

Statement from William Hosea, chair of the Monroe County Black Democratic Caucus on Oct. 19, 2021

Approximately 14 seconds into this video notice Monroe County Commissioner Lee Jones appears to be openly mocking the person who's speaking. The target of her contemptuous, disdain is Monroe County Clerk Nicole Browne.

Clerk Browne has appeared before the county commissioners for several months making a sustained request for more building space to effectively supervise and ensure the integrity of elections in Monroe County.

In light of the national effort to cancel the right to vote, particularly for people of color, Commissioner Jones' dismissive attitude is unacceptable. Our right to vote is facing the most serious threat since passage of the voting rights act of 1965.

Clerk Browne has made an honest, serious, good faith request and we expect an honest, serious, good faith response from our county commissioners. Instead, what we witnessed in that video is someone who does not take my right to vote as being important.

Citizens of Monroe County deserve better.