

OUR CRITERIA FOR THE MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S NEXT POLICE CHIEF

The City of Milwaukee is at an inflection point. Milwaukee is in the process of hiring a new police chief to lead a police department in desperate need of change for decades. If we care about our city, then we have to care about the future of the Milwaukee Police Department. The organizations listed below have come up with the following criteria to guide the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners as they select a qualified police chief.

A new chief must commit to:

Reforms to MPD's Traffic and Pedestrian Stop and Frisk Practices

- Commit to adopting the reforms mandated by the ACLU's 2018 Settlement Agreement with the City of Milwaukee, as well as by the recommendations noted in a U.S. Department of Justice report related to MPD's discriminatory stop and frisk policies.
- Publicly acknowledge that MPD has not prioritized compliance with the 2018 Settlement Agreement and develop a collaborative relationship with the Independent Monitoring Team to ensure MPD is in compliance with the Agreement.

Transparency and Accountability

- Embrace meaningful civilian oversight of MPD.
- Demonstrate experience leading institutional law enforcement reform efforts that did not result in an increased police department budget.
- Issue strong policies that develop law enforcement training, create meaningful mechanisms of oversight, and hold officers accountable.
- Promote transparency and the public's right to know.
- Lead organizational culture change efforts.

21st Century Policing Tactics

- Demilitarize MPD—including a commitment not to use weapons such as tear gas, which has been banned in warfare.
- Protect the right of free speech and protest.
- Follow 21st century best practices, including de-escalation tactics and diversion programs.
- Advocate for reduced incarceration, improved conditions of confinement, and rehabilitation.
- Address mental health crises with mental health professionals, not law enforcement.

Addressing Biased Policing

- Work collaboratively with diverse communities to hold officers accountable for biased policing.
- Work with immigrant communities and not use local police resources for federal immigration enforcement.

Signed:

ACLU of Wisconsin

Black Leaders Organizing for Communities (BLOC)

Black Lives Matter to Wisconsin Unitarian Universalists

Coalition for Justice

Dontre Hamilton's mother, Maria Hamilton

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

The League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County

MICAH (Milwaukee Innerscity Congregations Allied for Hope)

Milwaukee Turners

NAACP Milwaukee Branch

National Lawyers Guild, Milwaukee Chapter

Pastor Walter Lanier

Progressive Baptist Church

Reverend Joseph H. Jackson, Jr.

Sr. Rose Stietz, OP

Wisconsin Justice Initiative