## Statement of Alderman Nik Kovac December 8, 2009

It was shocking to learn that three Milwaukee police officers walking a beat yesterday in Riverwest were struck by a vehicle as they crossed E. Center St. near N. Fratney St. These dedicated District 5 officers were injured, with one having a crushed foot, but were able to quickly apprehend and arrest the driver and a passenger while tending to their injuries and calling for emergency medical response. Police determined that the driver had never been issued a driver's license, and there were three warrants for his arrest. Marijuana was found in the vehicle, and it's suspected that the driver was driving while under the influence of this drug.

The businesses and residents of Riverwest appreciate the presence and professionalism these officers bring to the neighborhood. It makes everyone feel safer and more secure knowing they're there, and their regular communication and contact benefits both the officers and the residents.

I think I speak for everyone in Riverwest, the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, and the city in wishing a speedy and full recovery for each of these dedicated officers.

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