

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR

- Ambulance Service Board
- Outstanding Debt Work Group

VICE CHAIR

- Public Safety and Health Committee

MEMBER

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Judiciary and Legislation Committee



*The
Garden
District*

TERRY L. WITKOWSKI
ALDERMAN, 13TH DISTRICT

A statement from Alderman Terry L. Witkowski following the March 22 special Public Safety and Health Committee meeting

March 22, 2019

Sometimes well-intentioned efforts can do harm. Efforts by FLAC presented at a hearing before the Public Safety and Health Committee this morning turned up little new information other than that the credibility of the organization's data and facts were suspect and unsupported. The fact of the matter, as testified to by physicians from the Milwaukee Health Department, the State Department of Health Services, and Children's Hospital, is that the greatest problem to be addressed in preventing childhood lead poisoning is lead paint and dust.

It was mentioned that some residents don't want to allow the Health Department to do lead hazard evaluations in their homes, saying they heard lead in the water is really the problem. What may be a well-intentioned group is now causing problems to worsen. No one is saying that lead in water is healthy, but it is a far less significant problem than lead paint is in the city of Milwaukee.

In my opinion, if you are inciting people with false or inaccurate information, you are the problem. If you cry wolf, there had better be a wolf around. The statistics testified to by city and state public health officials show a positive trend in addressing childhood lead poisoning in Milwaukee.

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