



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Lee Holloway

Chairman of the Board

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HOLLOWAY: SCOTT WALKER NEEDS TO FOCUS ON HIS JOB

County Executive is undermining County's efforts at State Capitol

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway is requesting that County Executive Scott Walker do his job as County Executive and not try to play a role in statewide politics.

“I was disappointed to hear that the County Executive was at the State Capitol this week providing a counterpoint to the Governor’s Inauguration,” Holloway said. “Walker’s ‘Agenda for Wisconsin 2007’ focused on statewide issues. Many of the items cited by the County Executive are divisive and not directly related to his job as County Executive, which is a non-partisan post. In fact, parts of his agenda, including his opposition to changing the tax structure, would actually hurt Milwaukee County. It is irresponsible to push for tighter fiscal limits on Milwaukee County without understanding that the County has to use its own property tax dollars to carry out State mandated services. Walker needs to tackle these issues facing Milwaukee County. That’s what he was elected to do.”

The Chairman said the County Executive is giving the impression that he will again run for Governor in 2010. “To begin a potential campaign this early is extremely self-serving. He needs to wait until his time comes along,” said Holloway. “Walker is undermining Milwaukee County’s efforts to be treated fairly in Madison. We need to work with policymakers on both sides of the aisle. If he keeps this up, we’re not going to be able to negotiate with the State for the next four years.”

The Governor is currently finalizing his 2007-2009 State Budget proposal. Milwaukee County taxpayers are burdened with underfunded state mandates. The Governor’s Task Force on Milwaukee County Finances included two appointees from the County. The Co-Chairs of that Task Force took the positive step of recommending the Governor increase shared revenue to municipalities and provide more funding for County-provided services such as the Circuit Court system and juvenile corrections. One of the Co-Chairs of that group was Michael Morgan, who is now the Secretary of the Department of Administration. He is in a key position to help advance these issues. “While I wished that the Task Force had gone further, I ask the Governor to give positive consideration to the recommendations made by the Co-Chairs. The County Executive should also help advance these important items, rather than push his own Republican agenda for Wisconsin,” Holloway said.

“Really the agenda I push is one I hope that Republicans, well for that matter all people that are interested in state government, are willing to embrace. But as a leader within the party in this state, I wanted to put out something to try and get people to move forward, in particular to get Republicans back to our roots.” --Scott Walker, WisPolitics.com interview, 1/3/07

“Walker is looking at things as a candidate for Governor, not as the Milwaukee County Executive,” Holloway added. “He needs to show some leadership at the County level. The County Board should not have to assume that role as well.”

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