

Men's Fire facing charges after lawyer attacked

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Writers

Assault charges are pending against about 15 men who claim to be members of the "Six Nations Men's Fire" after Mohawk lawyer Aaron Detlor was forcibly removed from a meeting at the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) Tuesday morning.

A group of men, from both Six Nations and Hamilton led by former elected chief candidate Bill Monture abruptly entered a meeting of the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), the planning arm of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs council (HCCC) Tuesday and physically picked up Detlor, removing him from the office.

Mr. Detlor struggled with the men as they grabbed him, witnesses said.

Detlor told Turtle Island News "Bill Monture grabbed me, then a short man in a black hoodie and Lester Green grabbed me and two others until there were about eight men who lifted me up and dragged me out of the HDI board room while the Two Row Times, who came with them, filmed it."

He said he struggled as they carried him along until he got to the hall when they loosened their grip and there was a verbal exchange as they headed to his office.

"Wilf Davey handed me a letter and said something about a non compete letter from the Men's Fire. It said I interfered with their negotiations with Empire Homes and land they own."

He said at his office, "they broke into my office and tried to break into my files."

He said his assistant ran down the hallway and hid in another office. "She was frightened. This whole episode sets a dangerous precedent. They caused a lot of fear in a lot of people today. A number of GREAT tenants are

worried about security now in the building."

He said he has spoken with police and expects charges will be laid.

He said he plans to continue working. "I will be at my office at 10 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday) to

our was both intimidating and threatening. Mr. Detlor is pressing charges. Six Nations Police were on scene to keep the peace, as part of the men's role in the Kaienerekowah. The Men's Fire has clearly



Six Nations Police escorted lawyer Aaron Detlor to his vehicle after he locked up his office. Detlor went to the police station to lay assault charges while the Men's Fire followed him in a caravan of their vehicles.

continue to work for my clients."

HDI director Hazel Hill was in the meeting at the time Monture entered.

"The men carried Detlor outside demanding he leave the community saying they were acting on behalf of a Cayuga clan mother," Hill said in a Facebook posting.

"That's nonsense," she continued. "The so-called 'Men's Fire' in collusion with the Two Row Times

(a Brant County publication) staged a violent assault upon Mohawk lawyer Aaron Detlor, a legal advisor to the HCCC today in a mob-styled assault with no explanation for why they attacked him. The only Clanmother at the scene was a Cayuga Clanmother who denied any knowledge of their claims to have been directed by Cayuga Clanmothers to assault Mr. Detlor. The Six Nations police were on site after I called them to attend to keep the peace and protect Mr. Detlor and our staff as the men's behav-

shown we are now all at risk to their vigilantism and erratic and irrational thuggish behaviour."

Monture, in a brief interview with Turtle Island News, said he removed Detlor because in his opinion, "he is not representing our people in the way I think he should be and who gave him the authority to act over us. This is coming from the clan mothers and community members."

Wilf Davey, another member of the "Men's Fire," explained it was related to the McClung Road Men's Fire court action they lost recently when a court ordered that the developer owned the land and upheld an injunction forbidding the "Men's Fire" and protesters from entering the site just east of Caledonia.

The Men's Fire launched the action after being told by the HCCC that the HCCC "could not support you, but we will not hinder you." At the same meeting the HCCC instructed Detlor not to ap-



Six Nations Men's Fire spokesman Bill Monture gives directions to the estimated 15 men who involved in the "eviction" of lawyer Aaron Detlor Tuesday. The men forcibly removed Detlor from an office before telling him to leave. (Photos by Jim C Powless)

pear in court on the matter. Davey said the Men's Fire were upset when Detlor sent an email to the Avalon developer's lawyer saying the HCCC would not be intervening on the matter. Before Davey could answer questions Monture ordered him to stop talking.

Monture said he was acting on the direction of Cayuga Clanmother Janace Henry.

Henry could not be reached for comment; however sources said she denied being part of the incident.

Six Nations Police were on scene to "keep the peace" and escorted Detlor to his offices where he locked up and then drove to the Six Nations Police station to lay charges.

Several members of the Men's Fire followed Detlor and police inside the building when Detlor went inside to retrieve his belongings. They then ran to their vehicles to follow Detlor, saying they were going to follow Detlor to the edge of the Six Nations territory.

Detlor drove to the Six Nations Police Station. Police issued a statement saying they are investigating.

Six Nations Elected Councillor Helen Miller said she is very concerned about the "Men's Fire's" behaviour.

"They are getting to be a gang," said Coun. Miller. "They got them all out this to him, they can do it to anyone. They could do it to me. We can't be sup-



Six Nations Men's Fire spokesman Bill Monture after attempting to intimidate publisher Lynda Powless answers questions on why they forcibly removed Detlor saying he was of the opinion Detlor was not representing Six Nations people in the way Monture thought he should be. He cited no background for his allegation.

west. Do we have one too? I want to know on whose authority they kicked Aaron Detlor out of here.? He may not be one of my favorite people but I don't want to see anyone treated like that; I don't care who it is. No one deserves to be treated like that and the big question I have is, who gave them the authority to kick anyone out of our community?"

"He is a community member; if they can do

porting this kind of action. It's not right."

Detlor hails from the Mohawk Tyendinaga community and has opened a legal practice on Six Nations.

Coun. Miller brought up the issue at a Six Nations Band Council meeting last night.

"I believe council needs to make strong statement that we don't condone this barbaric behaviour," she told the Turtle Island

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