FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Joint statement on free COVID-19 testing for Milwaukee's communities of color

From Alderman Cavalier Johnson, Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd, Alderman Mark A. Borkowski, Alderman Nik Kovac, Alderman Robert J. Bauman, Alderman Michael J. Murphy, Alderman Scott Spiker, Alderman José G. Pérez, Alderwoman JoCasta Zamarripa and Alderwoman Marina Dimitrijevic

We applaud Governor Tony Evers in his move yesterday (Thursday, May 7) to initiate free coronavirus (COVID-19) testing for all of Milwaukee's African Americans, Latinos, and tribal community members. The free testing could help save untold lives and prevent further spread of the novel virus, which has taken a staggeringly lopsided and deadly toll on people of color across the city and the metro area.

The free testing locations are as follows starting on Monday (May 11):

- 2701 S. Chase Ave.
- 5760 W. Capitol Dr.
- Both locations will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. seven days a week

African Americans and Latinos account for about half of all coronavirus cases in Wisconsin. Latinos make up less than 7% of the state's population, but account for 29% of the COVID-19 cases. African Americans make up only about 6% of Wisconsin's total population but account for 21% of the confirmed cases statewide.

Thirty percent of Wisconsinites who have died after contracting COVID-19 are African American.

Our African American and Latino residents have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 both at home and where they work. These are often families with essential, front-line workers who put themselves at risk by working difficult jobs (at food plants, restaurants and health care facilities) under challenging circumstances during this pandemic.

We strongly urge African American, Latino and tribal community members – those with or without symptoms – to take advantage of this free COVID-19 testing.

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