



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION CALL

August 6, 2020

Ald. Chantia Lewis  
(414) 286-2868

## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **Council members urge Mayor to move without delay in nominating new FPC head**

Twelve members of the Common Council TODAY (Thursday, August 6) sent a letter (attached) to Mayor Tom Barrett, urging that he move swiftly in nominating a new Executive Director of the Fire and Police Commission.

The letter – spearheaded by Alderwoman Chantia Lewis – notes the overall importance of the FPC’s work and the need for a community engagement process for the nominee.

The letter states, in part: “The residents of our city, state and country are continuing to call for police reform in the wake of Joel Acevedo and George Floyd’s murders. The inequitable policing practices that exist disproportionately impact communities of color, an idea we know is not lost on you. While the community and local leaders continue to discuss various means of police reform, one crucial part of the puzzle is having steady leadership atop the Fire and Police Commission which is charged with oversight of our city’s protective services. As such, we are renewing our call for you to nominate a new Executive Director of the Fire and Police Commission, and to do so swiftly.”

In part, the letter continues: “It has been nearly a month since current Executive Director Griselda Aldrete withdrew from the reappointment process, and that we have yet to hear who her successor will be is disappointing, particularly given the urgency and interest around the matter.

Regardless of who you nominate to serve in this post, the vetting process must be thorough and transparent. The Council’s current August recess would be an ideal time to meet with the nominee, host community meetings and gather feedback from the public with the goal of confirmation in early September. Given the current hurdles that exist because of COVID-19, a proper community engagement process will take more time and planning than normal, and we fear that if a nomination is delayed much longer time will not be on our side moving forward.”

In addition to Alderwoman Lewis, the letter is signed by Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Nik Kovac, Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd, Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, Alderwoman JoCasta Zamarripa, Alderman Michael J. Murphy, Alderman Mark A. Borkowski, Alderman José G. Pérez, Alderwoman Marina Dimitrijevic, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, and Alderman Khalif J. Rainey.



CITY OF MILWAUKEE

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City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202 • [www.city.milwaukee.gov](http://www.city.milwaukee.gov)

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August 6, 2020

The Honorable,  
Mayor Tom Barrett  
200 E Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

The residents of our city, state and country are continuing to call for police reform in the wake of Joel Acevedo and George Floyd's murders. The inequitable policing practices that exist disproportionately impact communities of color, an idea we know is not lost on you. While the community and local leaders continue to discuss various means of police reform, one crucial part of the puzzle is having steady leadership atop the Fire and Police Commission which is charged with oversight of our city's protective services. As such, we are renewing our call for you to nominate a new Executive Director of the Fire and Police Commission, and to do so swiftly.

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Should you be in need of suggestions, any of us would be happy to discuss candidates we believe would be interested and qualified to serve.

The Fire and Police Commission must be a highly functioning entity to help rebuild public trust in law enforcement, particularly when it comes to police oversight and accountability, and that starts with having an Executive Director. We hope you listen to the community and put forth a nominee soon.

We look forward to hearing a response in a timely fashion.

Respectfully,



Chantia Lewis  
Alderswoman, 9<sup>th</sup> District



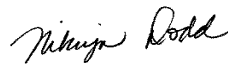
Ashanti Hamilton  
Alderman, 1<sup>st</sup> District



Milele A. Cogg  
Alderswoman, 6<sup>th</sup> District



Khalif J. Rainey  
Alderman, 7<sup>th</sup> District



Nikiya Dodd  
Alderswoman, 5<sup>th</sup> District



Nik Kovac  
Alderman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District



JoCasta Zamarripa  
Alderswoman, 8<sup>th</sup> District



Michael J. Murphy  
Alderman, 10<sup>th</sup> District



Mark A. Borkowski  
Alderman, 11<sup>th</sup> District



José G. Pérez  
Alderman, 12<sup>th</sup> District



Marina Dimitrijevic  
Alderswoman, 14<sup>th</sup> District



Russell W. Stamper, II  
Alderman, 15<sup>th</sup> District