Common Council President

15th District Alderman

Contact: Alex Runner

414-286-3771



Willie L. Hines, Jr.

City of Milwaukee Common Council

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President Hines Addresses Death of Man in Police Custody

On Saturday afternoon, a 43-year-old man died in police custody. Chief Flynn's office called me shortly after the incident occurred and explained some of the relevant factors related to the tragic incident.

It appears that the man had a physiological problem at the time of his arrest. I am told that the two officers used "minimal force," and did not at any time use pepper spray or draw their weapons. Regardless of those facts, I am concerned whenever an individual dies in police custody. I commend the District Attorney's office for swiftly initiating an investigation, and I commend the Milwaukee Police Department for following its procedure by immediately placing the officers on administrative duty.

As the local alderman for the area where the incident took place, in the 2200 block of W. Clarke St., I will be paying close attention to the DA's investigation and to the findings that emerge.