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ROBERT G. DONOVAN

ALDERMAN, 8TH DISTRICT

Rahm Emanuel and Chicago get it— How about Milwaukee?

Chicago to hire hundreds of new officers to address deadly violence

Statement of Alderman Bob Donovan September 2, 2016

I'm as disheartened as anyone to hear the news from the police chief yesterday that 24 murders were reported last month in Milwaukee, which makes August the city's most deadly month on record in 25 years. The Journal Sentinel noted that the last time this many homicides were tallied was the month when police brought Jeffrey Dahmer in off the streets. But what's truly horrifying is that, of the 30 homicides from July of 1991, 12 of them were attributed to Dahmer—and they were only *learned of* during that month, not committed!

So really, were it not for this clerical anomaly in counting murders, August of 2016 could have gone into the books as the deadliest month of crime in Milwaukee's history.

But just as disheartening to me is the news out of Chicago, which also suffered a historically violent month of August. In response, the word is that that Mayor Rahm Emanuel plans to hire "hundreds" more police officers in his 2017 budget to restore order.

Mind you, the problem with violence is more out of control here in Milwaukee, where the homicide rate is 4.0 victims per 100,000 residents, than it is in Chicago, where that rate is only 3.3 victims per 100,000 residents.

If that isn't a call for us to boost our own police staffing here in Milwaukee, I don't know what is. It's our turn to step up and prioritize that safety of our people.

Mayor Barrett, what in the world are you waiting for?

(Please see <http://chicago.suntimes.com/news/emanuel-to-hire-hundreds-of-police-officers-council-ally-says/> for more information about the Chicago Police hiring proposal)

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