

**Statement of Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.
November 16, 2007**

Yesterday, the Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission chose Edward Flynn to be the city's next Chief of Police. On behalf of the Common Council, I would like to welcome him to his new home. I know that my fellow members seek to collaborate with the Milwaukee Police Department in the best way possible to move Milwaukee forward.

We are faced with some immediate issues that must be addressed: quality-of-life policing, recent homicides, gun violence, rampant sexual assaults of young women, excessive overtime pay of officers, fragile resident-police relations, and unused policing technologies – just to name a few. MPD needs a leader who can bring the entire organization together under one united vision. I ardently hope and trust that Chief Flynn is that leader.

As the branch of government responsible for ensuring that all city departments have adequate resources, we have provided MPD with the appropriate funding to keep our city safe and secure. We have initiated certain personnel strategies, such as making use of civilian workers for booking and clerical duties, which we look forward to Chief Flynn embracing and implementing. By working together, we can give our citizens the crime-fighting services they need and deserve.

I personally look forward to meeting and talking with Chief Flynn as we work together for a safer Milwaukee.

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