentrated and more readily exchanged due to the density of complementary firms; (3) Pools of specialized workers are created and supported by focused workforce development efforts.				
FOCUS AREAS				
Information Technology	Logistics	Precision Population Health	Growing Tradable Sector Jobs	Neighborhood Investment & Small Business Growth
Information Technology C2000-2019, information technology (IT) jobs grew by 77% in Birmingham. This exponential growth indicates a strong and sustained integrated into core operations.	Logistics C2000-2019, the Birmingham region's logistics and supply chain management (SCM) jobs grew by 100%. The region's three major rail lines that helped expand Birmingham's manufacturing base, the new and on the way, the new and on the way.	Precision Population Health Birmingham's strong location quotient in healthcare jobs, in combination with UAB's demonstrated research expertise in precision medicine, informatics and population health provide an opportunity to grow Precision Population Health. In the wake of COVID-19, Birmingham should invest in precision population health.	Growing Tradable Sector Jobs Providing new skills and competencies for the community to build resilience into our industry mix, and promote labor force connectivity, the IEO will focus on the recruitment, retention and expansion of jobs that provide income.	Neighborhood Investment & Small Business Growth Small businesses form the backbone of our community and the greatest source of new jobs. The IEO will focus on developing infrastructure to grow small business and give neighborhood investment to ensure inclusive growth in Birmingham.
OBJECTIVES				
40. Use data to define specific skill attributes in companies across the region and partner with educators and companies to bridge that divide.	41. Build upon distinctive strengths in transportation assets and achieve more and promote Birmingham as a logistics hub to recruit SMEs for regional automotive manufacturing.	42. Construct pathways from education and research to industry for recent graduates with relevant skills and training.	43. Invest in opportunities that build trade by designating incentives to target the identified specific occupations that grow trade, retention and access.	44. Increase city and small business interactions by providing small businesses, struggling businesses, and selling on recommendations of the Small Business Council.
42. Invest in infrastructure, such as increased broadband access, throughout the city including neighborhoods.	44. Develop sites for biotech development with proximity to core assets such as medical district to recruit targeted companies or incubate new technologies.	45. Develop sites for biotech development with proximity to core assets such as medical district to recruit targeted companies or incubate new technologies.	46. Increase city and small business interactions by providing small businesses, struggling businesses, and selling on recommendations of the Small Business Council.	47. Increase city and small business interactions by providing small businesses, struggling businesses, and selling on recommendations of the Small Business Council.
44. Accelerate the commercialization of research and development in a city where high growth start-ups can thrive.	46. Support the commercialization of research and development in a city where high growth start-ups can thrive.	48. Support the commercialization of research and development in a city where high growth start-ups can thrive.	49. Support the commercialization of research and development in a city where high growth start-ups can thrive.	50. Support the commercialization of research and development in a city where high growth start-ups can thrive.
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We're happy to share our plans to build a new cutting-edge biotech center at our campus on Birmingham's Southside! The new facility will mean new jobs for Birmingham and added to expand our impactful work on infectious diseases like COVID-19.



SOUTHERNRESEARCH.ORG

Southern Research announces plans for new biotech building - Southern Research

22




5 Comments 3 Shares

Just imagine you were able to assume the City of Birmingham highest economic development position and you were allowed to write out your own economic plans and walk back into city hall and you are approved less than 1 year later.

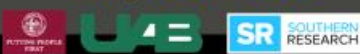
Carpenter and the City allowed this to happen with a former direct report in 2020 as if he was testing the political waters. (This will be the focus of part 2). In **2022**, Carpenter openly solicit \$10 million from the city and county to support his SRI developments violating ethics laws again.

It is of utmost importance that citizens of Birmingham, city employees, city officials, city attorneys, UAB, SRI, the Department of Justice, AL Ethics Commission, and AL Attorney General investigate the UAB / SRI land purchase just 3 months after Carpenter resign and 2 months before Carpenter was announced as CEO of SRI (UAB Affiliate). It is of utmost importance to review city approvals of Southtown Housing Projects and the \$300+ million development next door where land deals and city approvals took place under Carpenter that now involve another current City Councilor who has not recused herself of votes associated with Southtown and SRI where she has financial gain. The \$40+ million Ascend Luxury Apartments and the \$40+ million Building Trades Tower Development immediately next door were able to benefit from Carpenter's 2018 **"false report to influence legislation"** AL Ethics Law violation 36-25-26 to be discussed later in this document that robbed resources from the underserved communities in the name of redirecting resources to areas in Birmingham that were "struggling economically". UAB area was labeled "struggling economically" and Downtown Ensley was left out over a "clerical error" in public statements by Carpenter and local officials turned blind eye. (image below will be discussed in part 3)


Carpenter was allowed to operate above the law in his official capacity as City of Birmingham Economic Development Director as a "UAB / SRI Insider" where he operated with extreme bias, overwhelmingly benefitting UAB and Southern Research Institute (SRI) by manipulating the free and open market where Downtown Ensley and other underserved areas in Birmingham suffered significant ongoing accruing economic injury to real property. Needed federal resources were redlined and excluded from Downtown Ensley from the same fraud that caused UAB and SRI to benefit greatly. Public and Private leaders turn blind eye while Carpenter boldly violate ethics laws, state laws, and federal laws for UAB & SRI and rob those truly struggling economically.


\$300+ and potentially \$600+ Million in UAB & SRI area developments benefit from **manipulated market.**

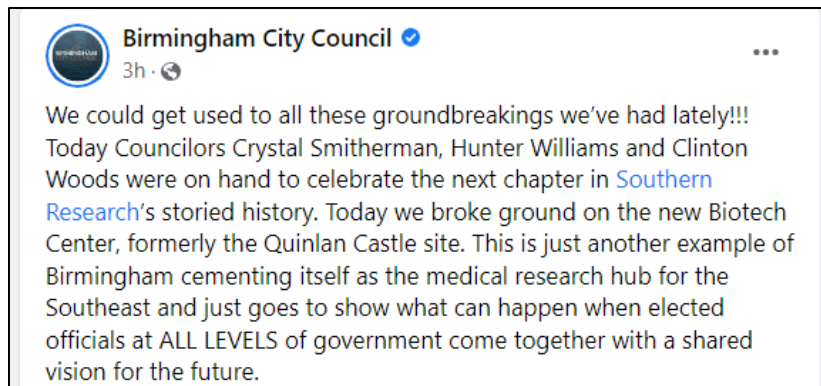


Downtown Ensley is **redlined**: Appraisal values are diminished and area receive **\$0.00** in needed federal resources & incentives in **manipulated market** by same "UAB / SRI Insider"



Carpenter continue with scheme and write himself into \$84+ million SRI deal through City economic plans in **manipulated market.**





Everyone so far has turned a blind eye so were they participants or they just didn't know City Ordinances, Mayor Council Act, Ethics Laws, State Laws and Federal Laws were being violated where a public employee entrusted with the highest city economic position was allowed to create tailor made city economic plans for himself, UAB, and SRI and walk back in city hall and secure all approvals.

