

Frank R. Dillman  
2273 County Road 54 W  
Notasulga, AL 36866

RETURN RECEIPT

October 1, 2020

Louis Maxwell  
Chair Macon County Commission  
101 E. Rosa Parks Avenue  
Tuskegee, AL 36083

Dear Chairman Maxwell,

This letter is a corrected copy of my letter I mailed you on September 24, 2020.  
Please disregard that letter.

DECLARATION OF FACTS

Below are facts from events that transpired in the Annex on or about between 4:50 p.m. and 5:02 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020, moments before the County Commission work session was to convene at 5 p.m. AND moments before the Friday, September 18, 2020 continuation meeting.

1. While I was setting up my tripod, cell phone camera, and external battery preparing to stream the meeting, you entered the Annex, the recurring location of county meetings for years, on or about 4:50 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020 and told me I could not stream the meeting or move chairs.
2. Wearing my mask, I showed you with my tape measure I was over 6' feet away from the nearest person in the room. You also stated that "only the county" will stream the meetings.
3. I said "call the Sheriff", you did.
4. I stayed seated and continued setting up my equipment in front of one of two makeshift signs that read "NOTICE The Macon County Commission Meetings will be live screamed [sic] on Face Book [sic] (Louis Maxwell) by the Commission's Designee. Due to Covid 19 and the number of requests the Commission's designated Scream [sic] is only allowed at this time."
5. You were instructing the regularly attended county elected public servants and county employees who have been attending meetings throughout the entire Covid 19 episode to where they may sit in your new seating policy to the back 1/3 of the chamber.
6. Mr. Gandy seemed confused as to a new policy and explained to you he moved his chair to be closer. You instructed him to put the chair where it had been.
7. At this time, in addition to the Revenue Commissioner, others in attendance included all commissioners, J. D. Smith County Engineer, Gertrude Benjamin a county employee, Erika Collins, the designated county employee to stream county meetings, Frank Lee County EMA Director, and Bridgett Gray County Attorney. I was the only non-public servant or county employee in attendance.
8. On or about 5:00 p.m., Deputy Karl Kennebrew arrived upon your request. From the dais, you immediately began telling him I moved a chair and was streaming the meeting, that "the chair

sets the rules” for the meetings, and if Mr. Dillman doesn’t comply “move him out...he has to leave”; the deputy was not visible to me at this time.

9. When you finished, Deputy Kennebrew approached you at the dais and the two of you spoke privately, with Commissioner Robinson appearing to be listening, for less or about 30 seconds.
10. Kennebrew approached me asking to speak with me outside. I said “sure” and peacefully left the chamber leaving my phone still streaming the meeting facing the commission.
11. Outside the Annex, you, the County Attorney, and Deputy Kennebrew spoke privately.
12. You re-entered the Annex.
13. About 30 minutes after being asked to step outside, I re-entered the Annex followed by Kennebrew.
14. I noticed someone had tampered with my cell phone. The phone camera direction had been moved from the commission to the right wall.
15. I asked “who touched my phone,” you replied you had.
16. Prior to being escorted from the chamber on or about 5:02 p.m., I turned and addressed you saying, we need a “chairman not a ruler” and that “you’re streaming the meetings to your personal Facebook page which has your campaigning.”
17. The commissioners, county attorney, and all others in the chamber remained silent while you stated your rules and had me ejected from a Macon County public meeting for my refusal to not stream the meeting.
18. I did not return to this meeting or the following General Session at 6 p.m. the same evening.

**September 18, 2020 County Commission meeting scheduled for 9 a.m.**

1. About 8:45 a.m. I arrived and sat in a chair along the left wall and began setting up my phone, tripod, and external battery to stream the meeting.
2. You stated I could not stream the meeting.
3. Why? I asked.
4. You replied, inasmuch as “You were correct to point out” during the Monday, September 14, 2020 meeting that “we are opponents for office” and until “this is settled... no one will stream meetings.”
5. I stated “I will stream” and did for the entire budget meeting while contributing to the meeting.
6. The county’s new makeshift signs posted about the chamber had their mis-spelling corrected from “screaming” to “streaming”, however, your rule remained “only the county can stream the meetings” to Louis Maxwell (highlighted yellow text) Face book [sic] page.
7. You stated upon convening the budget meeting that Mr. Dillman had “refused to obey my rules” to not stream the meeting. You continued, not wanting to disrupt the meeting that “we” will address this later.
8. Again, the commissioners, less Miles Robinson, county attorney, and all others in the chamber remained silent while you stated your rules.

This statement of facts is for your review. Your reply, if you wish, is expected within five days of your receipt of this letter at Frank Dillman, 2273 County Road 54 West, Notasulga, AL 36866

Best,

Frank Dillman