

I'm not sure where to start or how to even start telling what happened to my family and I. In 2011, my family had encountered an event that left us wondering if we were ever going to feel safe in our home again.

My parents moved to rural Aurora back in the 90's because they thought the city was getting too crowded and they wanted to get away from the city and raise their children in a safer environment.

In 2011, we had some neighbor's that moved in a few houses away. At first, we did not think much of it, but things started happening that were not normal.

The first incident that happened was when I went to go get the mail on a Saturday. Someone had stuffed the mailbox with newspaper and try to light it on fire. The mailbox had also been shot at and had holes. I called the non-emergency phone number and tried to make a report. The person I spoke with said, the Sheriff would call me and talk with me about it. I did receive a call from the Sheriff that day. However, what he told me is that because I did not see who did it, he would not be able to do anything about it.

Over the next few weeks, more incidents happened. The mailbox continued to be vandalize. Our dog became very ill, and was vomiting blood. My brother took him to the Veterinary and they said he had been poisoned. They said it looks like someone dowsed some raw meat in rat poison and fed it to the dog.

We became scared and unable to sleep at night because we thought whoever did this might try something else. After the dog died, more incidents happened. A few days later, we woke up to hate graffiti written on the street in front of our house. They wrote, White Power, with Nazi signs and had spray painted onto the street, so it was hard to remove. The graffiti was left for several weeks, as I tried to get the Sheriff to come out and look at it. I wanted him to take a report, but when I called he stated because I did not see who did it, he could not do anything about. I finally got a hold of Marion County Services, and reported it to them. They had someone come out and pave over the graffiti.

How I realize that it was the neighbor, was one evening my family was outside sitting on the porch. A group of them drove by in their truck flying the confederate flag looking at us, making sure that we saw them. We were scared and could not sleep at night. My father and brothers would stay up late to make sure that nothing happened while we were sleeping. This terror continue for a while. Then it just stopped. It was because those people moved away. I felt scared for my family's safety. I felt that we did not get the help we needed because the Sheriff did not take our concerns seriously. I hope something like this does not happen again.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,
Magcha.