OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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WALKER RESPONDS TO HOLLOWAY'S STATEMENT

MILWAUKEE - County Executive Scott Walker made the following statement in response to a release by County Board Chairman, Lee Holloway:

"It is a bit ironic that the County Board Chairman put out a statement about the need to focus on the county on a day when his other press release lectured the City of Milwaukee Police Chief and defended Arthur Jones. I was elected to clean up county government and that is exactly what I've done over the past four years - which is a lot more than the board was doing before we got here.

I am sorry that the Chairman feels that opposing massive tax increases is hurting the county. The overwhelming majority of people in Milwaukee County, however, do not agree.

As for being able to negotiate with the state, the past four years have not been too great. Our county suffered cuts in income maintenance, increased costs for juvenile commitments, added financial burden to our programs to serve people with disabilities, and state mandates like the courts continued to grow - all from the actions of the current state administration. One exception was transportation, where I was able to successfully negotiate with the Secretary of Transportation to have the annex demolished as part of the work on the Marquette Interchange.

Being a statewide leader only enhances our ability to help Milwaukee County. Too often, those in state government fail to support Milwaukee because they believe that officials from our area don't care about the rest of the state. Too often, they believe that Milwaukee politicians only want more money without accountability. I am proud to counter that stereotype.

If the leaders in state government enacted my agenda, that includes allowing local governments to control wage and benefit packages and which limits unfunded state mandates, we would be able to provide core services without tax increases. Unfortunately, too many on the county board prefer just sticking it to the taxpayers of Milwaukee County.

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