



SCOTT ALLEN

REPRESENTATIVE • 97TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
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Statement on shooting of Jacob Blake

Rep. Scott Allen (R-Waukesha) released the following statement:

The use of force by the government or its agents on an individual is a serious action which deserves scrutiny. The Wisconsin Department of Justice is investigating the shooting of Jacob Blake which occurred in Kenosha on Sunday. Investigations to gather physical evidence and conduct interviews take time. They should be full and thorough, without predetermined conclusions and free of political interference from elected officials.

It might be that the officers in this incident acted mercilessly, but in this environment, speculation from leaders is irresponsible. Gov. Evers may think his statement was cleverly worded, but his repeated fecklessness in the face of rioting and arson only emboldens unlawful behavior.

Citizens collectively ask our law enforcement officers to intervene and assist in the most dangerous, unpredictable situations: domestic violence, persons with mental health challenges, even "routine" traffic stops. Officers are expected to make split-second, life-or-death decisions, and be right every time. American traditions and constitutional guarantees demand that each person, including those in law enforcement, are guaranteed a right to due process. That includes a fair, thorough, and complete investigation.

Therefore, as a civil society, each of us needs to exercise restraint and not rush to judgment. Cooler heads must prevail.

Similarly, a raft of largely partisan bills cannot and should not be strong-armed on the legislature through a special session. The legislature needs to dispassionately and intelligently consider reform rather than rush to pass something.

I support the task force which Speaker Vos announced today to examine racial disparities, education, public safety, and police policies and standards, and I have requested the privilege of serving on that committee.

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The 97th Assembly District includes portions of the City of Waukesha and the Towns of Waukesha, Genesee, and Mukwonago.