From: Bryan Steil
To: Eric Severson
Subject: Kenosha
Date: Thursday, August 27, 2020 4:31:15 PM

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News from Representative Steil

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Friend,

This has been a challenging five days for our community. We have seen loss of life, bloodshed, arson, and far too many horrific stories. This is not the Kenosha we know. I am committed to restoring public safety to the community of Kenosha.

The events began with the officer-involved shooting of Jacob Blake, recorded and watched by millions. The video is heart-wrenching. We all now wait to get answers from the on-going investigation by Wisconsin Attorney General Kaul which must ensure that all of the facts of incident are brought to light, and that justice is served.

In the wake of the shooting, incendiary comments, raw emotions, and a flood of outsiders to our community quickly led to a broad public safety crisis. Throughout this crisis, I sought to ensure resources were available to provide for the security of everyone in Kenosha. I informed state and local political and law enforcement leaders that if they felt they needed additional resources, I would work to get them those resources.

When local officials reached out to me on Tuesday to ask for that help, I took immediate action. I personally called the President of the United States and requested that he provide needed assistance to Kenosha. He took my call, and in our conversation, he agreed to send help. These requests, however, need the support of the Governor. After initially rejecting the offer on Tuesday, Governor Evers finally accepted that assistance on Wednesday. While I wish that assistance had been approved by Governor Evers immediately, I appreciate that he eventually granted his approval. At the same time, I am thankful for President Trump's quick reaction to this crisis.

Thankfully, as resources and assistance continue to come to Kenosha, last night we saw a significant improvement in public safety.

I spent the day in Kenosha yesterday. I talked to volunteers out cleaning up the streets and I talked to workers doing everything they could to protect their workplaces. Families there shared with me their concern for their safety, for their family's safety, and for their livelihoods. They also shared with me their hopes about rebuilding, and the possibility of the community reuniting with a renewed purpose. It is difficult to witness the damage in the City of Kenosha, but like many I talked to, I believe we can rebuild and reunite.

This morning, I updated the President again on the situation in Kenosha and let him know we need to keep at it. I will continue working to ensure our community has the needed resources in the days and weeks ahead.

As we move forward, I ask everyone to reflect on the words of Jacob Blake's mother, "let's use our hearts, our love and our intelligence to work together to show the rest of the world how humans are supposed to treat each other." I remain committed to rebuilding and healing our community.

If you need assistance, never hesitate to reach out to my office.

Also, to stay up to date, please follow my social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter. If you have friends or family who would like to receive these updates, please have them sign up for my newsletter here.

Sincerely,

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