



July 24, 2020

Ald. Khalif J. Rainey
(414) 286-3764

Common Council opposes divisive and unwanted federal action in Milwaukee

In response to news that Milwaukee would be one of several cities to see an increase in federal resources to address violent crime, members of the Common Council have issued a letter to the President stating their opposition to this action. The letter (**attached**) signed by 12 Council members states, “This is a fundamental abrogation of the federal system on which our country was founded. More, this is a violent, ugly solution in search of a problem. It is a rank appeal to fear and a prompt to anger that will only serve to divide at precisely the time when we are all, as a City, working to find ways to move forward together.”

Alderman **Khalif J. Rainey** has also introduced two files related to the matter. The first file is a resolution that would place the Council in opposition to the presence of federal agents in Milwaukee. The file will be before the full Common Council for immediate adoption at its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 28.

Alderman Rainey has also introduced a communication file that will be before the Public Safety and Health Committee during a special meeting set to occur next week on Monday, July 27 at 9 a.m. The communication file extends invitations to the Mayor’s Office, the City Attorney, Milwaukee Police Department, District Attorney, Wisconsin Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General and Congresswomen Moore’s Office to discuss what this decision means to the public and how the city intends to address the issue.

“As elected officials for the City of Milwaukee, we hear from our constituents regularly and have a good sense of what they need to be safe, healthy and productive. One thing we have not heard is a desire to have federal agents and resources unleashed into our neighborhoods,” said Alderman Rainey. “The actions of the President are unwanted, unneeded and are counterproductive to many of the steps we have been taking to come together as a community. I appreciate the support of my colleagues in opposing this decision, and we will continue to work as a united force that puts the interests and needs of our residents at the forefront.



CITY OF MILWAUKEE

City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202 • www.city.milwaukee.gov

July 24, 2020

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write as representatives of the citizens of the City of Milwaukee to ask that you reconsider your decision to deploy irregular federal agents to this community.

As Wisconsin's Governor Tony Evers recently wrote to you, this was a poorly-communicated decision made in a spirit that runs counter to the traditions of free assembly and expression that have defined some of the greatest moments in our nation's history. We do not fear those who have marched in our streets calling for justice. We see in their faces and hear in their voices the aspirations of everyone who has hoped to one day see in America a truly just society. We see our brothers and sisters who can no longer bear the systemic racism that crushes so many.

And many of us have marched with them.

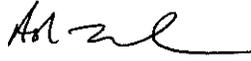
This is a fundamental abrogation of the federal system on which our country was founded. More, this is a violent, ugly solution in search of a problem. It is a rank appeal to fear and a prompt to anger that will only serve to divide at precisely the time when we are all, as a City, working to find ways to move forward together.

Please hear us when we say that, should you not reconsider, we will use all legal means at our disposal to resist in defense of our community -- a community that, like many thousands across America, you swore an oath to protect.

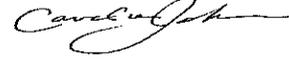
Most Respectfully,



Khalif J. Rainey
Alderman, 7th District



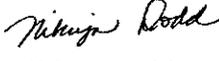
Ashanti Hamilton
Alderman, 1st District



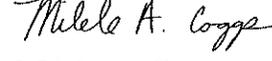
Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District



Nik Kovac
Alderman, 3rd District



Nikiya Dodd
Alderwoman, 5th District



Milele A. Coggs
Alderwoman, 6th District



JoCasta Zamarripa
Alderwoman, 8th District



Chantia Lewis
Alderwoman, 9th District



Mark A. Borkowski
Alderman, 11th District



José G. Pérez
Alderman, 12th District



Marina Dimitrijevic
Alderwoman, 14th District



Russell W. Stamper, II
Alderman, 15th District