Affected City of Birmingham Ordinance, City Mayor Council Act, AL Ethics Law

The General Code or the City of Birmingham also state:

- A. Sec. 2-4-2. - Interest in contracts, etc.—Generally; **No officer or employee** elected or appointed in the city **shall be interested, directly or indirectly**, in any contract for work or material, or the profits thereof or services to be furnished or performed for the city. No such officer or employee shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract for work or materials, or the profits thereof, or services to be furnished or performed for any person, firm or corporation.
- B. Sec. 2-4-3. - Same—Violation renders contract void; **Every contract, express or implied, hereafter made in violation** of any of the provisions of or contained in section 2-4-2 **shall be absolutely void and of no effect.**
- C. Sec. 2-4-4. - Same—Penalty; **Any person soliciting, procuring, entering into, participating in or performing any express or implied contract, or any work or business, knowing that any officer or employee of the city is interested in the same in any manner** hereinbefore described, or any person who shall in any other manner violate any provision contained in section 2-4-2 shall be punished for each offense as provided in section 1-1-6.

Mayor Council Act state:

- D. Sec. 8.06. - Officers and employees not to be privately interested in city's contracts; **No member of the council, officer or employee elected or appointed shall be interested, directly or indirectly**, in any contract for work or material, **or the profits thereof, or services to be furnished or performed for the city...**

AL Ethics Commission: AL Ethics Law 36-25-13 and 36-25-5

- E. Alabama Code 36-25-13. Actions of former public officials or public employees prohibited for two years after departure; (f) **No public official or public employee who personally participates in the direct regulation, audit, or investigation of a private business, corporation, partnership, or individual shall within two years** of his or her departure from such **employment solicit or accept employment with such private business, corporation, partnership, or individual.**
- F. Alabama Code 36-25-5 — Use of official position or office for personal gain; (a) **No public official or public employee** shall use or cause to be **used his or her official position or office to obtain personal gain for himself or herself, or family member** of the public employee or family member of the public official, or any business with which the person is associated unless the use and gain are otherwise specifically authorized by law. Personal gain is achieved when the public official, public employee, or a family member thereof receives, obtains, exerts control over, or otherwise converts to personal use the object constituting such personal gain.
- G. Alabama Code 36-25-26. **False reporting for purpose of influencing legislation**; No person, for the purpose of influencing legislation, may do either of the following: (1) **Knowingly or willfully make any false statement or misrepresentation of the facts to a member of the Legislative or Executive Branch.** (2) **Knowing a document to contain a false statement, cause a copy of the document to be received by a member of the Legislative or Executive Branch without notifying the member in writing of the truth.**

UAB Ethics Policy

- H. UAB employees (faculty, staff, and student workers) are subject to the State of Alabama's ethics laws, the intent of which is to prevent public employees from using their positions to reap private gains and to prevent conflicts of interest between the employees' private interests and the duties of their public position. The 'ethics law' was passed in 1975 under the heading of **"Code of Ethics for Public Officials, Employees, Etc."**, Chapter 25 of Title 36 of the Code of Alabama 1975. Copies of the actual law and of an associated handbook are available free of charge from the Alabama Ethics Commission (334-242-2997). **The Alabama Ethics Commission maintains a website at Alabama Ethics Commission.**
- I. UAB Duty to Report and Non Retaliation Policy for Wrongful Conduct: Examples include, but are not limited to: <https://secure2.compliancebridge.com/uab/portal/getdoc.php?file=97>
 - a. **Illegal or fraudulent activity;**
 - b. **False claims**, financial misstatements, or accounting or auditing irregularities;
 - c. **Undisclosed or unmanaged conflicts of interests;**
 - d. Violations of the UAB Enterprise Code of Conduct;
 - e. Back to the UAB Policies and Procedures Library
 - f. Physical, sexual, verbal, and mental abuse;
 - g. Gross mismanagement of a contract or grant;
 - h. Gross waste of funds and other resources;
 - i. Abuse of authority, including that relating to a contract or grant;
 - j. **Giving false information, knowingly making false statements, or failing to cooperate in an investigation;**
 - k. A substantial and specific danger to public health or safety;
 - l. **A violation of law, regulation, UAB policy**, contractual obligation, or grant;
 - m. **A supervisor or UAB official compelling a UAB Member to violate a law, regulation, UAB policy**, contractual obligation, or grant;
 - n. Falsification, fabrication, or plagiarism of research or scholarly activities or the pressure or demand to do the same or,
 - o. Retaliation, as that term is defined above.
- J. UAB Enterprise Conflict of Interest, Conflict of Commitment state: This policy describes the UAB Enterprise's commitment to conducting its activities in ways that promote and **maintain public trust** and sets forth requirements for employees and other designated individuals in identifying and managing conflicts of interest and conflict of commitment.
- K. Southern Research Conflict of Interest Policy: The Southern Research conflict of interest policy state: "Southern Research has entered into an agreement with its affiliate, The University of Alabama at Birmingham (hereinafter "UAB"), under which the UAB Conflict of Interest Review board (hereinafter "CIRB") will work with **Southern Research to ensure compliance with federal regulations related to financial conflict of interest.**"

(This document was sent April 2022 showing additional overt acts for Josh Carpenter, former city economic director and the AL Ethics Commission said they didn't have evidence on the face on 6/22/22) AL Ethics Commission or the Department of Justice, we need help in the City of Birmingham as all City Elected Officials and associated Public Employees **turn blind eye** on Ethics Violations associated with False Reports to Influence Legislation, Personal Gain, and Revolving Doors



State & Federal violations involving private gain with City of Birmingham, Southern Research (UAB Affiliate)



Mayor and Economic Director, prepare report, sign, and send "False report" to Governor causing federal resources to be routed away from underserved business districts to most affluent districts.



False Report was prepared with 28 private entities and no City Council. Fraudulent Report could have easily been corrected if Council were involved representing voiceless Citizens.



Public Servant who prepared false report; Conflict of Interest (COI) #2/ Confirmed November 17th 2021



Oct 2020 while still employed as City Economic Director, City Economic Plan is complete with development plans for COI #2



1 month later, November 2020, resign from City role



7 month later, June 2021 is the CEO of COI #2 and previous COI #1 President is also Board Chairman and Interim President of COI #2



5 month later, Nov 2021 Former Economic Director who is now CEO of COI #2 represent his company before City and secure approval for the development he wrote in City Economic Plan 1 year earlier. **City Design Review Committee, Officials, Attorneys turn blind eye**

2 Months later, January 2022 Former Economic Director solicit \$10 Million from City and County, ignoring revolving door again.

