



David A. Clarke Jr.
Sheriff

Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

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Juvenile Brings Gun into Area of Children's Detention Center Secured by County Executive's Security Personnel

Milwaukee, WI – The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office is receiving multiple inquiries from the media about a juvenile who dropped a loaded gun at the Children's Detention Center after being searched by MPD and detention center security staff. That facility is NOT part of the Sheriff's responsibility for security, as it is under the direction of Tom Wanta, who reports to County Executive Chris Abele. MCSO oversees security at the public entrance to the juvenile court center, and provides bailiffs in the courtrooms.

Note the following statements by County Executive Abele in February when a gun was brought into the county jail after an MPD arrest. He doesn't now express the same sense of urgency that he did when criticizing the sheriff's corrections officers:

Abele, in February: "This could have ended far worse than it did. My concern though, probably like anybody hearing this story, is HOW the HELL does a loaded gun get through security?! This is the sort of lapse that often ends in tragedy. Thank God it didn't this time, but people should know it could."

Sheriff Clarke said, "talk about the pot calling the kettle black."

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