



CITY OF MILWAUKEE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Let the Fire and Police Commission know how you feel about MPD Chief Alfonso Morales

**Statement from Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd,
Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderman
Ashanti Hamilton and Alderman Khalif J. Rainey**

Alfonso Morales, the Chief of the Milwaukee Police Department, will be having his performance review with the Fire and Police Commission later this month.

Chief Morales was not elected by the people (he was appointed to the position) but the decisions he makes and the manner in which he runs the Milwaukee Police Department have a significant impact on every neighborhood, every citizen, every institution, and every business in the City of Milwaukee. The Chief's management style and decision-making have been apparent during the past week, which has seen protests and civil unrest erupt in the city in the wake of the mistreatment and homicide (on video) of George Floyd while in the custody of Minneapolis Police.

Milwaukee Police have used tear gas, flash-bang devices and employed unique traffic and crowd control measures during these past several days. Police have also made numerous arrests for various offenses during this period, and Chief Morales has appeared at several news conferences (usually with the Mayor) to address current police and public safety issues.

To be clear, Chief Morales is the independent and ultimate commander of the Police Department, and he receives no input on day-to-day policing decisions from members of the Common Council. These decisions are his and his alone.

The performance review of the Chief is critical for our city and citizens have a role to play in it.

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We strongly encourage residents to reach out to members of the Fire and Police Commission, who are the oversight body for Chief Morales and the MPD, to let them know about any issues, questions or concerns they have regarding Chief Morales. Whether they are concerns about the conduct of MPD officers, the overall policing strategy of the department, or what needs to be improved or could be done better – the voice and input of citizens is critical and is needed now more than ever.

Please go to the FPC website at <https://city.milwaukee.gov/fpc/About/Board-of-Commissioners/Meet-the-Commissioners.htm#.Xte4BSVOnYU> and reach out to the members of the Commission via email so that they can receive observations and information from the public that can help them in their review of Chief Morales.

Your input is welcome and it is vitally important!