

**Brzeczek won't stay to be fired: 'I won't work a day' for Harold ...**

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# Brzeczek won't stay to be fired

## 'I won't work a day' for Harold Washington, he vows

By Lynn Emmerman  
and Philip Wattley

**RICHARD BRZECZEK** said Thursday he will resign as police superintendent by inauguration day if U.S. Rep. Harold Washington is elected mayor.

"I won't work a day for that man. He won't have a chance to fire me; I'll quit," Brzeczek said in an interview in his office, referring to Washington's statements that he would fire him.

Brzeczek said he would consider serving under Republican mayoral candidate Bernard Epton, but he said that Epton had little chance of beating Washington.

Epton said Thursday that he would "wait to hear Brzeczek's side of the story" on

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- Bernard Epton, GOP mayoral nominee, said Thursday that Republican National Committee representatives had offered him campaign funds and workers. Page 4.
  - Dr. Hugo Muriel, city health commissioner, announces his resignation, "effective on the last day of Mayor Byrne's term." Page 4.
  - Harold Washington can become mayor by continuing to refuse to play Machine politics and by taking his case to the people. Vernon Jarrett, in Perspective.

recent allegations that the department altered crime statistics before deciding whether the he should be replaced.

**BRZECZEK DECLINED** to suggest a replacement for himself, urging only that a candidate be chosen from within the police department.

"No matter who the superintendent is

under Washington, this department will be run by three men: Jesse Jackson, Renault Robinson and Howard Saffold. They all worked for his campaign, but none of them has any rational, reasonable managerial office," he said.

Renault Robinson is executive director of

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# Brzeczek

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the Afro-American Police League, Saffold is the organization's president and Jesse Jackson heads Operation PUSH. All were active in Washington's campaign.

Washington, however, said Thursday he had no plans to name Robinson police superintendent, and Robinson echoed his statement, saying he has no plans to seek the job.

"He [Robinson] doesn't have the command experience for that," Washington said in a taping of "The Last Word," which will air at 11 p.m. Friday on WLS-TV [Channel 7]. "I don't think he'd be interested in it. I never considered it."

AT A PRESS conference, Brzeczek bristled when asked whether Robinson should be considered.

"No," he nearly shouted, as some 100 police commanders attending the press conference at police headquarters burst into applause.

"Renault Robinson is a disgrace to the Chicago Police Department, and a disgrace to his uniform," Brzeczek said. "He has tried to undo the good of this organization. He hasn't demonstrated one single bit of competence. He's an opportunist fraud."

Robinson, a police officer who has been on leave without pay from the police department since May 11, 1974, won a 1970 discrimination suit against the department on Sept. 23, 1977. He is a member of the Chicago Housing Authority board and has been an outspoken critic of former board chairman Charles Swibel, an ally of Mayor Jane Byrne.

Washington praised Robinson for performing "a tremendous service for this country," saying that Robinson's suit against the police department "brought the attention of the American people to the fact that in Chicago there existed rampant discrimination against blacks, Hispanics and women in the Chicago Police Department."

**BRZECZEK REMAINED** unrepentant about the incident that prompted Washington's wrath—his taping of a commercial promoting Byrne's re-election bid.

He said, only half in jest, that the commercial was the incident he would like to be remembered for if he steps down. Brzeczek said he was the only person in the mayor's Cabinet "to stand up and be counted."

Brzeczek, a lawyer, said he planned to join a Chicago law firm after he stepped down. But he also hinted that he may pursue a political career.



Tribune photo by Frank Henos

Police Supt. Richard J. Brzeczek announcing that he will resign if Harold Washington is elected mayor. He said that if he quits, he hopes a replacement will come from within the department, adding, "We don't need any carpetbaggers."