



David A. Clarke Jr.  
Sheriff

# Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Deputy's Firing Upheld by County Personnel Review Board**

Milwaukee, WI – The Milwaukee County Personnel Review Board (PRB) yesterday upheld the sheriff's firing of a former Deputy Sheriff, Christopher Conell, for a second drunken driving offense. The former deputy was arrested in 2010 for OWI-2nd, and eventually convicted following a 2011 jury trial.

In his initial 2008 OWI-1st case, the off-duty sheriff's deputy was arrested by Hales Corners police after, according to their report, stating, "You can't do this to one of your own."

At the time, Sheriff Clarke referred the deputy for termination, saying, "It's embarrassing when the kind of behavior we implore the public not to engage in is exhibited by one of our own law enforcement officers." That arrest garnered media attention after it was revealed that the police reports indicated that the former deputy demanded preferential treatment from the Hales Corners officers, reportedly stating, "You know how many cops I have stopped and let go? Hundreds."

Sheriff Clarke's termination in that case was reduced by the PRB to a suspension of 30 days off without pay.

In the second matter, West Allis police officers found Conell unresponsive behind the wheel of his personal car on February 5, 2010 at 2:45 am, but did not arrest him. The West Allis Police chief acknowledged that was an error in judgment, and subsequently conducted a full investigation leading to a Milwaukee County District Attorney's office charge of OWI-2<sup>nd</sup>.

Based on the continued pattern of behavior, evidenced by the 2008 conviction, Sheriff Clarke again recommended termination to the PRB, which finally agreed.

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