



# Van H. Wanggaard

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **STATEMENT ON RIOTS IN MADISON TUESDAY NIGHT/WEDNESDAY MORNING**

“Forgive my language, but I don’t care about being “senatorial” anymore. The time for platitudes is over. This is bullshit.

“The role of police is to protect life first, property second. Last night in Madison, Madison police did neither. An innocent bystander, a state senator who has largely stood with the BLM movement, was attacked for watching and taking a picture. I am praying Tim will be okay.

“The statue of a Civil War hero who literally gave his life freeing slaves was beheaded. A statue representing women’s rights was torn down. There was destruction at the Capitol and an attempt to start the City/County building of the most liberal city and county in Wisconsin on fire.

“This isn’t about protesting anymore. This is about mindless violence and destruction. And Madison city officials are letting it happen. Someone in Madison city government should be held accountable, because what happened last night shouldn’t be allowed to happen in any city, much less Wisconsin’s capital city. Arrests need to be made.

“It is clear Madison is incapable of protecting either life or property. They clearly don’t have control of their streets. Whether that is because of inability or incompetent leadership is unknown. Governor Evers **MUST** step up and call out the National Guard and send the message that violence **WILL NOT** be tolerated. Let Madison police protect life if they are still allowed. The National Guard can protect state property.

“I also call on Governor Evers to work with the Legislature and Supreme Court to ensure that the Capitol will be safe for everyone who works in the building when it reopens in July. Because what occurred last night cannot occur again – and definitely not in the building.”

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