

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Corrections and
Courts
(AC-CC)

(Form Updated: 07/24/2009)

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Milwaukee POLICE Association



Local #21 IUPA-AFL-CIO

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October 30, 2007

Corrections and the Courts Chairman
Representative Garey Bies
Room 125 West
State Capitol
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

RE: Assembly Bill 537

Dear Chairman Bies:

My name is Thomas E. Fischer and I am the Vice President of the Milwaukee Police Association. The MPA has made it one of our top priorities to monitor the parole hearings of cop killers and to take the initiative to keep these killers in prison where they belong.

During the fall of 2006 we learned that two individuals that had been convicted of killing City of Milwaukee Police Officers in the 1970's were eligible for parole. The first person was Brian C. Rolf DOC # 028465. The MPA tracked down the last surviving family member of Milwaukee Police Officer Dennis Obradovich who was shot and killed by Rolf. Officer Obradovich's brother was located living in Sun City Arizona. When we contacted him he indicated that he was not notified that Rolf was eligible for parole. He was upset that the parole commission had not made the effort to locate him in order to voice his opposition to the release of Rolf.

Another example of the system failing is that of City of Milwaukee Police Officer Ronald Reagan's killers. He was killed by three armed robbery suspects at the Bungalow Tap located at 2943 W. Hadley St. on December 13, 1973. All three suspects engaged in a gun battle with Reagan. During the exchange of gun fire Reagan was wounded. While laying on the floor of the tavern these three thugs each shot Officer Reagan in the head executing him. Through investigation the three suspects were arrested and convicted in Court for the homicide. Upon checking on the status of the killers it was learned that one of the suspects who is

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identified as Kenneth Jordan DOC#065962 was not only eligible for a parole hearing in April of 2007, but that he was at the Felmers Chaney Correctional Center, with work release privileges, right across the street from where he killed Officer Reagan. The family members of the Reagan family were unaware that Jordan had been eligible for parole and were extremely upset that Jordan had been released to what amounts to a half way house across the street from where Jordan and others had killed their father. Through the help of the community and family members of these deceased officers, a petition drive was started by the Milwaukee Police Association and these individuals were not released from prison. Also, Kenneth Jordan was moved to a secure prison setting.

At this time we asked Rep. Mark Gundrum and Rep. Anthony Staskunas in helping put forth this Assembly Bill. This bill would notify the law enforcement agency that employed the victim and also the head of the bargaining unit that represented the victim when the person who committed the crime is released from a correctional facility, released from extended supervision or parole, or conditionally or permanently released from a mental health facility. In closing I ask that you support this bill not only for the murdered police officers and their families in the City of Milwaukee but throughout the State of Wisconsin. Law Enforcement Officers and countless others have sacrificed their lives for the Community's they protected. We owe it to their families to keep them aware of the status of the person responsible for killing their loved one.

Sincerely,

MILWAUKEE POLICE ASSOCIATION



Thomas E. Fischer
Vice President
Local #21, IUPA, AFL-CIO

TEF/cmj