

**FRIENDS OF MEL THOMPSON, INC.  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **THOMPSON SUES FOR BALLOT ACCESS**

**September 27<sup>TH</sup> 2007**

**Breaking his silence on the issue of how his name was removed from the ballot, Mel Thompson today announced that he has filed a Federal law suit in Bridgeport against multiple parties including Town Clerk Laura Wabno for violating his civil rights. The suit was sparked by Thompson's name being removed from the ballot due to petition forms not being notarized prior to being sent into the Secretary of the States Office by Wabno. Thompson claims this was planed and that he and all other petitioning candidates were told by Wabno that she would notarize the petitions. Add to this that Wabno illegally held the petitions for 34 days and you have a situation that is clearly questionable.**

**"There was no reason for this only people who were petitioning candidates were singled out" stated Thompson.**

**The suit seeks damages for civil rights violations and Thompson plans to file a motion to prevent his name from being removed from the ballot within a few days. "I have until October 23<sup>rd</sup> and well before then we are going to move to right this wrong".**

**Thompson alleges in his suit that a conspiracy between Republican operatives, Mayor Staffieri and Republican Town Clerk Laura Wabno was put into place to intimidate and harass and Thompson into giving up his bid to become Derby's black Mayor and first black elected official in Derby's 337 year history.**

**"It is time for every person to have a chance and these thugs made this into a racial issue when all I wanted to do was to discuss issues".**

**"I do not believe that Derby is a racist City but like all places we have people who share views that are offensive but in this case it just happened to be political leaders and that is a shame". A copy of the suit is on my campaign site.**

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