

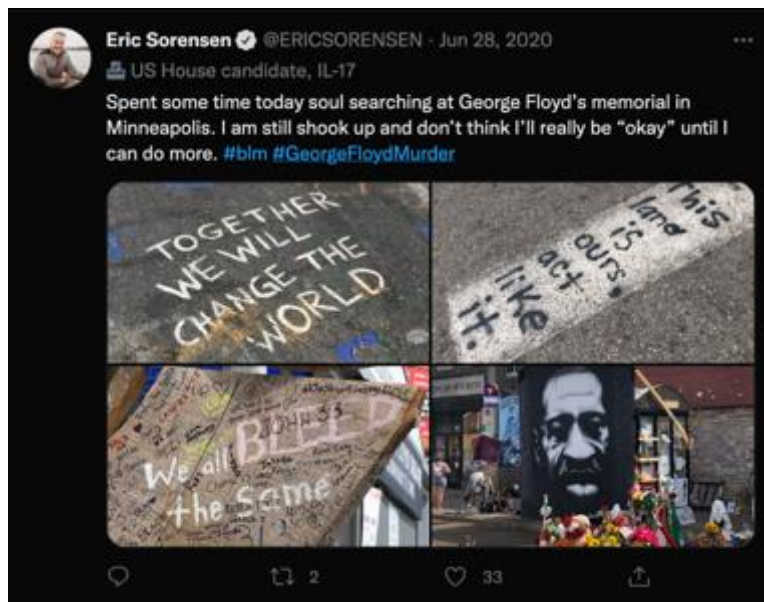
STATEMENT

Eric Sorenson Has Made Multiple Derogatory Comments About Police, Even Calling Them "Murderers", While Being Supported By Radical Defund The Police Groups, Refusing To Condemn Cashless Bail, And Opposing Mugshots Of Criminals.

Verification

In June 2020, Sorensen Went To Minneapolis To Visit George Floyd's Memorial And Do Some "Soul Searching." While There, Sorensen Shared A Photo From His Trip That Stated "Fuck The Police"

In June 2020, Sorensen Went To Minneapolis To Visit George Floyd's Memorial And Do Some "Soul Searching." "Spent some time today soul searching at George Floyd's memorial in Minneapolis. I am still shook up and don't think I'll really be 'okay' until I can do more. #blm #GeorgeFloydMurder" (Eric Sorensen, [Twitter](#), 6/28/20)



(Eric Sorensen, [Twitter](#), 6/28/20)

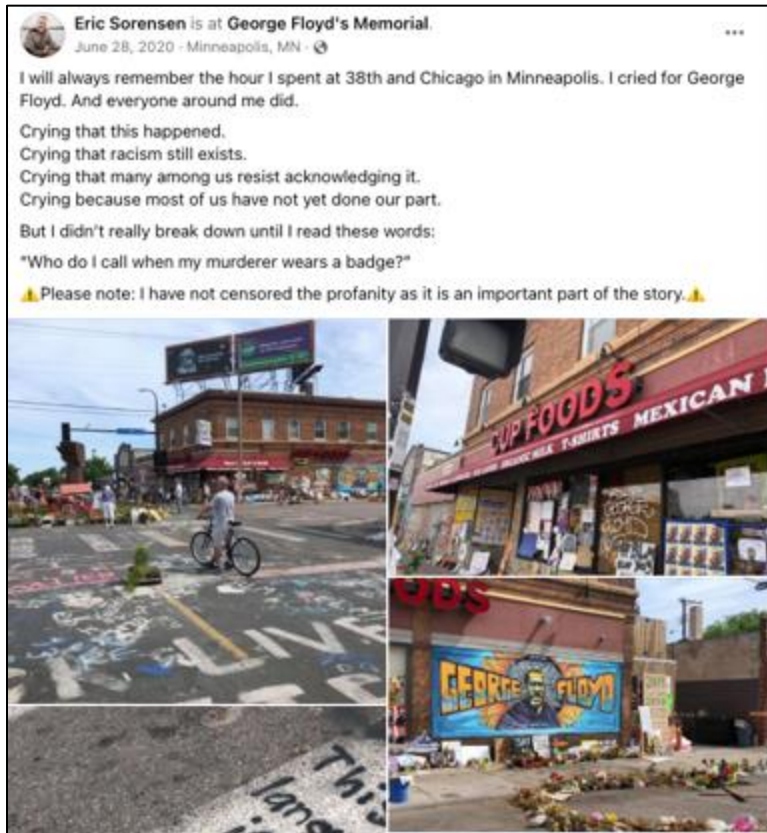
Sorensen Shared A Photo That Showed Graffiti That Said, "Fuck The Police." (Eric Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 6/28/20)