Area adjacent to COI #2 and also COI #1 has benefitted from another \$300+ million in new developments from same "false report". **Public Servants turn blind eye to ethics law.**



Underserved areas in Birmingham like Downtown Ensley have no voice as elected officials, attorneys, and associated employees have turned a blind eye (#1) to federal resources being directed away from areas in need and (#2) public employees planning out private gain in one of the most important positions in the city. Birmingham is operating out of a "partial" and not "impartial" government and we need the AL Ethics Commission or the Department of Justice to help us here. "Un"equal protection of the law is De Facto Law in Birmingham, AL. We need help, we have no help. **Public Servants**

Local Public Servants

Public Employees:

Josh Carpenter – Economic Development Director (IEO) / Southern Research CEO
Ray Watts – UAB President
Nicole King – Head City Attorney

Current Elected Officials:

Randall Woodfin – Mayor
Clinton Woods – City Council D1
Hunter Williams – City Council D2
Valerie Abbott – City Council D3
JT Moore – City Council D4
Darrell O'Quinn – City Council D5
Crystal Smitherman – City Council D6
Wardine Alexander – City Council D7
Carol Clarke – City Council D8
LaTonya Tate – City Council D9

City Design Review Committee:

Members Present 11/17/21

Abra Barnes, Scott Burnett, Ivan Holloway, Creig Hoskins, Lea Ann Macknally, Richard Mauk, Shelia Montgomery-Mills, Ben Wieseman, Brian Wolfe

City Staff Present 11/17/21:

Karla Calvert, Lauren Havard, Pamela Perry, John Sims





Birmingham Promise

2/22/22 Ethics Complaint also confirmed revolving door and election scheme violations with 501c3 Birmingham Promise created inside City Hall at the City of Birmingham under the Mayor, Economic Development Director, Economic Development Employee



BHM Promise Part 1: 501c3, Ethics, Campaign Violations

To Birmingham citizens and to city, county, state, federal officials and employees, **if our economic development leaders are planning out personal gain and campaign schemes with public dollars through education schemes and local leaders are turning a blind eye to open corruption then who is putting the citizens first and planning out the economic development needs of underserved businesses and business districts in Birmingham?** We need state and federal oversight in Birmingham immediately as no one at the city will stand up to the open corruption even when City of Birmingham ordinance 2-4-3 state every contract, express or implied, hereafter made in violation of any of the provisions of or contained in section 2-4-2 shall be absolutely void and of no effect. Brian K. Rice

City of Birmingham multiple ethics violations, 501c3 violations, and campaign violations with the misuse of public dollars for personal gain associated Birmingham Promise, Prosper Birmingham, Brookings, UAB, Woodfin, Carpenter, and Harmon:

Affected City and State Laws

City of Birmingham Mayor Council Act: Sec 8.06

City of Birmingham Ordinance: Sec 2-4-2, 2-4-3, 2-4-4

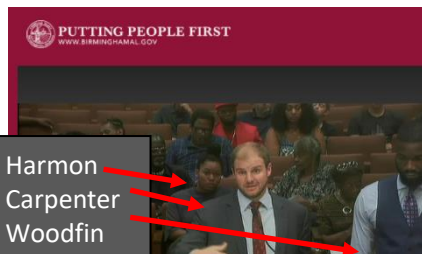
AL Ethics Laws: 36-25-5, 36-25-6, 36-25-11, 36-25-13, 36-25-17, 36-25-27

AL Fair Campaign Practice Laws: AL Code 36-14-18, 17-17-5, 17-17-4, 17-5-12, 17-5-19, 17-5-15, 17-17-3

1

2

3



Harmon
Carpenter
Woodfin

7/16/19 City Public Employees & Mayor present BHM Promise at City Council Meeting. Public servants planning out how to pay self and promote self with city dollars.

ITEM 23.
A Resolution approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Project Agreement between the City of Birmingham and **Birmingham Promise, Inc.**, under which (1) Birmingham Promise will implement and administer a program to, among other things, increase post-secondary opportunities and increase economic prosperity for Birmingham City School graduates, thus developing a pipeline of talent for regional employers, and (2) the City of Birmingham will provide funding to Birmingham Promise, Inc. in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 per year for five (5) years, subject to extension in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. [Funding Source: 001_400_96200_96216.550-003 – General Fund Boards and Agencies] (Submitted by the City Attorney) (Recommended by the Mayor)**

City approve \$10 million over 5 years on 10/15/19. Funding was submitted by City Attorney and recommended by Mayor to be placed on consent agenda which all City Councilman approved.



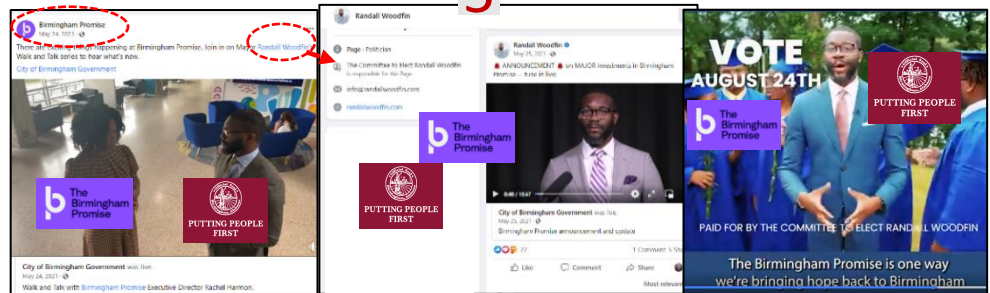
Harmon leave City to become Executive Director 4/29/20 violating Mayor Council Act and **ethics laws** 36-25-13 and 36-25-5 of program she created with public dollars under Carpenter and Woodfin

4

5



City send \$2 million in FY20 + \$2 million in FY21 of public dollars to BHM Promise with **known "revolving door" 36-25-13 ethics violation** after Harmon arrive after Harmon planned her own job with city dollars. Carpenter become board member. City economic development department employees planning out personal gain through education scheme while underserved businesses districts need economic development



Harmon and Woodfin in interview 5/24/21 during campaign season openly talk about BHM Promise ethics violations. BHM Promise openly violate 501c3 IRS campaign laws after receiving \$4 million of tax payer dollars and promote Woodfin multiple times in official press conferences and promoting "The Committee to Re-Elect Woodfin" Facebook page during campaign season and executive director, public officials, public employees, and city attorneys **turn blind eye** with multiple state & federal violations and misuse of public dollars

Part 2 BHM Promise and Prosper BHM violations

City of Birmingham Ordinance 2-4-3 Every contract, express or implied, hereafter made in violation of any of the provisions of or contained in section 2-4-2 shall be absolutely void and of no effect.

City of Birmingham multiple ethics violations, 501c3 violations and campaign violations with the misuse of public dollars for personal gain associated Birmingham Promise, Prosper Birmingham, Brookings, UAB, Woodfin, Carpenter, and Harmon:

Affected City and State Laws:

City of Birmingham Mayor Council Act: Sec 8.06

City of Birmingham Ordinance: Sec 2-4-2, 2-4-3, 2-4-4

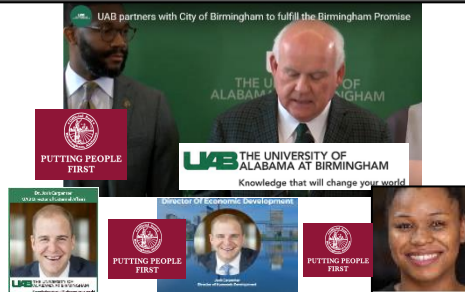
AL Ethics Laws: 36-25-5, 36-25-6, 36-25-11, 36-25-13, 36-25-17, 36-25-27

AL Fair Campaign Practice Laws: AL Code 36-14-18, 17-17-5, 17-17-4, 17-5-12, 17-5-19, 17-5-15, 17-17-3

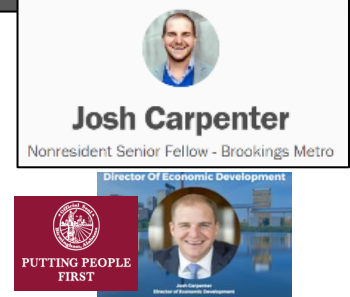
1 Woodfin and Carpenter setup public private partnership with Brookings while Harmon still works in City Economic Development Department (IEO) Brookings pic below is 12/5/18 with initiative to create **Prosper BHM** and funding source for **BHM Promise**



