



David A. Clarke Jr.
Sheriff

Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

Fran McLaughlin
Public Information Officer
Cell: 414-254-9488
Phone: 414-278-5226
fran.mclaughlin@milwenty.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 13, 2014



Good Samaritan Transit Supervisor Reinstated

Milwaukee, WI – Sheriff David A. Clarke Jr. publicly called for the Milwaukee County Transit System to reinstate transit supervisor William Bierman after they fired him for going to the aid of a woman who was being attacked.

Bierman called the sheriff's office today to thank Sheriff Clarke for bringing notice to the issue, saying he owed so much in getting the job back to the sheriff's efforts.

Sheriff Clarke had issued a news release after hearing about the incident. He called on County Executive Abele to step in, but that request was initially ignored. Alderman Donovan held a news conference last week which the sheriff attended. Both elected officials presented Bierman with awards for his actions in helping the woman.

In part, the sheriff's said in that release:

Every day, law enforcement encourages citizens to come to the aid of a crime victim when it can reasonably and safely be done. We call it one's civic duty. This is what strengthens a sense of community. Milwaukee County Transit officials call it a "violation of the rules." The bureaucrats that made this decision should be identified and publicly mocked.

The employee should be commended for doing precisely what the state law (940.34 Duty to aid victim or report a crime) requires in such situations. He has two choices. He can summon police or come to the aid of the victim. This transit worker is a hero. He led by example. He disregarded his own safety to protect someone else. There is no greater act of civic responsibility.

###

For more information about the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, visit our website at www.mksheriff.org and our facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/MilwaukeeCountySheriff>
Follow us on Twitter @MCSOSheriff