

State Dem Party: Statement on Kenosha DA's Announcement of No Charges in Jacob Blake Case

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The following is a statement from **Democratic Party of Wisconsin chair Ben Wikler** on the Kenosha County District Attorney's office decision to pursue no charges in the police shooting of Kenosha resident Jacob Blake this August:

“The safety of every Wisconsinite, regardless of race, must be at the center of our laws, and violation of that safety must lead to accountability. This is not justice. Not for Jacob Blake, who was shot seven times in the back and paralyzed by Kenosha police. Not for his children, who will be forever traumatized by the violence they witnessed that day. And not for the Black community in Wisconsin, which has seen their lives systemically devalued at the hands of police for years without accountability. Today's decision is yet another gut punch to those who have been organizing and protesting in defense of Black lives.

“Our justice system falls excruciatingly short of its promise of equal protection under the law for all Americans, and our laws fall miles short of adding up to a system of justice. Wisconsin, with some of the worst racial disparities in the nation, has incurred a particular debt to the Black community that continues to grow. If our laws do not prevent or address injustice, it is time to change them. We must fight for a just, equitable, and anti-racist Wisconsin. Black lives matter.”