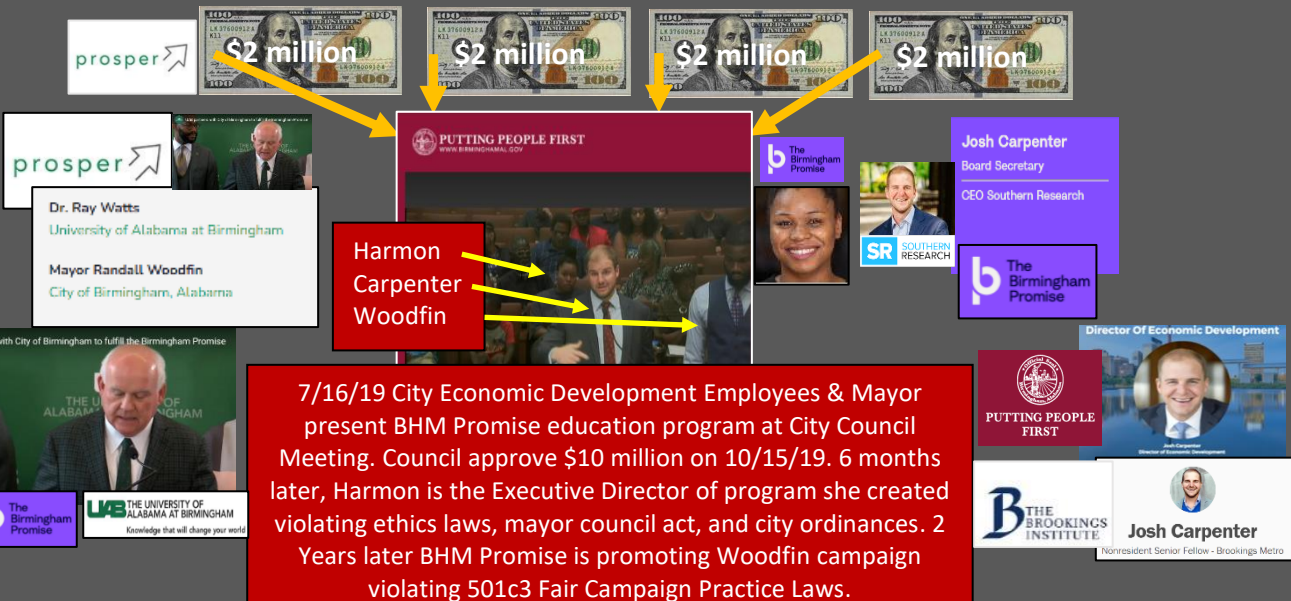
2 UAB President Watts make UAB 1st university to partner with BHM Promise 1/29/20. Carpenter who was the recent UAB former Director of External Affairs under Watts and now City Economic Development Director is responsible for the creation of BHM Promise with Harmon all under Woodfin



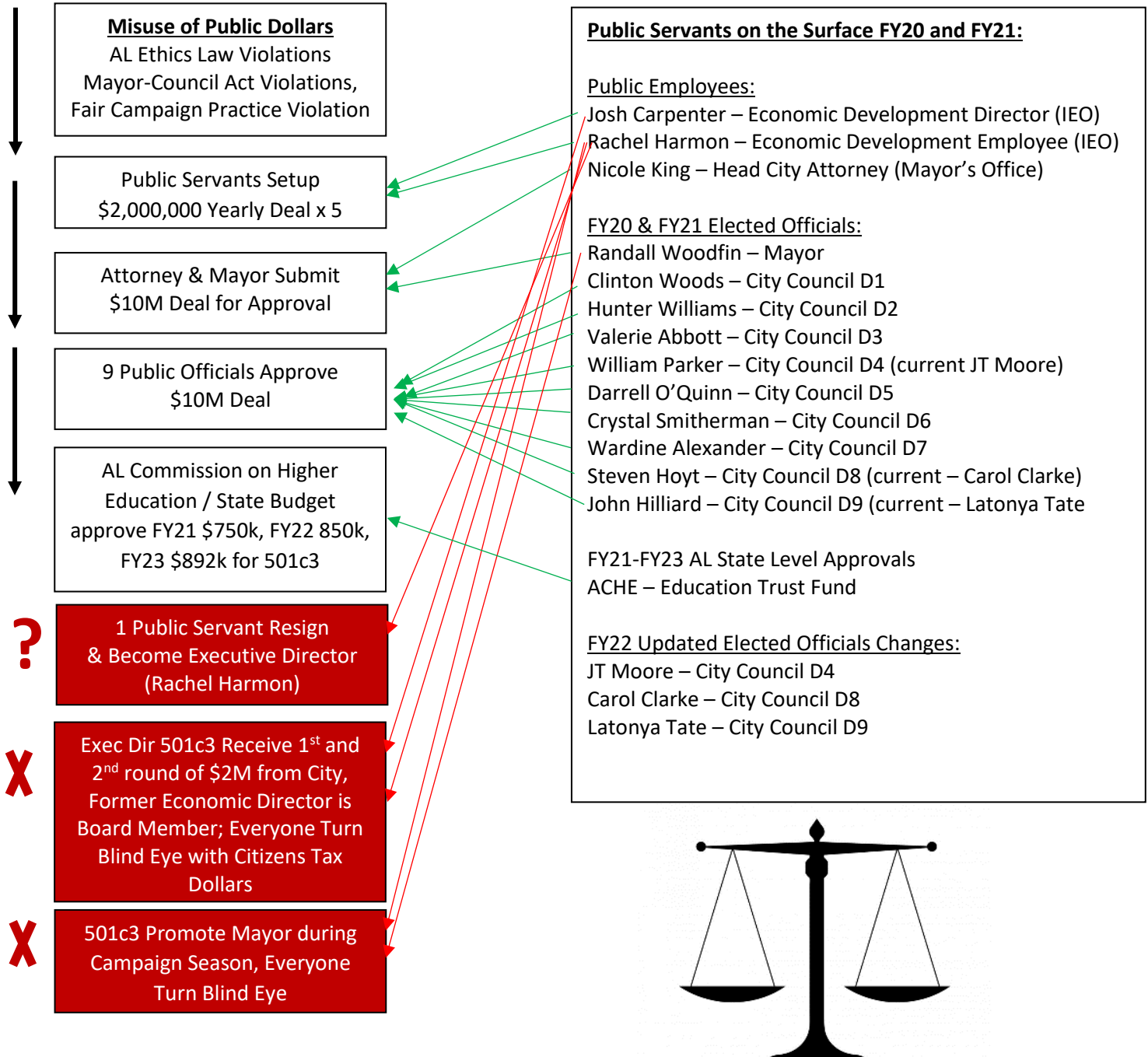
3 Carpenter work for Brookings Institute as a Sr Non Resident Fellow violating **36-25-5, 36-25-13** and **Mayor Council Act**.



