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NEWS RELEASE

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Police Research Group and NYPD Follow Sheriff Clarke's Lead in Fighting Back in Violent Encounters

Milwaukee, WI – An April 6, 2013 *New York Times* article highlights a huge shift in law enforcement advice for people facing violent encounters. Research from the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) supports what Sheriff David Clarke was advising in recent public safety radio announcements, that a person confronted by an attacker may have a better chance at survival if, among other choices, they fight back.

Research bolsters the idea that “people at the scene of an attack have a better chance of survival if they take an active stance rather than waiting to be rescued by the police, who in many cases cannot get there fast enough to prevent the loss of life.” This mirrors what Sheriff Clarke says in his PSAs.

Mayor Tom Barrett, Chief Ed Flynn, County Executive Chris Abele and the local media almost in unison, and as if regurgitating prepared talking points, called the sheriff's advice “irresponsible.” Instead of engaging in thoughtful dialogue, these anti-gun politicians chose to first destroy the message, and when that didn't work, they set out to destroy the messenger. Will we hear from them now that this research proves what Sheriff Clarke has been saying all along? Don't count on it.

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