



ACLU of WI Calls Ald. Donovan's Ill-Conceived Surveillance Scheme Amateurish

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MILWAUKEE, WI – According to [media reports](#) and [his own press release](#) Milwaukee Alderman Robert Donovan has procured a recycled armored truck equipped with surveillance cameras for his crime fighting group "Operation Impact." The Milwaukee Police Department will accept the vehicle, although they did not ask for it, according to a MPD spokesperson. The American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin is concerned that the Alderman appears to be offering his constituents publicity rather than the professional policing they deserve.

Today, Christopher Ahmuty, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin issued the following statement. Ahmuty's statement may be quoted as follows:

"South side residents face crime, poverty, and family hardships just like other city residents. However, these conditions are no excuse for the second-rate police service the alderman is offering. The alderman's scheme will tend to divert police resources. It will also tip off criminals who will see the armored truck parked on their block, thereby giving them a chance to move their operations.

"The Milwaukee Police Department trains its officers in proper and legal surveillance and search procedures. The alderman should leave policing decisions to police commanders. Residents don't need amateurs to protect them.

"The alderman shows a disturbing willingness to put his schemes ahead of the reputation of innocent residents and professional police."

The ACLU of Wisconsin has approximately 8,500 members who support its efforts to defend the civil liberties and civil rights of all Wisconsin residents. For more on the work of the ACLU of Wisconsin, visit our [webpage](#). You can also get news and opinion on civil liberties in Wisconsin on our [Cap City Liberty blog](#). Find us on [Facebook and Twitter at ACLUMadison and ACLUofWisconsin](#).

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