

**02.12.2025, BETH DAVIS-KAVELMAN'S LETTER TO THE LINCOLN DAILY NEWS EDITOR UNDER THE "WHERE THEY STAND" SECTION AND TO THE NEW HERALD NEWS EDITOR UNDER "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR" SECTION  
**HAPPY ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S 216<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!****

**MY RESPONSE/EXPLANATION TO THE NEGATIVE STATEMENTS MADE RE: MY MAYORAL 2025 CANDIDACY  
AND MY PENDING LAWSUIT AGAINST THE CITY OF LINCOLN, ILLINOIS**

Recently, there have been more negative comments made by Mayor Tracy Welch and Alderman Kevin Bateman and their friends about me and the pending Federal lawsuit we are engaged in. These two individuals are stating I am suing the City of Lincoln. The initial and continued focus of the lawsuit is against Mayor Tracy Welch and Alderman Kevin Bateman for their wrongful words and actions against me while employed by the City of Lincoln as City Administrator and then later while employed by the County. Mayor Welch and Alderman Bateman are trying to hide behind the word "City" in the lawsuit name to include others from the Lincoln City Council to cover up/dilute their own unlawful workplace behaviors and the wrongful statements made against me to malign my good character and sincere love for Lincoln and its Residents. These individuals cited are the persons posting slanderous (libel) statements about me while they, themselves, know very well they are the wrong doers that led to my filing of the City lawsuit four (4) years ago.

It has been stated by both Tracy and Kevin that the other mayoral candidate and I are only seeking the office of Mayor to mete out our vengeance. I assure you, that is not the case with me. I am standing up for the Citizens and Businessowners of Lincoln who have yet to see through the deception of these two individuals. My husband, Tom, and I have prayed about the false public accusations made on social media and in person intended to damage my reputation. However, since the individuals' names are listed in the lawsuit, I have been given the "go ahead" from my attorney to individually call out the two main individuals who have maligned my reputation within the community as a result of their own deceitful actions.

The importance of this Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 lawsuit was designed nationally to protect every Citizen and their Children's futures. Since it is a Federal suit, we are required to list an "entity" rather than the individuals we are suing. Mayor Tracy Welch and his buddies need to know when you break the law there will be serious consequences. I don't want anyone to ever be subjected to their misconduct and unlawful behaviors: negative discrimination, slander, and libel that are still being thrust on me by these individuals on social media and in person. If my lawsuit does not stop this illegal behavior now for the betterment of our community, it will continue to be practiced by everyone who thinks s/he can do whatever s/he wants to brandish an employee and ostracize them from a community via public ridicule and humiliation. These people need to acquire: knowledge of the law, municipal governmental proper protocol, ethics, scruples, and respect for others and the law. Do we really need this type of "leadership" in our community? Would you consider these types of persons role models for your Children?

God has bestowed all of us with special gifts and it is up to us to choose how we use those gifts in the battle between truth and deception. I choose to use my gifts for good and positive initiatives to benefit all of us in this great city. I may never get anything out of this other than knowing I said, "enough is enough," and stood up to the bullyism and lies presently at City Hall, but if that will help change the attitude of others in the City, then I have achieved something good for all of us. And, with a collaborative effort on all our parts, we can make Lincoln thrive again by combatting the multiple external negatives being thrust in our direction. No Person deserves to be frightened in one's own home, neighborhood, schools, workplace, or while out and about in our city. This treatment and disrespect cannot be tolerated any longer. That is why I am suing these individuals.

I believe I am a team player who, once again, can and have collectively worked with all Citizens to bring back the good traits of our city and help our most vulnerable. Remember, I have been involved with Lincoln City, Logan County, Illinois State, and Federal law concurring for over 40 years in my governmental career, and have experience in bringing unwilling parties together to achieve cooperation and a peaceful outcome for all. If you would like to be a part of that team effort, please contact me at: [bethkavelman.for.mayor@gmail.com](mailto:bethkavelman.for.mayor@gmail.com), or if you have further questions.

I am also asking you, respectfully, to please vote for me for Mayor on or before February 25, 2025, for a Third Term to help our City Alderpersons clean up the corruption and move our city back to treating everyone with respect and equal treatment for all, as well as using common sense in our day-to-day operations and spending. I promise I will work hard for you every day as Mayor of Lincoln, and together, we will restore the open and honest City of Lincoln government we used to know.

Thank You and God Bless You.

Elizabeth Ann (Beth) Davis-Kavelman for Mayor 2025