(Eric Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 6/28/20)

Sorensen Expressed Profound Emotional Sympathy With A Social Justice Advocate’s Claim, “Who Do I Call When My Murderer Wears A Badge,” And Is Indifferent To The Riots And Looting That Took Place During The Summer Of 2020 Because “Many Civil Rights Were Accomplished After Times Of Unrest”

On June 28, 2020, Sorensen Posted A Recap Of A Trip He Made To The Site Where George Floyd Was Murdered In Minneapolis And Claimed To “Break Down” After Reading “Who Do I Call When My Murderer Wears A Badge.” “I will always remember the hour I spent at 38th and Chicago in Minneapolis. I cried for George Floyd. And everyone around me did. Crying that this happened. Crying that racism still exists. Crying that many among us resist acknowledging it. Crying because most of us have not yet done our part. But I didn’t really break down until I read these words: ‘Who do I call when my murderer wears a badge?’ Please note: I have not censored the profanity as it is an important part of the story.” (Eric Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 6/28/20)



(Eric Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 6/28/20)

Responding To A Comment On The Post That Highlighted The Destruction, Sorensen Claimed, “Many Civil Rights Were Accomplished After Times Of Unrest.” (Eric Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 6/28/20)



(Eric Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 6/28/20)

In 2022, Sorensen Allegedly Had A Secret Facebook, On Which He Made Anti-Police Posts, Including Sharing A Graphic In Support Of Defund The Police

HEADLINE: “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)



(Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

In 2022, Sorensen’s Republican Opponent Claimed He Had A Secret Facebook That Had Anti-Police Posts. “A Democratic congressional nominee has a secret Facebook account that he's used in order to post anti-police content, the campaign for his Republican opponent alleged to

the Washington Examiner. Eric Sorensen, a former weatherman running as a Democrat to represent the 17th Congressional District in Illinois, has publicly espoused support for law enforcement in 2022. But according to the campaign for Republican nominee Esther Joy King, a military veteran running against Sorensen, the weatherman has privately hummed to a different tune in the past — using an alter-ego Facebook account to denigrate the men and women who serve.” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

Sorensen’s Campaign Did Not Respond To A Request For Comment. “Sorensen's campaign did not respond to a request for comment.” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

Sorensen Was Alleged To Have A Facebook Account Under The Name Cire Nesneros, Which Is His Name Backwards. “Sorensen operates a Facebook account named Cire Nesneros, according to King's campaign, which is the nominee's name spelled backward. That account has a profile picture depicting Sorensen and a bio stating, ‘Broadcast weather/climate 1999-2021. Running to become first Meteorologist in Congress since 1976,’ according to a Washington Examiner review on Friday.” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

The Cire Nesneros Account Posted A Graphic Supporting The Defund The Police Movement. “In June 2020, ‘Cire Nesneros’ posted a graphic supporting the Defund the Police movement, according to a post obtained by the Washington Examiner.” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

The Cire Nesneros Account Posted Images Of Graffiti He Observed On A Hike, Which Included Graffiti Stating “ACAB,” Shorthand For All Cops Are Bastards, Next To “Fascist Pig.” “Later in February 2021, Cire Nesneros posted images of graffiti he observed on a hike, according to another post obtained by the Washington Examiner. The phrase ‘ACAB,’ which stands for the political slogan ‘All Cops Are B*****,’ was painted in blue next to the phrase ‘Fascist Pig.’” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

The Cire Nesneros Account Captioned The Photos Claiming To Have A Great Hike In Moline And Noted The “Colorful Graffiti.” “‘What a great hike on Sylvan Island in Moline,’ wrote Cire Nesneros. ‘Beautiful scenery and some spectacularly colorful graffiti.’” (Gabe Kaminsky, “Democratic Hopeful Posted Anti-Police Content On Secret Facebook Account, Campaign Alleges,” [Washington Examiner](#), 11/4/22)

The Account Appears To Be Sorensen’s With Family And Co-Worker’s Tagging Him In Posts As That Account

In December 2022, The Cire Nesneros Account Changed Its Profile Picture To A Dog That Appears To Be Named Petey. (Cire Nesneros, [Facebook](#), 12/13/22)



(Cire Nesneros, [Facebook](#), 12/13/22)

Eric Sorensen Has Tweeted About Being A Dog Named Petey’s Dad. (Eric Sorensen, [Twitter](#), 10/12/22)



(Eric Sorensen, [Twitter](#), 10/12/22)

