



November 19, 2007

Ald. Tony Zielinski
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District Meeting To Address Sex Offender

Repeat Offender Billy Lee Morford Relocated

Ald. Tony Zielinski is hosting a public meeting tomorrow night at Zablocki school to discuss with the public the release of a known sex offender into District 14. Convicted sex offender Billy Lee Morford has relocated to a residence at S. 9th St. Place, according to the state's sex offender registry. Offenders are required by law to register their whereabouts with the state and local authorities.

Morford, convicted four times dating back to the 1960s, was under constant supervision as someone found to be a habitually sexually violent person up until December 2006. He was released after seven different doctors agreed that he was unlikely to reoffend because of poor health.

Ald. Tony Zielinski (District 14) said, "We have to come together as a community to discuss what this means for our area, how to be aware and watch out for one another." Zielinski introduced legislation in the Common Council months ago to prevent individuals like Morford from being able to live near schools, parks, playgrounds or day care centers. That proposal is still in committee. Ald. Zielinski said, "I'm outraged that Morford is able to live near our schools. There is legislation buried in committee that could have prevented this."

To further discuss the issue and share information with the public, Ald. Zielinski has scheduled a community meeting at Zablocki School, 1016 W. Oklahoma Ave. for Tuesday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. Zielinski has invited the Milwaukee Police Department, representatives of Milwaukee Public Schools, the state Department of Corrections and the city's District Attorney's to the meeting so that neighbors and concerned citizens can gather information and have their concerns aired.

Ald. Zielinski said, "The public needs a voice in such decisions. This is where their children go to school and where their families feel safe. Such a notorious offender cannot be moved into our neighborhood without public explanation."