



Joint Statement on Kenosha Officer Involved Shooting Decision

January 6th, 2021

Our organizations would first like to recognize and thank the fact-finding investigations conducted by Kenosha County District Attorney Michael Graveley, The Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation, and former Madison Police Chief Noble Wray, who reviewed the facts of this incident as an independent investigator. These independent, professional and thoroughly conducted investigations are a vital part of Wisconsin's long history as being a leader in reforms dealing with officer involved shootings pursuant to current Wisconsin State Statute. Wisconsin is a leader in the nation regarding utilizing an outside independent body to investigate officer involved death cases, as required by law.

We as Law Enforcement leaders agree that the incident that occurred in Kenosha is a tragedy. Our law enforcement organizations share in the goal of reducing similar future incidents and will actively serve as willing partners in efforts to do so.

To this end, our organizations and members have been participants in conversations surrounding potential common-sense legislation to improve law enforcement in Wisconsin. We are proud to have members serve as partners on the Speaker's Task Force on Racial Disparities, and we are all looking forward to future meetings of this bipartisan body.

With this in mind, public officials should be cautious of making official comments contrary to the investigation's official results. It only fuels the fires of distrust amongst law enforcement and the citizens they serve.

Our police officers and deputy sheriffs in Wisconsin are well-trained, well-educated, and committed to protecting and serving their respective communities. As law enforcement leaders in our State, we are incredibly proud of the work they do each day. It's unfortunate that a person's behavior leads to a law enforcement officer having to use deadly force to protect their lives or the lives of others. We stand behind the men and women who patrol our communities' streets, and we will work with those that support us to improve law enforcement in Wisconsin.

We welcome the opportunity to work together in 2021 to make Wisconsin a better place for all of us.

Sheriff Nate Dreckman, President
WI Badger State Sheriff's Association

Chief Kenneth Pileggi, President
WI Chiefs of Police Association

Chief Deputy Jeff Spencer, President
WI Sheriff's and Deputy Sheriff's Association

Chief Steven Anderson, President
WI Police Executive Group