

Statement of Ald. Michael S. D'Amato October 18, 2007

Several weeks ago John Jazwiec, chief executive officer for RedPrairie and a resident of Milwaukee's 3rd Aldermanic District, loudly reported that a crime was committed at his home that included his family being held hostage by a gun-wielding assailant. At the time, many of us raised questions about his claims because of the bizarre behavior of Mr. Jazwiec.

This morning Mr. Jazwiec's attorneys contacted the Milwaukee Police Department indicating that he wanted them to stop pursuing this case. Mr. Jazwiec reminds me of a spoiled little boy who throws a tantrum trashing his parents' home in order to get attention, then just wants it all to go away when his father comes home. If only life were that easy.

In fact, Mr. Jazwiec's actions have unnecessarily besmirched the reputation of one of Milwaukee's finest and safest neighborhoods. Many residents have genuine concerns about crime in their neighborhood that seem to have taken a back seat to Mr. Jazwiec's sensational claims. They deserve not only an apology, but also the truth about exactly what happened that night at Mr. Jazwiec's home, if anything.

I plan on meeting with both the MPD and the City Attorney to request that they assess Mr. Jazwiec for the total police costs incurred during this episode. Public safety is the number one priority for the citizens of Milwaukee. Police pursuing sensational claims about incidents that may have never occurred reduces their ability to follow-up on real crime. I believe it is unfair that the taxpayers of the city of Milwaukee carry the burden of the cost of the investigation of these spurious claims.

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