

For Immediate Release  
06/10/2021

Last week two individuals passed away at the Racine County Jail within 4 days. I first want to acknowledge that two lives were lost and extend my deepest condolences to both families impacted by the passing of these two individuals. As a Racine County elected official, I welcome the families to reach out to me and hear firsthand their perspectives.

The black lives matter movement has brought to the forefront the assault on African Americans within the criminal justice system. The death of two men of color while in jail has raised the antenna of those of us who are concerned about abusive behavior within the criminal justice system. This case has now drawn national attention. Clearly, the community is watching very closely what transpired prior to the deaths of the two young men and deserves answers immediately.

The Sheriff has recently stated that there is a lot of misinformation going on. The community deserves full transparency throughout the investigation. That's why the sheriff's office needs to immediately release the camera footage for the intake area, the observation rooms, and the CERT body cams for both families.

Currently, major elements of our community have very little faith in the Kenosha Sheriff's office. A recently released video containing racial comments made by the Kenosha sheriff has raised concerns regarding the ability of the Kenosha County Sheriff's department to lead a fair and impartial investigation.

Therefore I call on either the Wisconsin State Department of Justice or the Federal Department of Justice to lead this investigation immediately.

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