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Common Council President

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15th District Alderman

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**Willie L. Hines, Jr.**  
*City of Milwaukee Common Council*

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**Contact: Bill Arnold**  
**286-3285**

## **Pres. Hines' Statement on Yesterday's Guilty Verdict**

Long before nine guilty verdicts were read last night, the Common Council, city government departments and residents of the 6<sup>th</sup> District had already moved on. Now, it is time for the rest of our city to move on, as well. We must all look to the future and work together toward a better Milwaukee.

In regard to so-called "aldermanic privilege, as mentioned by U.S. Attorney Steven Biskupic, it is misguided to blame recent events on a system that has served the citizens of Milwaukee well since the repeal of Prohibition. Based upon the evidence, Ald. McGee's guilt was his own and was not shared by the rest of Common Council, the License Division, the City Attorney's office or the Milwaukee Police Department, all of whom sit in on every License hearing as active participants.

In more than 12 years as a member of the Common Council, I have never experienced "aldermanic privilege." To the contrary, I have witnessed numerous examples of local aldermen expressing disappointment in decisions made by committees and the full Council. From Ald. Bauman's unsuccessful push for Pabst City in his district years ago to Ald. Murphy's unsuccessful attempt to close a bar in his district weeks ago, the reality is that every application is well vetted and scrutinized with greatest level of integrity, honor and professionalism.

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**In conclusion, now is the time for the City of Milwaukee to remain focused on the peoples' business. Given the potential, promise and challenges that face our city, the residents of Milwaukee deserve the full attention of city leadership without distraction.**