

# Statement of Ald. Bob Donovan

## March 31, 2008

I want to stand publicly and acknowledge my support for the Milwaukee Police Department, Chief Edward Flynn, and Police Officer Kelly Patrick.

In regard to the protest this past weekend by members of the Hmong community, let me say first that it has been my privilege over the past eight years to represent a large portion of the city's Hmong and East Asian communities, and I find them to be hard-working, family-oriented, industrious, and education-minded citizens. And although I respect everyone's right to publicly protest peacefully and legally, at best the protest in reaction to the incident with Officer Patrick and motorist Koua Moua was premature and at worst it was misguided, inappropriate and apparently without merit. In fact the evidence I've seen overwhelmingly supports Officer Patrick, whose life was placed in jeopardy by the actions of Koua Moua.

It's high time we as a community stand up for our Milwaukee police officers who daily place themselves in harm's way for our benefit and safety. As for Chief Flynn's comments following the incident, **I say "Good for you, Chief!"**

Ed Flynn has been Milwaukee's police chief for less than three months and everything I see coming out of his office I like. Quite frankly, Milwaukee has not had a police chief willing to tell it like it is in 20 years, and in my opinion it's high time and long overdue.

Finally, to the officers of the Milwaukee Police Department, please keep up the good work. **Your dedication and hard work is appreciated by the overwhelming majority of city residents.**

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