4 (1) Prosper approve **\$8 million** for BHM Promise where (2) Woodfin and Watts are Prosper board members; (3) BHM Promise is already openly promoting Woodfin as a 501c3 violating IRS and State Fair Campaign Practices. (4) Carpenter is BHM Promise board member, (5) Harmon is Executive Director of BHM Promise that she created under Woodfin and Carpenter as city employee violating ethics laws, mayor council act, and city ordinances for misuse of office for personal gain. Public Officials, Public Employees, City Attorney, Non Profit **all turn blind eye** to city, state, and federal violations.



(This document was sent to the Attorney General and AL Ethics Commission April 2022 joining 2/22/22 200+ pages of evidence) AL Ethics Commission or the Department of Justice, we need help in the City of Birmingham as 10 of 10 City Elected Officials and associated Public Employees approve the spending of Public Tax Dollars and the same Public Servants **turn blind eye** on Ethics Violations associated with Personal Gain with the misuse of millions of Public Tax Dollars with Birmingham Promise



No elected officials, attorneys, associated employees will speak up as it is normal in Birmingham to operate out of a “partial” and not an “impartial” government and we need AL Ethics Commission or the Department of Justice to help us here. Misuse of public dollars for private gain is normal here.



This is where I came into the picture where I was unaware of all the active systems of economic injustice taking place in Ensley

The 8 \$0 Appraised Buildings

Likely, the worst appraisal and associated appraisal comps in the country
The poster child of unfair lending and unfair appraisals that was completed by CBRE and approved by Synovus Bank and **Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board**



It was at the entry of investing in Ensley that I was met with economic barrier after economic barrier

Public Officials Turning a Blind Eye, Brian K. Rice 5/16/2022



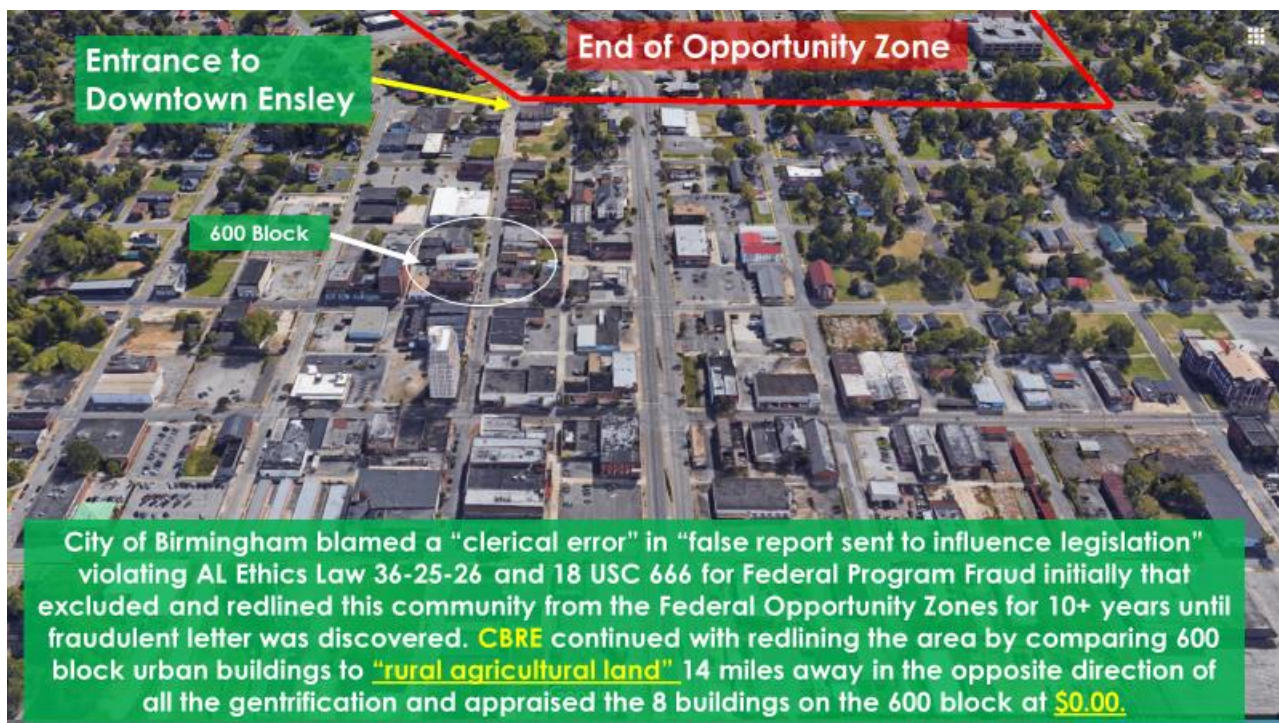
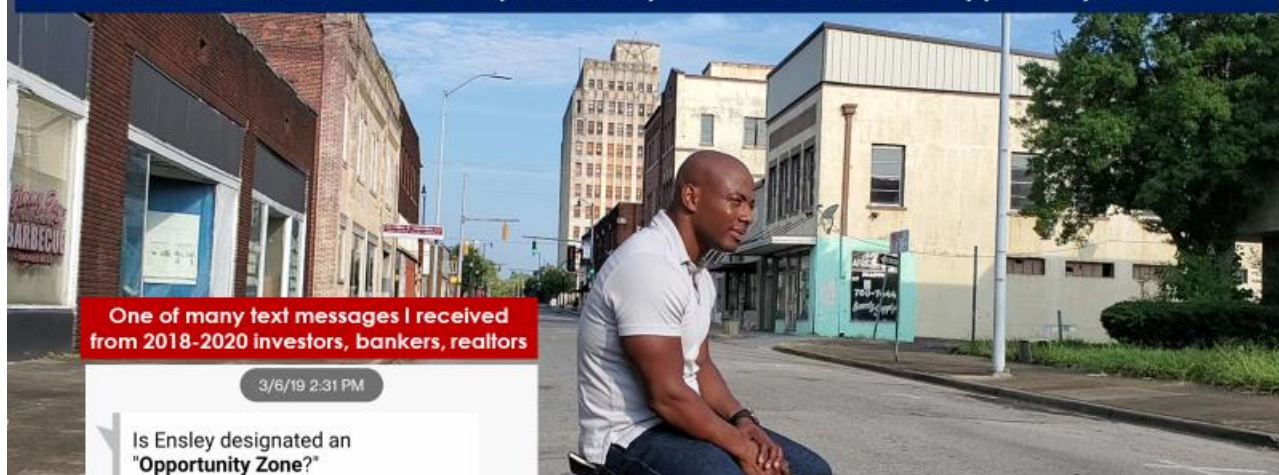
In 2018 is where I came into the picture very unaware of the level of present day “systemic injustice” in Birmingham and 40+ years of “municipal disinvestment”, “benign neglect”, and “redlining” beyond UAB and Downtown. When we asked what happened to Ensley being excluded of federal incentives, Carpenter blamed a “clerical error”. I’m not sure if in other cities and states if they left the data vague but here Carpenter admitted to negligence and provided a “false report” that sped up the existing economic boom already taking place near UAB, Lakeview, Avondale, Downtown, Midtown and economic starvation for Downtown Ensley. Public officials turned a blind eye to continued economic injustice in Ensley.


