



Milwaukee County

Board of Supervisors

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CORRECTION, 4:50 p.m., 9/28/12

SEVERAL MEMBERS OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD MEET WITH MEDICAL EXAMINER ABOUT DEATH OF DEREK WILLIAMS *Supervisors seek answers in police custody death case, work to improve policy*

Milwaukee – Milwaukee County Board Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic and Supervisors David Bowen of District 10, Theodore Lipscomb, Sr. of District 1, and Russell W. Stamper II of District 5 as well as representatives of Supervisors Nikiya Q. Harris of District 2, Willie Johnson, Jr. of District 13 and Michael Mayo, Sr. of District 7 met with the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner today to discuss the case of Derek Williams, who died while in Milwaukee Police Department custody in July 2012.

The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's office initially ruled that Williams died of natural causes. A revised ruling maintains the cause of Williams' death as sickle cell crisis but changes the manner from natural to homicide due to "flight from and altercation with police."

"The Williams family and the entire community of Milwaukee County need to know that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors will ask the right questions and hold people accountable where there is potential misconduct," said Supervisor Stamper. "Where there is injustice for one, there is injustice for all."

Supervisor Stamper is set to author policy recommendations affecting Medical Examiner review of all police custody deaths. That policy would require Committee and Board review and approval.

The Supervisors are also set to meet with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office next Tuesday, October 2, 2012 to discuss that office's policy related to the handling of police custody deaths.

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