



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Rep. David Bowen
(608) 266-7671

Rep. Bowen: Statement on verdict in Heaggan-Brown trial

Milwaukee - State Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement after the verdict in the Dominique Heaggan-Brown trial:

“Anytime someone loses a loved one it’s a sad situation. When families lose a loved one in a preventable situation by a system that should be there to protect and serve them it’s a deep-rooted, painful & traumatic situation.

“The second shot was clearly unjustified on video with Mr. Smith on his back with his hands in clear view. The fact that officers did not use de-escalation practices and are accused of other abuses shows our system is in need of desperate change immediately.

“The family of Sylville Smith and those angered over his death last year deserve to know their loss will make our community and system better. Nothing has changed since last year and no one has apologized or even committed to preventing these situations.

“That is even more painful as people have to make an active decision to put hope in a system that has done little to produce the integrity that the public is calling for. Those concerned about this, I want you to know I hear you. Those who want progress, I apologize that we as a society are not in a better place. While my hope has been shaken in this moment, I am committed to fighting for that change even more. I call on all people to join me and not give up hope. I encourage you to use your energy to work toward the implementation of best prevention practices to ensure everyone can make it back home to their families safely.”

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