I want to thank ADECA representative Mike Presley and the leadership of Ken Boswell for standing up to the truth and disagreeing with City of Birmingham economic director Josh Carpenter who blamed a “clerical error” in the August 5th 2018 Route Fifty Article, “Figuring Out If ‘Opportunity Zones’ Can Revitalize Struggling Neighborhoods”. The article stated “Mike Presley, a spokesman for the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, the lead agency in the state for Opportunity Zones, said after looking into what happened with Ensley over the course of a day last week, he was “not aware” of any error.” This statement which is 4 months after the initial letter also confirm that the truth was never updated and sent back to ADECA who then would send an update regarding the truth to Governor Ivey which continues to violate Alabama Ethics Law when learning of the truth. I believe there are many within the Woodfin Administration that were aware of the false statements regarding Ensley that Carpenter state were “clerical” errors and Woodfin state the Governor did it but chose to conceal which will be uncovered in a full investigation. **The false statements and misrepresentations that influenced legislation by the city have caused ongoing benefit for selected areas**, associated investors, real property owners and hundreds of millions in capital gains write offs through the present day of this letter and through 2028 which is great for them and the developments taking place **but the false statement that have influenced legislation have caused ongoing personal injury and economic injury to other real property owners in Ensley and myself that should have been included through 2028.** The false statements have caused ongoing injury to myself and neighbors within my associated census tracts

through 2028. I have watched the City of Birmingham and the unethical actions of several of their leaders deny their own citizens constitutional rights and cause a “deprivation of rights” while acting under the color of law when public trust was given to them by the same citizens.

Every investor, banker, real estate agent I met asked me for 2+ years is Downtown Ensley in an Opportunity Zone and then several said, we have OZ investors and they are only looking for OZ properties. “I responded every time saying, the OZ stopped 2 blocks from my properties at the entrance of the Ensley commercial district”. All communication stopped after they learned Ensley was not apart of opportunity zones.

I tried to sell my properties and even my agent stated he had investors that were looking for OZ properties. I tried to get traditional lending and was faced with historic levels of redlining by receiving a \$0 appraisal on my 8 structures of 33,000sf. I spoke with a billion dollar finance group out of New York as well and the first question they asked me was about opportunity zones.






State and County Property Taxes should be based off of \$0 building values for 8 buildings if my redlined appraisal led by Synovus Bank and CBRE appraisers is accurate and all surrounding owners should owe \$0 taxes or almost \$0

www.briankrice.com

8 5 2018 Route Fifty, Senior Reporter, Bill Lucia: **Figuring Out If 'Opportunity Zones' Can Revitalize Struggling Neighborhoods**

Josh Carpenter, economic development director for Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin, recalled how, shortly after the Opportunity Zones program became law, the mayor's office sought to identify areas that are both ripe for investment and **struggling economically.**

<https://www.route-fifty.com/management/2018/08/alabama-opportunity-zones-birmingham-huntsville/150291/>



This slide is content from Brian K. Rice, www.briankrice.com, federal complaint against the City of Birmingham for Obstruction of Commerce in majority Black Communities in Birmingham

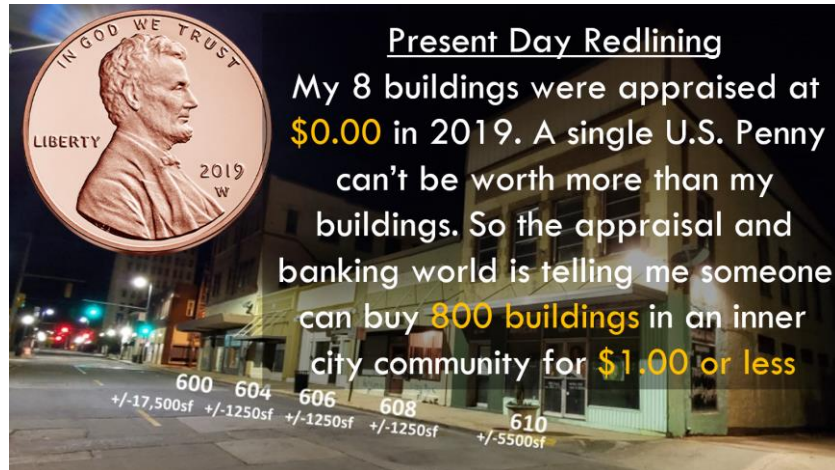
Woodfin anger after I sought help was the red flag

I honestly would not have discovered the violations in this letter if the open abuse had not happened to me when I sought help for my buildings being fraudulently appraised at \$0.00. I honestly would not have seen the Birmingham Promise violations with our tax dollars if it wasn't for the Oct 13th 2019 meeting.

On Oct 13th 2019 just 2 days before the City Council approve \$10,000,000 million for Birmingham Promise as I was seeking help for Downtown Ensley, Woodfin and Carpenter met me in my building and when Woodfin first addressed me he was angry with my appraisal but not Synovus Bank or CBRE who approved the \$0.00 appraisal. (Birmingham Promise is another inside scheme, ethics violations, and fair campaign practice violations to be discussed in the Birmingham Promise section involving Carpenter and Woodfin.)

During this Ensley meeting, Carpenter who was sitting to my left stated that the city have a great relationship with Synovus Bank CEO Nelson Bean. I was in awe as I had been asking Woodfin and Carpenter and the city for help for over 10 months now. All I wanted them to do at this time was advocate for me regarding my undeniable fraudulent \$0.00 appraisal that have robbed me of my livelihood. I left that meeting saying what just happened, why did a Black mayor get mad at me for asking for help regarding my appraisal. I started searching every city file I could find over the next 2+ years to understand the public private connection to economic barriers and obstruction of commerce in Ensley. I eventually find the 3/6/2018 Federal Opportunity Zone fraudulent "false letter to influence legislation" that was sent to Governor Kay Ivey that excluded Downtown Ensley of federal resources prepared by Carpenter, signed by Woodfin, signed by Synovus CEO Nelson Bean, signed by UAB President Watts and others and then I realize where the anger of Woodfin came from. I filed a federal complaint on 8/13/2021 regarding the false letter and intentionally put a 2 hour plus interview on website <https://www.briankrice.com/doj-federal-complaint> because federal officials, attorneys, citizens who care, and social justice groups need to see the evidence of present day redlining in Birmingham under Woodfin. Woodfin anger confirmed that **Ensley was not supposed to develop. Ensley was not supposed to have resources. Ensley was supposed to be locked out and me asking for help was a problem. Helping me and those in Ensley was not a solution.**

I eventually uncover many violations with Woodfin and Carpenter involving Birmingham Promise, Prosper Birmingham, Southern Research Institute, UAB and others. This Birmingham Promise snapshot is just 1 category of multiple felony level violations taking place under the Color of Law.



