



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr, 10th District

For Immediate Release September 20, 2011
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SHERIFF “COWBOY” CLARKE SHOULD GET OFF HIS HIGH HORSE NOW

Milwaukee, WI –Milwaukee County Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., is registering strong opposition to Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke’s proposal to relocate the Huber program from downtown Milwaukee to the County Correctional Facility South in Franklin:

“It’s obvious that Sheriff Clarke is channeling his inner ‘Yosemite Sam.’ I realize he likes to run around mounting his high horse at parades rocking spurs, hats and boots, but his cowboy leadership is not what we need at this time. As he saddles up and travels the greener pastures of Milwaukee County, he might forget the realities of the more concrete urban community. If we want to be more proactive in attacking the recidivism rate, we need to make sure that these inmates have all the tools they need to become more productive citizens in society. Our policies, programs, services and attitudes have to become more progressive to deal with this complex issue. Anything else would create a counterproductive vicious cycle of repeat incarceration that would cost taxpayers dearly and continue the violence in our communities.

“Furthermore, I’m disturbed by the way Sheriff Clarke categorizes and labels individuals. He referred to inmates via letter as ‘creeps, miscreants, and goofs.’ His language is dehumanizing and disgusting. He should not place demoralizing blanket statements on people. Quite frankly, I’m flabbergasted at the sheriff’s apparent ability to convey this message with a straight face.

“At the end of the day, we can agree to disagree on policy matters, but inmates are still human beings and should be treated as such. We all should be able to agree on that. Some individuals convicted of crimes recognize their mistakes and want to improve their lives. The sheriff mentioned that society owes these inmates nothing but to apologize and change course in terms of their lifestyle choices. Providing transportation for these inmates would allow them the opportunity to do just that. The Sheriff should stop the cowboy act and show some real leadership by focusing on true rehabilitation to prevent recidivism and, in turn, lower crime overall.”

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