



LEAGUE OF UNITED
LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS
COUNCIL #340

Darryl Morin Remarks to Milwaukee Fire & Police Commission

November 20, 2018

Chairwoman Cabrera, distinguished members of this commission, Executive Director Butler, representatives of the Milwaukee Police and Fire Department, and most importantly, the people of the great city of Milwaukee, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today. I wish to thank you all for your serious consideration of this very important subject.

We were all here a little over a year ago to discuss the serious and negative impact of changes made under the previous Milwaukee Police Department administration. There were inaccurate claims and changes made to the standard operating procedure, that we argued against. Ultimately, our arguments were upheld by both the people of Milwaukee, federal courts across the country, and by you, as the policy was returned to its original form.

As mentioned, my name is Darryl Morin and due to the limited time I had to prepare for today's hearing, today I speak as the Past LULAC National Vice President-Midwest Region and on behalf of LULAC Council #340.

We remain committed to working with you, the fine men and women of the Milwaukee Police Department who are upholding their sworn oaths to provide equal protection under the law. We also will continue to work with federal, state, county, local agencies and social service organizations and most importantly, the



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residents of Milwaukee to improve public safety in every neighborhood, on every street corner, in every alley of our city.

I believe we all recognize that both proactive and reactive measures will need to be implemented if we are to make this a reality. At the heart of the issue, is the trust that must exist between our law enforcement officials and the men, women and children of our “one community.” And if this is to exist, it is important that every person, regardless of color, regardless of language, regardless of religion, regardless of sexual orientation, and regardless of the place of their nativity, be assured equal protection under the law, and that no one will be targeted or profiled for reporting critical information in a timely manner. Whether it is reporting a criminal act, domestic violence, a fire, or a medical emergency they are witnessing, it is clearly in the public interest to have each and every person comfortable contacting our police department and fire department without hesitation and without personal fear of penalty due to their immigration status.

As such it is important that this body ensure a policy is in place that will protect all individuals from becoming fearful of those they should be able to turn to in moments of crisis, regardless if they are seeking emergency assistance for themselves, or seeking aid and protection for their neighbor. The policy must also discourage bad actors from acting independently to advance their own personal beliefs or political ideology.

Earlier this month, the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the U.S. Department of Justice reported a 17% spike in hate crimes across our nation. Sadly, I can share



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there have been numerous acts of hate right here in Milwaukee and across Wisconsin. Let us take this opportunity, to re-affirm our commitment to protect and respect one another equally.

We also encourage adherence regarding detention guidance. As clearly state in the law and as upheld in the courts repeatedly, without meeting the required threshold or without a court order, no individual may be detained for more than the 48 hours. I remind this body and those watching and listening that an immigration detainer is not a court order, and as listed on the website of Immigration and Customs Enforcement is merely a request. To do so would be in violation of the law and would expose the department and in turn the city to tremendous liability.

In closing I wish to thank all of you for your selfless commitment to serving on this distinguished commission and to thank you for exercising your independent oversight role. I look forward to working with you in the days and weeks to come to secure passage of a policy that not only protects the men, women and children of our great city, but defends their human dignity as well.

Thank you once again. God bless all of you, God bless Milwaukee, and God bless the United States of America!