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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Willie L. Hines, Jr.  
Council President  
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## Police Department And Community Deserve Shared Credit For Drop In Crime

*Council President Willie Hines Says Additional Police-Community Cooperation Will  
Keep Crime Numbers On Downward Trend*

The newly released findings in an FBI report indicating a 12% drop in violent crime for the City of Milwaukee in 2004 is refreshing news, and the city can expect more of the same with additional cooperation between police and citizens, Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. said.

The violent crime numbers – released Monday in a preliminary FBI report – show Milwaukee with the fourth largest drop in crime for the nation’s 33 largest cities. According to the report, among all police agencies in the Midwest, for example, violent crime fell 1.5%. In U.S. cities that are similar in size to Milwaukee, the decrease in violent crime averaged about 3.4%.

Given the recent spate of questionable actions by certain individual Milwaukee Police officers, Ald. Hines said the numbers are “proof positive” that most Milwaukee officers are fulfilling their sworn duty to protect and serve. “I think the statistics clearly show that the vast majority of our men and women in blue are doing their jobs quite well,” he said.

**-More-**

### **Crime Stats Show Positive Trend/ADD ONE**

When police officers and residents cooperate and communicate with each other, good things happen in Milwaukee, Ald. Hines said. “We all know the police cannot do it alone – they need citizen participation and involvement to prevent crime,” the alderman said. “I thank the citizens of Milwaukee for their role in this latest wave of crime reduction. We all benefit from reduced crime. Neighborhoods are safer, economic growth can flourish, and perceptions about the city are improved.”

Ald. Hines said that while he applauds the Police Department and Milwaukee residents for their efforts in driving down crime, he’s also encouraging Police Chief Nannette Hegerty to continue to foster relationships with community leaders and neighborhood stakeholders to help empower residents to keep their respective neighborhoods safe.

“We need one another to help keep crime in check,” he said.

