

AUGUST 11, 1970

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MCC Board Backs Kohn in Police Hassle

The board of directors of the Metropolitan Crime Commission is standing behind its managing director, Aaron M. Kohn, in his latest controversy with the police department.

MCC president James P. Schwartz said the board unanimously voted its "utmost confidence" in Kohn.

Police Supt. Joseph I. Giarrusso last week criticized Kohn's involvement in the current Traffic Court race between incumbent Judge David H. MacHauer and challenger Thomas L. Giraud, and asked Schwartz whether the MCC supported Kohn's actions.

Kohn supplied MacHauer with

police intelligence division memos charging that Giraud fixed a traffic ticket while acting as assistant city attorney.

Schwartz issued this statement adopted by the board:

1. We reject the allegation by Superintendent Joseph I. Giarrusso that the Metropolitan Crime Commission has any partisan political motives.

2. Matters made public by the MCC are approved by the MCC board of directors. This was true in the case of Mr. Kohn's Aug. 5 letter to Superintendent Giarrusso.

3. We have the utmost confidence in our managing director, Aaron Kohn, and resent attempts to impugn his char-

acter and abilities.

4. We are attempting to meet with Superintendent Giarrusso in an effort to maintain our relationship with the NOPD at a high and respected level. We have no intention of permitting this present controversy to becloud or inhibit the solving of problems of greater significance to our city.

5. We will make no further public statement on the present controversy until after our meeting with Superintendent Giarrusso and the Aug. 15 elections.