



Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

David A. Clarke Jr.
Sheriff



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 26, 2014

Sheriff Response to Rep. Barnes' Statement on Status of Black Families

Milwaukee, WI – Sheriff David A. Clarke Jr. responded to state Assembly Representative Mandela Barnes' statement he directed at the sheriff yesterday regarding a column the sheriff wrote that appeared in the Washington Times:

"Dear Assembly Rep. Barnes, I expressed a well thought out opinion on the condition of a growing number of Black families in America. I expect that it would be responded to in a respectful and intelligent fashion instead of going on a personal attack. Are you even capable? Here, I'll help you. Start by telling me how things are better for Black people since the liberal war on poverty started 50 years ago. Are Blacks deeper in poverty or not? Are more Black kids growing up without a father in the home, or with one?

"Mr. Barnes, read Daniel Patrick Moynihan's Department of Labor report from 1965. That liberal politician saw this nightmare coming 50 years ago. You, sir, are in denial. I refuse to be lectured to by a "community organizer" as listed in your bio, whatever that is. When you actually accomplish something in your unremarkable career you can talk to me."

Rep. Barnes resorted to the usual tactic of making Sheriff Clarke the problem instead of intelligently addressing Clarke's opinion with sound reasoning. This tactic is typical and used to distract from Clarke's opinion piece. The left sends out a black gate-keeping surrogate to attack the messenger. Watch for the Sentinel Journal to follow suit with their resident race hustler.

In looking at the bio of Rep. Barnes listed on the legislative website, it resembles that of a classic underachiever. He "attended" a college, and after 5 years, it resulted in not achieving a degree. The rest of his adult work history consists of hanging around disparate organizations ideologically cloaked in liberal orthodoxy, the same orthodoxy that the Sheriff says compounds black people's misery.

-more-

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

He lists no major legislation that he has authored or introduced in his time in the legislature that may begin to reverse the urban pathologies of his district. He instead has been a defender of the status quo that keeps his constituents mired in generational poverty, high unemployment, kids shackled to failing segregated public schools and living in crime-infested ghettos.

Sheriff Clarke believes that Black people deserve better than this.

Copy of Rep. Barnes' release:

Rep. Barnes: Response to David Clarke op-ed

3/25/2014

Contact: Rep. Barnes
(608) 266-3756

MILWAUKEE—Representative Barnes (D-Milwaukee) issued the following statement in response to David Clarke's Washington Times op-ed:

"David Clarke has so many bold opinions regarding poverty in Milwaukee, and yet, has never decided to run for an office geared towards helping the communities he feels so entitled to pass judgment on. Unlike Mr. Clarke, my colleagues and I can't just gallop around the city during parades. We have to actually try hard to find creative solutions within our current set of circumstances, and we've been working very hard to do so.

"Unlike the Wild West, real elected officials work hard to understand the needs of their communities, and get to know the families and residents in the neighborhoods we represent. The "Sheriff" would rather continue to put on his "law enforcement" act for the national media, and urge citizens to arm themselves against one another, rather than do the work to find peaceful cooperative solutions with our communities.

"Our racial disparities don't exist because of programs that help feed children, give kids a head start on their education, or offer daycare services to parents that work multiple jobs. These issues continue to exist in our communities, by and large, because of the hate rhetoric spewed by radical ideologues—in this case, an elected official with a badge.

"As Chair of Wisconsin's Black & Latino Caucus, I am proud of the work that our members have done in advocating on behalf of those stricken by our poor economic and educational conditions in Wisconsin, and we will continue to work closely with one another, and our allies within our communities to best serve the needs of our constituents."

###