



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Lee Holloway

Chairman of the Board

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For Immediate Release
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**JURORS, OTHER COURTHOUSE VISITORS
GREETED WITH LOCKED DOORS, LONG LINES**

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement in response to the long lines experienced at the Milwaukee County Courthouse this morning, resulting from County Executive Scott Walker’s decision to reduce public access to the building:

“County Executive Walker’s irresponsible decision to close the County Courthouse during the early morning and late afternoon demonstrates his failure to understand the importance of providing public access to the County seat. This unilateral, single-handed decision is creating a major inconvenience for thousands of residents trying to conduct government business in the Courthouse.

“In recent years, I have worked together with the Courts to increase participation in our jury system, to make it more representative of people from all walks of life in Milwaukee County. But, when our jurors are greeted with locked doors, long lines and reduced security checkpoints, it becomes extremely difficult for citizens to perform their civic duty as jurors. The great progress we have made in jury participation is at risk, and I am extremely disappointed that the County Executive is choosing to take this action on his own, with no support from the County Board.

“As Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, I hereby call on the County Executive to come up with a creative plan quickly that will fully open the doors to the Courthouse so our residents can get the services they demand from Milwaukee County government. Whether it’s serving on juries, attending court sessions, getting marriage licenses, performing real estate transfers, or utilizing our other services, these residents must be able to access the Courthouse during regular business hours. Instead, we’re keeping the doors locked for longer periods of time and, in effect, telling visitors to the Courthouse that this is how we do business in Milwaukee County. I reject conducting Milwaukee County government in that manner.”

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