
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

September 20, 2011

Ald. Milele A. Coggs
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Common Council Approves Concealed Carry, USPS Measures

When the “concealed carry law” goes into effect statewide on November 1, persons will be prohibited from carrying concealed firearms and other dangerous weapons in City Hall and other city-owned buildings.

That prohibition is made possible by legislation (file #110469) sponsored by **Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs** and approved today by the full Common Council on a 14-1 vote. The measure now goes to Mayor Tom Barrett for his signature.

Alderwoman Coggs said she is pleased that a strong majority of her colleagues agreed with the legislation, which was co-sponsored by Alderman Willie C. Wade. “We recognize that this legislation is not a Kevlar vest or bulletproof glass, but instead it is our attempt to set a standard for a safe and secure city government environment for the public and for city employees,” she said.

“There is absolutely no place for concealed firearms or other dangerous weapons in city government – period,” Alderwoman Coggs said.

The “concealed carry law” – 2011 Wisconsin Act 35 – provides that the city may prohibit the carrying of firearms upon or within buildings owned by, occupied by or under the control of the city if notice is given prohibiting firearms. Notice may be given by posting a sign that is at least 5 inches by 7 inches and is located in a prominent place near all of the entrances to the part of the building to which the restriction applies, and where any individual entering can be reasonably expected to see the sign.

-More-

Concealed Carry & USPS Files/ADD ONE

A second resolution (file # 110624) approved by the Council today urges licensed tavern owners to post signs indicating that persons are not allowed to carry concealed firearms on the premises. According to the file, a person carrying a concealed firearm “into nonresidential buildings or onto the grounds of nonresidential buildings after notice that firearms are not permitted may be subject to a Class B forfeiture penalty of up to \$1,000 under Wisconsin trespass statutes.”

Also today the Council voted 14-1 to approve a resolution (file # 110539) sponsored by Alderwoman Coggs urging the U.S. Postmaster General and the U.S. Postal Regulatory Commission “to maintain affordable, secure and dependable postal services in the city” as it considers possibly closing five Milwaukee post offices serving mostly African American customers.

The facilities being reviewed by the USPS for possible closure and/or consolidation are:

- **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - 2650 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.**
- **Hampton - 6501 W. Fond du Lac Ave.**
- **Mid City - 3421 W. Vliet St.**
- **Parklawn 3931 N. 35th St.**
- **Teutonia - 2656 N. Teutonia Ave.**

According to Alderwoman Coggs, if all five post offices are closed, 3,400 displaced P.O. Box users would need to transfer their service to another location.

The USPS legislation was co-sponsored by Alderman Willie L. Hines, Jr., Alderman Willie C. Wade and Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.