1. My 8 Commercial Buildings/ Structures in Downtown Ensley located at 600, 604, 606, 608, 610, 615, 617, and 619 19th St Ensley Birmingham AL 35218 (Yes, 3 of my buildings needed more repair than others but they still had value, my tenants had value, my other buildings had value)
2. The entire value of my structures were erased by omission or commission and valued at \$0.00 and all entities who I have sent letters of help to have delayed their decision, concealed the facts, or remained silent regarding the undeniable errors of omission and commission and undeniable USPAP violations by CBRE appraisers Barry Harvill and Ron Neyhart
3. CBRE \$0.00 appraisal **cannot equal** \$229,790 JCBOE Assessed Value for 2019 Ad Valorem Taxes
4. CBRE \$0.00 appraisal **cannot equal** \$122,800 JCBOE Assessed Value for 2021 Ad Valorem Taxes
5. Any Value Greater than Zero **cannot equal** Zero Value at the same time
6. Rural Land **cannot equal** Urban Land as similar appraisal comps
7. Rural Rock Creek, AL 1456 person unincorporated rural city **cannot equal** urban Birmingham, AL 212,237 incorporated city (per 2010 US Census) unless the aggregate of USPAP errors are ignored
8. CBRE As Is Active Rental Income **cannot equal** \$0.00 unless 100% of As Is Rent Roll is omitted from the appraisal in an act of omission or commission
9. CBRE Car Wash comparison **cannot equal** 8 Multi-Story Office / Mixed Use Commercial Buildings
10. Masonry Steel Frame Partition Car Wash **cannot equal** 8 Mediterranean Revival Style/ Art Deco Historic Multi-Story Commercial Buildings with pent tile roofs, corbelled cornice contributing Early 20th Century Commercial historic architecture
11. Synovus Bank \$0.00 federal related transaction internal bank approval **cannot equal** \$0.00 unless the illegal practices of redlining are legal and has been the center of many Department of Justice cases from traditional redlining and reverse redlining.
12. The \$0.00 approved appraisal was allowed to remain without any corrective actions from **Alabama Real Estate Appraisal Board (AREAB)** headed by executive director Lisa Brooks and they are the state regulatory agency for appraisers and if they believe the buildings are worth \$0.00 then I'm experiencing redlining and my ad valorem taxes should be appraised at \$0.00 for my structures otherwise any amount over \$0.00 is over taxation and reverse redlining for taxes.
13. I also filed a complaint with the **Federal Reserve Board of Governors** and they took no action to correct the \$0.00 approved appraisal and they are the federal oversight agency of Synovus Bank.

It was unknown to me when I approached Synovus Bank for a loan, Synovus Bank was apart of the fraudulent letter prepared by City Economic Director Josh Carpenter and signed by the Mayor Randall Woodfin of Birmingham targeting Ensley and redlining and excluding Ensley of federal resources until I found the letter. I did not know I was caught in the middle of public and private corruption, redlining and obstruction of commerce in Downtown Ensley until I was met with obstruction and deprivation of rights in every direction.

(1) Public & Private plans in Birmingham defraud Ensley



Public Officials, Public Corruption, Private Entities, White Collar Crime RICO, FIRREA, False Claims Act Violations and more in the Ensley neighborhood, in Birmingham, AL

(2) Birmingham Mayor Letter confirm false information that excluded Ensley Business District from Federal Opportunity Zones



Ensley: Redlined from Opportunity Zones and Banks

(3) The 8 \$0 Appraised Buildings caught in the middle of Plans to Obstruct Commerce and all out Redlining of Downtown Ensley. "Give us a fair shot and we can improve our communities." Brian K. Rice

This slide is content from Brian K. Rice, www.briankrice.com, federal complaint against the City of Birmingham for Obstruction of Commerce in majority Black Communities in Birmingham

The 8 \$0 Appraised Buildings
Likely, the worst appraisal and associated appraisal comps in the country
The poster child of unfair lending and unfair appraisals



www.briankrice.com

We have no equal rights here if Federal Agencies don't step in and the 1930s era to 1968 redlining maps would essentially be considered legal again for banking activities and through Federal Opportunity Zones that was created out of fraud here with a known "false letter to influence legislation".





When a community is locked out of opportunities to restore buildings then the community is locked out of the ability to create new spaces for new businesses. When a community can't create new businesses then they can't create jobs and if they can't create jobs then families can't provide and when families can't provide then there is an imbalance and we have seen the imbalance in underserved across the country. In Birmingham, the Ensley imbalance has led the City in Homicides for decades. Economic Injustice is a direct link to social injustice and the unhealthy environment that consume underserved communities. On the Department of Justice building in Washington D.C. inscribed are the word "Where Law Ends, Tyranny Begins". The law has ended in Ensley and that tyranny has lead the city of Birmingham in homicides for decades, blighted structures, unemployment and more. Help us by standing up for equal protection of the law and investigate and hold accountable the city, county, state and federal offices, agencies, and boards who deprived me and the citizens of the Ensley neighborhood of our Constitutional, local, state, and federal rights.



Department of Justice case law with similar
**Obstruction of Commerce in Black
Communities** or with similar fraud across
the U.S. under different U.S. Attorney

**1994: "You can't be refused service, if
there is no service being offered,"
said Assistant Attorney General for
Civil Rights Deval L. Patrick.**

This slide is content from Brian K. Rice,
www.briankrice.com, federal complaint against the City
of Birmingham for Obstruction of Commerce in majority



Ensley is also the only place in in America where we have \$0.00 appraised building and real property ad valorem taxes increasing up to 535+% in the same time period.

In 2020, the Ensley Business District had the highest increase of commercial property taxes than anywhere in the city where mom and pop business taxes were doubling, tripling, quadrupling and increasing from 49% to 535% so we have present day “Reverse Redlining” at the same time we have present day “Redlining” and all local leaders have turned a blind eye. **The Jefferson County public property appraiser who interviewed me stated during an Ensley property protest hearing, we have been aware of bad appraisals in the Ensley area and other areas on the west side of Birmingham for some time.**

Ensley is the only place in Birmingham or America where there are buildings appraised at **\$0.00** and surrounding mom and pop small business owners property taxes see uneven **Inflated Property Tax Spikes** between **100% to 535%** when sales have been flat for years and no completed developments but the only Fortune 500 company in Birmingham values has the lowest increase at only **15%** or just **\$432**. Contact the Board of Directors of Synovus Bank & CBRE. Contact the Board of Equalizations and City of Birmingham on our behalf. Visit www.briankrice.com for Federal Complaint filed against Birmingham for info

The 8 \$0.00 Appraised Buildings.

Lower my property taxes to \$0.00 or stand up for equal protection of the law for my equity. THIS IS TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.

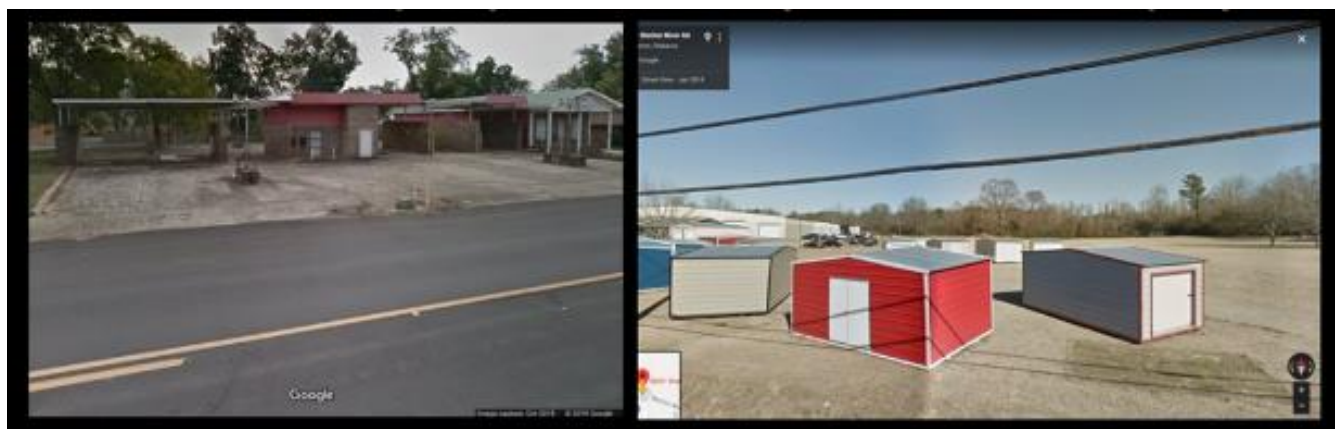
Brian K. Rice study over 40 surrounding small business owners property taxes in Ensley and there were uneven Inflated Property Tax Spikes between 100% to 535% ? This is 2017-2021 Economic Injustice in Birmingham.