Eric Sorensen Is Regularly Tagged As “Cire Nesneros” In Instagram Photos From Others’ Accounts. ([Facebook](#), Accessed: 6/28/23)



([Facebook](#), Accessed: 6/28/23)

A Facebook Account Named “Nwahs Skrats” (Shawn Starks Backwards) Tagged Cire Nesneros In A Photo Of Him And Shawn Starks. (Nwahs Skrats, [Facebook](#), 5/17/18)



(Nwahs Skrats, [Facebook](#), 5/17/18)

Mike Sorensen Tagged Cire Nesneros And Nwahs Skrats In A Photo Of Sorensen. (Mike Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 7/7/13)



(Mike Sorensen, [Facebook](#), 7/7/13)

Angie Sharp Tagged Cire Nesneros In A Photo That Included Sorensen.

- **NOTE:** Sharp is a [former news anchor](#) for WQAD, where Sorensen worked prior to coming to Congress.



(Angie Sharp, [Facebook](#), 4/10/20)

As Crime Was Rising In Central And Western Illinois Communities, Sorensen Was Endorsed By And Took \$14,000 From Groups Pushing To Defund The Police

Headline: “Gun Crimes Spiked In Bloomington Last Year” (Howard Packowitz, “Gun Crimes Spiked In Bloomington Last Year,” [News 25 Now](#), 5/15/23)



(Howard PACkowitz, “Gun crimes spiked in Bloomington last year,” [News 25 Now](#), 5/15/23)

In 2022, There Was An 11% Rise In Motor Vehicle Thefts In Bloomington. “There was an 11% rise in motor vehicle thefts, from 76 to 84.” (Howard Packowitz, “Gun Crimes Spiked In Bloomington Last Year,” [News 25 Now](#), 5/15/23)

In 2022, There Was A 114% Rise In Animal Cruelty Cases In Bloomington. “The yearly data also showed a 29% drop in sex offenses, from 104 cases to 74, but a 114% spike in animal cruelty cases, from seven to 15.” (Howard Packowitz, “Gun Crimes Spiked In Bloomington Last Year,” [News 25 Now](#), 5/15/23)

In 2022, Bloomington Had A 25% Increase In Homicides And A 50% Increase In Stolen Property Offenses. (Howard Packowitz, “Gun Crimes Spiked In Bloomington Last Year,” [News 25 Now](#), 5/15/23)



(Howard Packowitz, "Gun Crimes Spiked In Bloomington Last Year," [News 25 Now](#), 5/15/23)

HEADLINE: "Violent Crime In Peoria Up, Shooting Incident Trend Down According To 2022 Report" (Sean Lisitza, "Violent Crime In Peoria Up, Shooting Incident Trend Down According To 2022 Report," [Central Illinois Proud](#), 4/6/23)



(Sean Lisitza, "Violent Crime In Peoria Up, Shooting Incident Trend Down According To 2022 Report," [Central Illinois Proud](#), 4/6/23)

In 2022, Crime In Peoria Rose By 4% And Violent Crime Rose By 11%. "According to the 2022 Peoria Police Department Annual Report, the total amount of crime in Peoria in 2022 is up 4% compared to 2021. The total amount of crime was reported by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Violent crimes, including homicides and aggravated assault, went up 11% in 2022. Going from 1,185 violent crimes in 2021 to 1,317 violent crimes in 2022." (Sean Lisitza, "Violent Crime In Peoria Up, Shooting Incident Trend Down According To 2022 Report," [Central Illinois Proud](#), 4/6/23)

In 2022, There Was A 10% Increase In Robbery, A 12% Increase In Property Crimes And An 81% Increase In Auto Thefts In Rockford. "ROCKFORD, Ill. (WIFR) - Newly released crime statistics from the Rockford Police Department show a slight decrease in year-to-date violent crimes compared to the same time last year, despite a more than 80% increase in auto thefts. According to RockStat numbers from January to July 2022, violent crimes saw a 2% decrease, shots fired decreased by 7%, aggravated assaults decreased by 3% and domestic-related violent crime decreased by nearly 5%, compared to the same time frame in 2021. Rockford police saw a 5% increase in guns recovered, a 10% increase in reports of robbery, a 12% increase in property crimes and an 81% increase in auto thefts." (WIFR Newsroom, "Rockford Crime Stats: Violent Crimes Down Slightly, Auto Thefts Rise," [WIFR](#), 8/26/22)

