

## Resident fuming over striker abuse, idle police

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David Chung says he was just trying to do what Mayor David Miller said to do -- throw out his trash legally.

That's why Chung, 61, and his son took their garbage to a transfer station Tuesday morning but when striking CUPE workers told the retired high school teacher he had to wait to throw out his trash -- 15 minutes for every person in line in front of him -- he refused and tried to cross the picket lines at the Scarborough transfer station.

"I've got a life," Chung told the Sun yesterday. "I did the math and said, 'That means I've got to be here for two hours,' so I took a stand."

A Global News camera captured the ensuing tussle that saw Chung knocked down, picked up and pushed back.

Chung is angry police at the scene didn't charge the pickets that tackled him and he's even angrier Miller hasn't sought a court injunction to allow residents to toss their garbage in a timely manner without getting jumped.

"No one should have to put up with this," Chung said. "Law-abiding citizens doing what they've been told should not take this kind of abuse."

"I have a right to dump my garbage, that's what David Miller tells us ... (The union) cannot hold us hostage."

Police said they are investigating two cases involving incidents at picket lines on Tuesday, one in 12 Division and one in 52 Division, both involving strikers that may have been injured.

Const. Tony Vella stressed keeping the peace is the main priority.

"If there's a criminal incident ... we will definitely investigate ... If charges are warranted we'll lay the necessary charges," he said. "We can't take sides so we take a neutral perspective and maintain peace and order."

CUPE spokesman Pat Daley said the union discourages people from trying to cross the picket lines.

"But if they do, we don't advise our members to get into a confrontation. In fact, we advise them not to get into a confrontation," she said.

Mark Ferguson, president of CUPE Local 416, said he understands that residents are frustrated by the strike and the long lines.

But yesterday, the union told the Sun residents will not be forced to wait a set amount of time to dump their garbage -- but there may be waits depending on the amount of people at a transfer station at any given time.

The union stressed protocols are always subject to change.

Joe Pennachetti, Toronto's top bureaucrat, said the city has not sought a court injunction to open up access to the city's transfer stations.

"At this point in time, we feel that there is sufficient ebb and flow and enough protocol in place that provides us with the access we need," he said.

"No (court injunction) process has been started, but that doesn't mean that it might not happen in the future."