January 8, 2018

Statement by Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

With today’s announcement that Chief Flynn will soon leave the department, we wanted to express our strong support for the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners as it begins the difficult task of selecting the new chief.

This body, designed over a century ago to be a firewall against political interference in the operation of the fire and police departments, is being called to serve at a difficult moment in this City’s history. The authority of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners in this matter is established by state statute and the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances. We support whatever process its membership chooses to pursue.

Among many matters, the community will be watching closely to see if the next chief implements the recommendations of the draft Collaborative Reform Report prepared by the Department of Justice. Only a chief selected in a broadly-based, open, and transparent process – a process lead by the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners – has any hope of addressing these concerns.

Ald. Ashanti Hamilton
1st District

Ald. Robert J. Bauman
4th District

Ald. Khalif J. Rainey
7th District

Michael J. Murphy
10th District

Ald. Tony Zielinski
14th District

Ald. Cavalier Johnson
2nd District

Jim Bickel
Ald. James A. Bohl
5th District

Robert G. Donovan
8th District

Ald. Mark A. Borkowski
11th District

Ald. Russell W. Stamper, II
15th District

Ald. NiK Kovac
3rd District

Milele A. Coggs
Ald. Milele A. Coggs
6th District

Chantia Lewis
Ald. Chantia Lewis
9th District

Ald. José G. Pérez
12th District