

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement on the Decision Not to Charge in the Jacob Blake Case

MADISON — Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement in response to the Kenosha County District Attorney's decision not to change Kenosha Police Office Rusten Sheskey in the officer-involved shooting of Jacob Blake:

"I am angry and deeply saddened by today's announcement that the Kenosha District Attorney will not move forward with charges against the officer who shot Jacob Blake in the back seven times, paralyzing him from the waist down and nearly costing Jacob his life.

"We all deserve to feel safe in our homes and communities, a right which is not afforded to everyone in this country, especially Black people. Police officers are entrusted with great power — that power must come with accountability to the people they serve and the justice system they represent.

"Rusten Sheskey should be tried by a jury of his peers. The failure of the District Attorney to bring charges in this case illustrates the injustice of our system and our current laws.

"We need to continue the critical work of reimagining the role of policing in our communities. We need new laws that hold law enforcement officers to a higher standard. Wisconsinites deserve a truly just justice system, one where no one is above the law, regardless of their profession.

"My thoughts are with the Blake family and the Kenosha community. #BlackLivesMatter."

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