

# JOE DAVIS, SR.

Alderman, 2nd District

## CHAIR

- Community and Economic Development Committee
- Sister Cities Committee

## VICE CHAIR

- National League of Cities' International Council

## CO-CHAIR

- Black Male Achievement Advisory Council (BMAAC)



## MEMBER

- Public Safety Committee
- Public Works Committee
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Deferred Compensation Board
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation
- National League of Cities' Board of Directors
- National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials Board of Directors

## HONORARY CONSUL

- Republic of South Africa – State of Wisconsin

## Hamilton case shows need for new county investigation unit

Statement from Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.  
September 10, 2014

Now that the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office has decided to delay the decision regarding the in-custody death of Dontre Hamilton, I have no other recourse but to urge that County Executive Chris Abele and the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors fund a Criminal Investigation Bureau within the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department. A recent State of Wisconsin Bill passed by the Legislature (and signed into law by Governor Walker) mandates that when there is an in-custody death by a law enforcement agency, that an independent law enforcement agency shall conduct the investigation of the impacted jurisdiction. The City of Milwaukee's Police Department decided to use the State of Wisconsin's Department of Justice instead of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department (which has a state-of-the-art training facility in Franklin) because of the perceived lack of experience that could be attributed to personalities, instead of the public good.

The City of Madison has an agreement with the Dane County Sheriff's Department, with the support of the Dane County District Attorney, to address the situation of timely response to the crime scene, efficiency of the investigation, and maintaining the integrity of the crime scene, etc. It has been almost a half year since the Dontre Hamilton in-custody death occurred and I'm not going to sit by and let politics as usual occur. We may not like the current Sheriff's hat, or the horse he rides, but let's do what is best for the public we serve.

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