



BE A FORCE

Milwaukee Police Department
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Edward A. Flynn
Chief of Police

(414) 935-7200

September 20, 2012

Alderman Terry L. Witkowski, Chair
Public Safety Committee
200 East Wells Street – Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Chairman Witkowski:

The City Ordinance relating to the Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, 320-22, states that two representatives from the Milwaukee Police Department's Sensitive Crimes Unit must be appointed to the commission.

The Milwaukee Police Department strongly believes that our representatives working with the Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault play an essential role and we will continue to support their mission by appointing the best candidates to serve in that capacity. We have come to realize that many of the issues discussed by the Commission that relate to us are connected to the investigations, performance and training of our personnel. It, therefore, seems wise to appoint an individual who may not be assigned to the Sensitive Crimes Division.

Many duties and responsibilities within the Milwaukee Police Department are centralized in nature and that is true for domestic violence and sexual assault, since the Sensitive Crimes Division plays an integral role in these types of investigations. However, knowledge base and expertise regarding any given crime is not centralized. A wide spectrum of police personnel possess knowledge, skills and abilities outside the work location they are currently assigned to. Given the nature of law enforcement, they may find themselves in an assignment based on other valuable assets they possess.

Therefore, I am requesting a change to City Ordinance 320-22.3 (a-4) to read that *"two representatives from the police department, appointed by the chief of police can serve on the Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault"* - edited from its current form which reads – *"two representatives from the police department sensitive crimes unit and domestic violence unit, appointed by the chief of police can serve on Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault"*. The ordinance in its current form is a hindrance in appointing the best qualified person(s) within the Department to serve in such a critical role.

I trust you will understand our perspective and appreciate your anticipated support in this matter. The Milwaukee Police Department looks forward to continuing the excellent working relationship it has established with the Commission and vows to work closely with all entities regarding matters of public safety and violence reduction.

Sincerely,



EDWARD A. FLYNN
CHIEF OF POLICE

c: Mr. James R. Owczarski ✓
MCDVSA Coordinator Erin Perkins
Ethics Board

IN SOME JOBS, SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY WHAT DOESN'T HAPPEN.