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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
January 15, 2021

**MILWAUKEE CITY ATTORNEY ISSUES CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL OPINION  
TO FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION RELATING TO THE DEMOTION OF  
FORMER POLICE CHIEF MORALES**

**Milwaukee, WI** (January 15, 2021) – Milwaukee’s newly elected, independent City Attorney Tearman Spencer, issued a confidential legal opinion, as requested, to the Fire & Police Board of Commissioners relating to the demotion of former Police Chief Alfonso Morales.

**“At the request of the FPC Board of Commissioners, I have issued a written legal opinion regarding the demotion of former Police Chief Morales; however, this opinion is confidential to the Board alone and no additional details will be released from my Office as this is covered by attorney-client privilege”** stated City Attorney Tearman Spencer.

In addition, he said **“Several recent statements seemed to question the integrity and competency of the legal advice given to the FPC. The lawyers in the City Attorney’s Office are very competent. Assistant City Attorneys strive to provide elected officials, city departments, boards and commissions the highest quality legal assistance possible. This culture of political finger-pointing, shifting blame, and promulgating unfounded, politically-charged statements does not result in positive outcomes. The City Attorney’s Office can provide legal advice to clients, but that does not necessitate that the client will follow the advice given”**.

It should be apparent to residents of this City that there’s a resistance to much needed change and reform. Bureaucracy is very prevalent in our local government. My predecessor held the role of City Attorney for nearly 40 years. The policies that were implemented over the past four decades unfortunately still influence and plague City Hall. I ran for the City Attorney’s



**Office on a platform of change. The residents of Milwaukee overwhelmingly elected me to lead and usher in the needed change. I was elected with a mandate.**

**I will remain resolute in my mission on which I campaigned: To restore the trust of city government to the residents of Milwaukee”.**

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