Politics and Policing Just Don’t Mix

Statement from Alderman Bob Donovan
September 25, 2014

The stated mission of the Milwaukee Police Department, in so many words, is to maintain order so that civic life can exist and prosper. Well, civic life wasn’t doing too well last evening in downtown Milwaukee.

By now, most are aware of the disturbance that occurred there. While I respect any American’s right to protest, it should not be done at the cost of infringing upon other people’s rights.

Apparently, the policy of the police department now seems to be to allow certain protesters more rights over and above the rest of us. There is a proper mechanism in place for appropriate protests. But that is not what occurred last night on our downtown streets.

I shouldn’t have to remind this community that police officers take a sworn oath to enforce the law—all laws. And yet, in instances like this, they are ordered not to do so. One could actually challenge the validity of such an order.

By the way, does anyone know what the mayor’s position is on this?

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