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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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January 20, 2016

Ald. Milele A. Coggs  
(414) 286-2994

## **Council members to boost DOJ public listening session**

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs will be joined by Common Council colleagues during a City Hall news conference **TODAY** (Wednesday, January 20) to promote the U.S. Department of Justice listening session regarding the Milwaukee Police Department scheduled for Thursday.

**The news conference will begin at 2:30 p.m. TODAY in the first floor rotunda at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.**

Alderwoman Coggs said she will be joined at the news conference by **Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderman Willie C. Wade, and Alderman José G. Pérez.** “It is very important for the public to be aware of this important opportunity to share information and observations about the Milwaukee Police Department as federal authorities conduct the review of the department,” Alderwoman Coggs said. “I encourage anyone with input to share to please attend Thursday’s session.”

Alderman Stamper said community feedback is essential to creating a path to better community and police ties. “I encourage the community to come and offer testimony about their experiences with MPD and suggest recommendations for improvement and better community and police relations. The goal is to establish a positive working relationship between the police department and the community while holding everyone accountable for their actions.”

**-More-**

## **News Conference/ADD ONE**

Alderman Wade said there have been many urging for DOJ involvement and scrutiny of MPD “for years.” “Those calls for the Department of Justice to take a look at the policies and practices of the police department have now been answered, and it’s incumbent upon the community to step forward and be a part of the process.”

The DOJ listening session will be held **from 6 to 8 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday, January 21)** at Centennial Hall, 733 N. 8th St. (in the Central Library complex). The session is part of a **two-year review** the DOJ will be conducting of the MPD’s training, procedures, and practices.

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