

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 23, 2020

Statement on Officer-Involved Shooting in Kenosha

Contact: Rep. Ohnstad, 608-266-0455

KENOSHA – As the City of Kenosha responds to an officer-involved shooting which occurred earlier today, Representative Tod Ohnstad (D-Kenosha) provided the following statement:

"While we are still waiting for further details about how this unfolded, we are all stunned by the events that resulted in a police officer shooting a man named Jacob Blake in our community today.

As we move forward, we will learn more about what transpired this afternoon. The gravity of the case unquestionably requires investigation. The only focus now must be on ensuring justice is served. Under state law, the Wisconsin Department of Justice will oversee the case as an outside, independent law enforcement agency.

Throughout my life and career I have marched and acted to overcome injustices wherever I see them. I have stood opposed to excessive force and unnecessary escalation by law enforcement and in support of transparency and accountability. Police are entrusted with great responsibility and must be held to the highest standard.

Throughout the conversations I have had tonight, in the absence of a greater understanding of what occurred, the primary feeling expressed has been a deep anger and sadness that something like this would happen in our neighborhoods. These are streets where bicycles should be flying by, rather than bullets. My heart and thoughts are with Jacob and his friends and family in the aftermath of this shooting."

###