



MILWAUKEE DOWNTOWN

Business Improvement District 21 | 301 W Wisconsin Ave. Suite 106 | Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203
Phone 414.220.4700 | www.milwaukeedowntown.com

June 6, 2023

Re: Supporting the application for promotion to MPD Captain for Robert Thiel

Dear Fire and Police Commission Members,

I submit this letter of recommendation for your consideration of Robert Thiel for promotion to Captain for the Milwaukee Police Department.

As CEO of Milwaukee Downtown Business Improvement District 21, I work with Lt. Thiel regularly, collaborating on initiatives and efforts to ensure that our central business district is economically viable, sustainable, and healthy. A downtown and a city that is free of crime and helps to develop positive relationships with our Milwaukee Police Department is critical to Milwaukee's long-term success.

In 2013, Milwaukee Downtown created the Community Intervention Team (CIT) comprised of representatives from the Milwaukee Police Department, the City Attorney's office, the Milwaukee County Housing Division, Visit Milwaukee, and the District Attorney's office. Lt. Thiel has been working with this group in various ways to ensure our unsheltered citizens have access to the resources they need to lead a healthy and safe life.

We have worked with Lt. Thiel and his team at District 1 on a variety of other initiatives, including creating safe experiences in our Entertainment Districts, addressing theft of autos, break-ins to autos, and other public nuisance behaviors that have led some citizens to have extreme concerns over the safety of our downtown. We recognize the importance of open communication to proactively alleviate crime and address criminal activity. Personal safety is critical to an area representing less than 3% of the city's landmass but more than 20% of our city's tax base.

Lt. Thiel leads his team with courage, decisiveness, passion, support, humility, empathy, and honesty.

Lt. Thiel's work with our organization and others demonstrates a solid problem-solving interest. I have often observed how Lt. Thiel interacts with our community and his staff, and I have personally witnessed how he strives to ensure everyone is treated fairly and honestly.

Given Lt Thiel's commitment and credibility, I feel confident he will bring strong leadership skills to his role as Captain, and our community will benefit greatly.

Please consider this application for the promotion to Captain for Lt. Thiel. I am available for further discussion on my support of Lt. Thiel. You can reach me at 414-220-4705 or bweirick@milwaukeedowntown.com.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

With gratitude,

Beth Weirick
CEO, Milwaukee Downtown, BID #21

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