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**ROBERT G. DONOVAN**  
Alderman, 8th District

## **Is crime only important when it occurs on the East Side or downtown?**

**Statement from Alderman Bob Donovan  
December 11, 2015**

It's been brought to my attention that a task force is being formed to address carjacking on the East Side and downtown. Why now, and why so late? While I've raised these issues for years, it seems that crime in only certain parts of the city prompts action.

I certainly welcome any crime fighting effort anywhere in Milwaukee, but I ask—what about the South Side? What about the North Side? Where's the task force on the carjackings in my district, and the auto thefts that are through the roof? Where's the task force on the rampant prostitution that plagues our city? Where's the task force on human trafficking, where Milwaukee ranks near or at the top nationwide? Where's the task force on armed robberies?

The George Webb that I frequent at 21st and Mitchell has been robbed seven times this year! I routinely meet with business owners who are fed up with the crime and disorder in Milwaukee. But apparently if it starts to occur downtown or on the East Side, *then* we'll take some action!

Earlier this summer, I found it necessary to reach out to Sheriff Clarke and secure additional resources from the Sheriff's Department to help augment South Side policing efforts to stem auto thefts. Is this new task force going to do the same? I didn't rob Peter to pay Paul!

How many officers are going to be assigned to this task force? Is it five, is it 20, is it 100? Where are these officers for this task force going to come from? It better not be my district! My constituents have had enough! They call the police, and no one comes. They're afraid to walk two blocks at night for fear of getting mugged.

I could go on and on, and yet many of my colleagues on the Common Council, some of whom will be benefitting from this increased police presence in their area, have consistently voted against adding more cops to the force. Shame on them!

It's high time the citizens of Milwaukee wake up. This administration needs to realize there's more to Milwaukee than just the East Side and downtown.

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