

**Bauman, Robert**

---

**From:** Jordan Motkowski  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 9:30 AM  
**To:** Bauman, Robert  
**Subject:** Water Street & Surrounding Area

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Alderman Bauman,

I have lived in my Milwaukee St condo for 8 years and things have never been this bad. Living downtown off Water St you expect some Friday and Saturday noise. The groups walking to and from the bars, the occasional screaming, some sirens are all part of urban living. What we have experienced this year goes far beyond that.

- Reckless driving
- Street racing
- Burnouts/donuts in intersections
- ATVs on the streets
- People hanging on and out of vehicles
- Groups loitering and drinking on the sidewalks and streets
- Fights
- Guns flashed on social media (have not seen in person, only online)
- Graffiti
- Litter/garbage
- Smashed windshields
- Drunk non resident sleeping in lobby (I did contact the police for this one)

This is not a one time thing. It is not just because of the Bucks exciting wins. This is every Friday and Saturday night until after 3am and it is getting worse. It continues to spill off Water Street and I can watch all this unfold from my living room window.

I am scared to walk my dog around the block these nights. I am scared to even drive across water street these nights and go out of my way to go around the area on my way home. With the windows closed and the AC running we are still woken up numerous times from the commotion on the street.

This is making the news and giving downtown and specifically this area a bad reputation. My condo's location was once a selling feature, but now might hurt my property value.

I am frustrated, scared, and unsure of what to do.

Thank you for listening,

Jordan Motkowski

# REDACTED RECORD

**Bauman, Robert**

---

**From:** Drew Deuster  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 19, 2021 4:22 PM  
**To:** Bauman, Robert  
**Subject:** Water Street Disturbances

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Alderman Bauman,

I am writing this message to you to beg for your help with the situation that currently taking place at nighttime on Water Street. I am the co-owner of McGillycuddy's and Red Rock Saloon and I spend every weekend downtown at my stores making sure we operate a business that is safe and fun for our guests. We as business owners are, in fact, held accountable by the city to make sure that we are operating responsibly. I am appalled at what I am witnessing happening downtown right now. The lawlessness that has taken over our street is nothing short of shocking and terrifying. Let me clarify that these are not customers of the businesses. In the last 2 weeks I have witnessed multiple brawls and beatings (one of which I feared the victim may have been beaten to death, thankfully he was not), use of illegal drugs and consumption of alcohol on the street (often by what appears to be minors), over a dozen visible handguns, windows shot out of buildings, unspent ammunition rounds, burnouts and reckless driving in the street, harassment of customers, and most sadly 4 shootings- one of which was fatal. If any of these things happened inside of my businesses, I would be shut down. So my question is, why are we allowing it on the street?

The repercussions to my business have been devastating. I have had 3 employees quit over fearing for their lives, and on social media I am watching my regular customers referring to Water St. as a war zone, with no interest in returning. Like many other establishments, we were barely able to stay afloat through the Covid pandemic, and now we face this. It is possible that our businesses have faced irreversible damage to our portion of the entertainment district, but at this point it's more than the business aspect, I am genuinely concerned for the safety and lives of everyone on Water St. at nighttime.

I plead and implore you to grasp the severity of the situation and help your businesses, residents, and human life in general. If you have not yet witnessed Water St. on a weekend and night, I would encourage you to come down tonight or next weekend after midnight and see for yourself. The initiatives that have been set forth thus far ARE NOT WORKING. We can't put ordinance signs up and tow vehicles and expect the lawlessness to go away. Without active enforcement on the breaking of laws, these issues will persist. I am willing to do whatever is asked of us in effort to help reestablish Water St. as a fun and safe neighborhood for patrons to enjoy time with their friends.

Thank you for your time,

Drew Deuster

**Bauman, Robert**

---

**From:** Benjamin Hebl  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 12, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Bauman, Robert  
**Subject:** WE ARE SCARED FOR OUR LIVES. See Video  
**Attachments:** IMG\_5438.mov

Dear Mr. Alderman,

The young kids, the cruising, the open drinking, drugs, gun brandishing down on Water Street, it's back this summer and it's getting worse.

We need more support clearing the street at 2:30am. The police need help!

Something bad will happen!

I beg you please acknowledge we have a major issue on our hands in downtown Milwaukee. We should be adding more officers and more resources so they can do the necessary job to protect the business district that is the lifeblood of the city and the patrons who they serve. I pray you hear me and do whatever is in your power to keep the city of Milwaukee safe.

I am the owner of Pourman's at 1127 N Water St. I have been in business for eight years. I am worried that as law and order decreases, my livelihood and the safety of my family is at risk.

I have served you a drink at my establishment and have loved serving the city of Milwaukee and making it a fun and safe tourist destination.

I have no way to protect my business, staff, and customers in the current climate.

We need more police!

We need to keep downtown safe!

If we lose control of downtown, the city could collapse.

I'm sure you were informed of the shooting that took place at the fiserv forum grounds last summer, and now shootings in Brady street last night!

Taking officers off Water St, allows for criminal behavior to go unchecked.

I beg you to please help us and not let our street become victimized.

I am doing whatever I can as a business owner to protect my establishment and my patrons, I am following all public health and safety recommendations. I have 2 security every night! I can only do so much. I need your help.

This should not be a political issue. Public safety is bipartisan. We are putting the lives of the few officers at risk as well as the law abiding citizens and good paying customers and tourists.

Best Regards and with respect.

This is your city, I beg you to protect us.

Ben Hebl