Address	2016 Baseline	2016 Appraised Value	2016 Taxes	Year	Cummulative Percentage Change Since 2016	Appraised Value	County Appraised Value difference against 2016	Taxes	Tax payment difference against 2016
411 19th St Ensley	2016	\$82,300	\$1,193	2020	535%	\$522,200	\$439,900	\$7,572	\$6,379
1714 Ave F	2016	\$54,100	\$784	2020	424%	\$283,500	\$229,400	\$4,111	\$3,326
1808 Ave E	2016	\$48,200	\$699	2020	422%	\$251,600	\$203,400	\$3,648	\$2,949
THIS IS TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.						\$0.00			
510 19th St Ensley	2016	\$39,500	\$573	2020	390%	\$193,600	\$154,100	\$2,807	\$2,234
526 19th St Ensley	2016	\$138,400	\$2,007	2020	377%	\$660,200	\$521,800	\$9,573	\$7,566
1911 Ave F	2016	\$15,500	\$225	2020	365%	\$72,100	\$56,600	\$1,045	\$821
1800 Ave E	2016	\$80,300	\$1,164	2020	331%	\$346,100	\$265,800	\$5,018	\$3,854
511 19th St Ensley	2016	\$46,000	\$667	2020	182%	\$129,800	\$83,800	\$1,882	\$1,215
501 19th St Ensley	2016	\$161,000	\$2,335	2020	145%	\$394,300	\$233,300	\$5,717	\$3,383
THIS IS TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.						\$0.00			
515 19th St Ensley	2016	\$36,300	\$526	2020	139%	\$86,700	\$50,400	\$1,257	\$731
700 19th St Ensley	2016	\$88,700	\$1,286	2020	117%	\$192,400	\$103,700	\$2,790	\$1,504
704 19th St Ensley	2016	\$48,600	\$705	2020	93%	\$93,900	\$45,300	\$1,362	\$657
526 20th St Ensley	2016	\$140,000	\$2,030	2020	86%	\$260,300	\$120,300	\$3,774	\$1,744
417 19th St Ensley	2016	\$214,100	\$3,104	2020	76%	\$376,800	\$162,700	\$5,464	\$2,359
525 19th St Ensley	2016	\$187,100	\$1,356	2020	67%	\$312,400	\$125,300	\$2,265	\$908
1821 Ave G	2016	\$85,900	\$1,246	2020	49%	\$128,200	\$42,300	\$1,859	\$613
1801 Ave E	2016	\$386,600	\$2,803	2020	15%	\$446,200	\$59,600	\$3,235	\$432

We need the state or federal government to help in Ensley regarding present day redlining and reverse redlining

Downtown Ensley has been faced with Federal Opportunity Zone Redlining through discovered “false report to influence legislation”, Appraisal Redlining through \$0.00 confirmed appraisal, Reverse Redlining with Ad Valorem Taxes for small mom and pop businesses, and Taxation Without Representation and all local officials have turned a blind eye.

We need the help of the Department of Justice. We have no help locally from the City of Birmingham.



I had no idea of the real and accustomed conditions of present day economic suppression until I chose Ensley

The conditions I have experienced in Ensley since Carpenter excluded Ensley of resources are as follows: I have been in Ensley for 4 years and it has been a form of ethnographic research and today I will speak about a snapshot into some of the conditions I see daily. I didn't realize the true reality of the conditions inside of communities like Ensley until I was there everyday.

Poverty become your friend and your enemy. Many are conditioned to the environment whether they are the professionals or those with very little. To be locked out of resources is just a way of life because it has always been that way from banks to government.

You see men searching for opportunity everyday. Everyday, if you stand outside your building, I guarantee several men a day are going to walk up to you of all ages and ask you if you have any work. If you have any work you let them perform the work.



It became normal to see people pick through trash illegally dumped behind buildings and walk away with shoes and jackets and shirts. You look at those struggling with addictions differently as many become your friends and your trusted helpers. These helpers teach you about life in so many ways and you learn to never call them a wino because you don't see a person addicted to alcohol, you see a person.

You speak to people with severe speech impediments but these speech impediments are caused by true poverty. Teeth may be completely gone and when they speak, you have to concentrate as their words are mumbled together but when they see you, their spirit light up and your spirit light up.

You see men from all types of broken backgrounds gifted with various forms of visual art. You see men in particular not for their past choices but as men and friends and workers. You don't see women strolling like the men. You don't see kids playing but when you see kids walk through the alleys on their way to school, you are disappointed because they have to walk by so much blight every day.

You cross paths with many entrepreneurs with no resources but they have the dream to launch their business one day. You learn what survival is as you see men miss meals for days until you are able to give them work as there are no homeless programs nearby.

You will not see any metal of any kind on the ground as the metal is lunch money. Recycling metal, aluminum, copper, and any larger appliances full of mixed metal are hot commodities.

Politics and resources never reach them and they are definitely aware of the local leaders.

This is just a tiny snapshot. The one question that bother me daily is when men ask for work and I have to tell them I don't have any work because I have been locked out but I'm fighting for resources daily. I'm studying the law. I'm writing state and federal complaints daily. I'm studying the law more. I am

standing up to banks and I'm studying the law more because the barriers I faced are not just my barriers but the barriers to men who are looking for work.

"We either spend years fighting for our economic real property rights or we become accustomed to the conditions. We need help here. We need resources. We don't just need community based intervention, we need government based intervention. I hope I have been able to explain some of the economic concerns, needs, and how we need an "impartial government" working for our rights.

I am asking for the Department of Justice Criminal Division and the FBI White Collar Organized Crimes, Civil Rights, Color of Law divisions and the department of the Treasury Inspector General to launch a full investigation into the public corruption in this letter taking place from the local level to the federal agency level. We have no equal rights here in Ensley in Birmingham, AL and because we have no equal rights we cannot restore our buildings and blight is normalized. We cannot update spaces for new business that ultimately can create jobs or create constructive options for our community. We cannot improve the value of our properties because people like me have been locked out of 100% of equity based on fraud and color of law violations from corporate entities and the public agencies who are there to protect the public. Ensley has led the city in Death by Homicide for decades because street life is the best option when resources are locked out from small businesses. We need 1 public agency, entity, or office to stand up for our rights under the Constitution and under the laws of the United States of America and against the Color of Law violations that are depriving us here

Brian K. Rice



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