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MICHAEL J. MURPHY
ALDERMAN, 10TH DISTRICT

Shooting in Dallas compounds an already tragic situation

Statement of Alderman Michael J. Murphy July 8, 2016

I am shocked and deeply saddened at the news of last night's shootings in Dallas. For what it's worth, I send my condolences to the families and friends of the officers who were killed, as well as everyone who was injured in this tragic shooting.

This incident demonstrates in stark detail the challenges and the peril that police officers face in their jobs. The officers who were attacked in Dallas were carrying out their sworn duty to protect and serve the people of their community. Throughout the peaceful protest, they maintained their professionalism and their composure, and when the gunfire began, they ran toward it with no regard for anything but the safety of the public.

I can sympathize with the anger and frustration of a community that is shocked with loss and reeling from grief. Police departments throughout the country should strive to promote positive community relations, but there is still progress to be made in order to achieve that ideal.

But there's no justification for lashing out with violence against police officers; it only further compounds what was already a tragedy. As Gandhi once said, "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind."

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