In 2023, The Rock Island Police Department Warned Friday That Vehicle Thefts And Burglaries Were On The Rise. "The Rock Island Police Department warned Friday that vehicle thefts and burglaries are on the rise." (Anthony Watt, "Rock Island Police: Vehicle Thefts And Burglaries On The Rise," [Quad Cities Times](#), 6/7/23)

In 2022, Eric Sorensen Was Endorsed By Planned Parenthood. ("Meet Our Endorsed Sexual And Reproductive Health Champions!," [Planned Parenthood Action Fund](#), Accessed: 6/14/23)

In 2022, Eric Sorensen Was Endorsed By NARAL. (Eric Sorensen, [Twitter](#), 9/27/22)



(Eric Sorensen, [Twitter](#), 9/27/22)

In 2022, Sorensen Was Endorsed By Move On. (“2022 MoveOn-Endorsed Candidates,” [Move On](#), Accessed: 6/14/23)

In 2022, Sorensen Was Endorsed By Sierra Club. (“Sierra Club Endorsements,” [Sierra Club](#), Accessed Via Wayback: 11/10/22)

Sorensen Took \$14,000 From Move On, NARAL, Planned Parenthood, And Sierra Club. ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed: 6/14/23)

| Contributor | Recipient | Date | Amount |
|--|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| MoveOn.Org Political Action | Eric Sorensen for Illinois | 10/12/22 | \$5,000.00 |
| NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC | Eric Sorensen for Illinois | 9/5/22 | \$2,500.00 |
| Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc PAC | Eric Sorensen for Illinois | 10/31/22 | \$2,500.00 |
| Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc PAC | Eric Sorensen for Illinois | 9/29/22 | \$2,500.00 |
| Sierra Club Political Committee | Eric Sorensen for Illinois | 11/7/22 | \$1,500.00 |
| | | TOTAL: | \$14,000.00 |

([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed: 6/14/23)

Planned Parenthood Action Fund Supported Defunding The Police. “Planned Parenthood Action Fund — in solidarity with patients, staff, and supporters — stands with the Movement for Black Lives’ call to defund the police. Defunding the police means investing less in militarizing police forces and investing more in community-based solutions, education, and health care.” (“Defunding The Police: What It Means And Why Planned Parenthood Supports It,” [Planned Parenthood Action Fund](#), 7/9/20)

NARAL Supported Defunding The Police. “NARAL Pro-Choice America supports the demands of the Movement for Black Lives, including defunding the police and investing in Black communities, which are a response to hundreds of years of systemic oppression and the failure of reforms to address urgent needs and injustices. Budgets reflect our priorities. As such, the call to defund the police is also a call for investment in Black communities—in urgent needs that are currently

underfunded, like access to healthcare, education, social services, and more. Through this investment, we can work to make sure every person, every parent, and every family is able to thrive.” (“Racial Justice,” [NARAL](#), Accessed: 09/02/20)

Move On Supported Defunding The Police. “In defense of Black life, we are demanding that the local government defund the police, that payments to family members come from police pensions, transparency and communications with the families, and for the police stand down against protestors. #BlackLivesMatter” (Move On, [Twitter](#), 6/5/20)



(Move On, [Twitter](#), 6/5/20)

Sierra Club Supported Defunding The Police. “The Sierra Club is committed to meeting this moment. We mobilized our members and staff to take part in massive Juneteenth rallies across the country. We added our voices to support the Movement for Black Lives’s demands: Defund the police, invest in Black communities, and get Donald Trump out of office. The board officially signed on to their platform late last week.” (Ramón Cruz, “A Movement Moment,” [Sierra Club](#), 6/23/20)

- “Like so much in this moment, these demands might seem unprecedented or radical. (Although I’m sure we can all get behind the last one). Where did this push to defund the police come from? And why is the Sierra Club supporting it?” (Ramón Cruz, “A Movement Moment,” [Sierra Club](#), 6/23/20)

AUDIO: On June 1, 2024, Sorensen Stated That He Is Against Releasing Mugshots To The Public Once People Are Arrested “Because It Produces This Stereotype That Certain People Are Doing Certain Crimes.” SORENSEN: “I’ve always, when I was working in T.V., I hated—I despised it when the T.V. stations—when they show like mugshots on T.V., I’m like if the person is caught and the person is actually in custody, then you know what, we don’t need to see the mugshot of the person because it produces this stereotype that certain people are doing certain crimes and that doesn’t help us either. You know, so, I’ve kinda of—you know when I was at channel thirteen and channel eight [INAUDIBLE]. We gotta stop doing that.” (Eric Sorensen At A Pride Event, [Clipped](#), 6.1.24) minute 5:00-5:30