



# **POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

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NOVEMBER 12, 2025

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**STATUS OF SCOTT BELT REMOVAL INVESTIGATION**

I have reviewed audio and video from November 6<sup>th</sup> in Carson. I have spoken with many witnesses to the events of the evening and reviewed the accounts of several more. I have also spoken with numerous witnesses to other alleged incidents of similar behavior over the past several months.

Chapter 66 provides various grounds for removal from office – one of which is intoxication on the job. Supervisor Belt has provided his own explanation for his behavior that evening – specifically that he was not drunk but was suffering from a bad medication reaction. I am still in the process of gathering information related to that particular issue.

Supervisor Belt has recently granted me access to various medical information which I need to review prior to making a final determination on filing a petition for removal under Chapter 66. I anticipate that I will be finished with this review by the end of this week or the beginning of next week at the latest.

Some will undoubtedly wish me to rush through this review. That, I will not do. I have never had to file for removal of an elected official before in my 23 years as County Attorney and I am not about to do so now until I am convinced that the evidence is there to support that filing.

The Iowa Supreme Court has set a very high bar for removal of an elected official from office – trusting that, when officeholders will not resign their positions, elections are the preferred method to get rid of those who are not fulfilling their duties professionally. If I file a petition for removal which is unsuccessful, the county will be liable for Mr. Belt's attorney fees. I am fine with the county taking that risk, but not until I first have reviewed and considered all possible defenses.

If my review is not fast enough for concerned citizens of the county, there is an alternative way forward. Five (5) registered voters in the county can file a petition themselves and post a bond to potentially cover the costs, including attorney fees, themselves. If such a petition is filed by the voters, I will be happy to prosecute that case as required by Chapter 66. Otherwise, I would counsel a bit of patience for the next several days and some space for me to do my job and make that decision myself.



MATTHEW D. WILBER  
Pottawattamie County Attorney