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Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.
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Setting the record straight—Milwaukee sends delegation to address violence among black males

The work of Milwaukee's **Black Male Achievement Advisory Council, or BMAAC** (mkebma.businesscatalyst.com), is garnering national attention, and has already resulted in city officials being invited to participate in this week's **Cities United** summit in New Orleans.

In addition to **Mayor Tom Barrett** and **Police Chief Edward Flynn**, whose attendance has already been well-publicized, Milwaukee's delegation at the conference will include a number of community and civic leaders, including Milwaukee Common Council members **Joe Davis, Sr., Ashanti Hamilton and Willie C. Wade**. Cities United is a national partnership, founded by Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter and New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu and sponsored by the **National League of Cities**, which is designed to eliminate the violence-related deaths of African American males.

Alderman Davis, who sponsored legislation creating BMAAC and sits on the NLC Board of Directors, said the city was invited to send a delegation to the summit as a part of its participation in an NLC technical assistance grant program. "The NLC recognizes the good collaborative work the Milwaukee community is doing to combat the disparities that disproportionately affect black men and boys," Alderman Davis said. "But these successes would not be possible without our vital community partners, all of whom are reflected in the makeup of the Black Male Achievement Advisory Council."

These partners include city officials, the Milwaukee Health Department, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Milwaukee County, the State of Wisconsin, the faith community and nonprofit organizations like Community Advocates, Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee, the Center for Youth Engagement and Lead2Change, Inc., Alderman Davis said.

"There is no 'I' in 'team,'" Alderman Davis said. "When our efforts as a city result in recognition at a national level, it's important to remember how we got there."