

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



MICHAEL J. WILDES

CITY HALL  
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07631  
(201) 871-6666

March 6, 2009

Michael J. Darcy, CAE  
Assistant Executive Director  
New Jersey State League of Municipalities  
222 West State Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

Dear Mr. Darcy,

I am enclosing the winning entry for the Louis Bay 2<sup>nd</sup> Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition for high school Juniors and Seniors for the City of Englewood.

Please advise as to the next step in the competition.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Wildes", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MICHAEL WILDES  
MAYOR

THE LOUIS BAY 2ND  
FUTURE MUNICIPAL LEADERS  
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

NAME Oshane Wint PHONE 551-265-4327  
ADDRESS 69 Park avenue  
CITY Englewood STATE New Jersey ZIP 07631  
PHONE NUMBER 201-227-0611 E-MAIL ShaneWint@C10L.com  
MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH YOU RESIDE Englewood  
CURRENT SCHOOL Diagh Marrow High School GRADE ATTENDING 11  
COLLEGES OR SCHOOLS TO WHICH YOU MAY APPLY Penn State University,  
Rutgers University and Ramapo College  
AREA OF MUNICIPAL GOVT/ADMINISTRATION THAT INTERESTS YOU  
Senatorial Position

Write an essay on the theme "What My Mayor and Governing Body Do Best". Your essay should be based on your perceptions and experiences with your municipality's local government. The essay should consider the public contributions of your mayor and governing body.

Length: Approximately 500 words

Deadline: Essays must be submitted to your hometown mayor by March 13, 2009.

Judging Criteria:

- Judging is based solely on the essay. Please do not include any other information such as transcripts and references.
- Appropriateness of theme
- Effective articulation of theme
- Originality
- Technical composition, spelling, and syntax.

Return completed application and essay to your hometown mayor's office.

(Over)

### **WHAT MY MAYOR AND GOVERNING BODY DO BEST**

Life has its predictions and satisfactions that are only made possible by their creators. Creators' give idealize judgments and they also give a certain embellishment concerning the welfare of society. While it is clear that our governing body is not the creator, it is most evident that they help to create a safe and welcoming environment for natives and immigrants who call this great city home. Although I have never met Mayor Michael Wildes personally, I must say that based on information gathered through news clippings, observing the way things get done in Englewood and just talking with my neighbors I get the impression that the mayor has the people's best interest at heart. In essence he is looking to restore "Englewood".

Mayor Michael Wildes is known for his meticulous judgments; he is an individual who is venerated throughout society and also someone who has overwhelming concerns for our society. Mayor Wildes is an effective leader, as he always tries to find solutions to problems. He expresses his gratitude to others and he portrays his leadership qualities tremendously in every way possible. As a new immigrant to the city of Englewood, I can already discern a couple of notable undertakings spearheaded by Mayor Wildes. The first and most distinguishing is his policy on immigration. The next and by no means less important is the ever concerning problem of housing. These two issues can be problematic to most diligent leaders; nonetheless I can proudly attest that my mayor has a good handle on these issues.



Oshane Wint  
Dwight Marrow High School

As our leaders search for creative ways to secure our nation, many citizens in Englewood look to Mayor Wildes to maintain a balance between a safe community and the preservation of civil rights. Mayor Wildes and other mayors from around the country recently convened with the U.S Immigration and Custom Enforcement Bureau (ICE), to negotiate terms under which our local police force would be deputized to help enforce immigration laws and help keep our nation safe. Although the move to secure our nation is a step in the right direction, Mayor Wildes wisely rejected the idea. His rejection was based on the premise that immigration is a national issue and it would make better sense to deal with it on that level. Mayor Wildes and other mayors around New Jersey are adamant that if local police are placed in a position of immigration enforcers, then undocumented immigrants would develop distrust for local police and would not report crimes. According to Mayor Wildes, such a move would force immigrant communities into the shadows and diminish our police capacity to solve crime. In addition Mayor Wildes is still opposing such a move to deputize our local officers as it infringes on the civil rights of immigrants.

In addition to his policies on immigration, Mayor Wildes and our local city government are also seeking to improve housing problems in our city. Like most cities with a blooming immigrant population, Englewood is facing a problem of overcrowded and unsafe homes. To help tackle this problem, the mayor has made home inspections a priority. This move seems to have isolated some of our neighbors. Some Latino immigrants have expressed sentiments that they have been the primary target of most home inspections. They view these inspections as “intrusive and bordered on civil

Oshane Wint  
Dwight Marrow High School

rights violations.” To help alleviate the problem and maintain a sense of trust in municipal officials, Mayor Wildes has created a housing task force to look into the claim that housing officials specifically targeted Latinos. The mayor is concerned and has asked this task force to review treatment of Latino immigrants during housing inspections.

Mayor Michael Wildes is well on his way to improving community and cultural issues in Englewood. He has taken a somewhat unpopular to view to welcome our newest residents through his policies on immigration. He has also demonstrated that he has the vision to take Englewood forward by taking well calculated risks and by listening to the people he represents.