

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

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10TH DISTRICT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DAVID BOWEN

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"A Truly Heartbreaking Loss": Rep. Bowen Reflects on Tragic Shooting in Milwaukee "Even Though We May Physically Be Apart, We Can Still Come Together and Heal"

MILWAUKEE - In response to the horrific quintuple homicide in Milwaukee earlier this week, State Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement:

"Monday's mass shooting was an unspeakable horror for our Milwaukee community. At a time when we are all struggling as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, no one should have to worry about their safety in their own home. To see five vibrant lives, four of them teenagers, taken from our community prematurely in such a senseless way is a truly heartbreaking loss."

This Monday morning, Milwaukee Police received a 911 call from a man saying that his family was dead. When officers arrived at the scene, they found five deceased victims in their home, ranging in age from 14 to 41. As a part of their investigation, law enforcement has released that all five victims were known to each other, as was the suspect in the crime, who is currently in police custody. While authorities are not releasing the name of the suspect, what is known is that he has had a history of domestic violence incidents and was not legally allowed to possess a firearm.

"Demetrius. Tera. Lakeitha. Marcus. Teresa. We honor the memory of these victims, and we mourn their untimely passing. We must strive together and pass laws and investments to make sure that tragedies like this do not haunt us again. And we must heal from this terrible experience. I want to thank the members of 414Life and the chaplains from the Salvation Army who worked on the scene to comfort the community reeling from this loss, and for all within our city who have offered up prayer and comfort for the families of the victims and the entire community as they process this unspeakable grief. Even though we may be physically apart, we can still come together and heal."

If you or someone you know is currently quarantined in an unsafe environment, there are resources available to help. Milwaukee's Sojourner Family Peace Center maintains a 24-hour confidential hotline at (414) 933-2722, the Milwaukee Women's Center operates a hotline at (414) 671-6140, and the <u>ASHA Project</u> provides a hotline with a focus on African-American women from 9:00am-4:00pm at (414) 252-0075. Additional domestic violence resources are available from the City of Milwaukee Health Department <u>here</u>.
