

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: December 2, 2019 Contact: Ms. Eileen Figueroa (414)389-7131

COALTION CALLS FOR THOUGHTS, PRAYERS & ACTION FOLLOWING SHOOTING AT WAUKESHA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Franklin, WI – The 80% Coalition, a non-partisan group of advocacy, business, education, faith-based, professional and service organizations issued the following statement following the shooting at Waukesha South High School in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

"Today we stand with the students, parents, educators and administrators of the School District of Waukesha. While we await additional details, sadly Waukesha has joined the long list of communities that have experienced the terror and trauma associated with a school shooting. We are grateful to first responders and medical personnel as initial reports indicate there was no loss of life.

While we offer our thoughts and prayers, we also call for action to minimize the potential for such acts in the future. We respectfully remind lawful firearm owners to store and secure their firearms in a responsible manner. The coalition also calls on our state legislators to take action on two legislative proposals that are proven to reduce gun violence. The first would close the background check loopholes on firearm purchases and the second would provide police and parents an Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) option that would allow them to address credible threats before they turn in to tragedy. Both proposals have the overwhelming support of Wisconsinites including Republicans and Democrats, firearm owners and non-firearm owners alike.

It is time for elected leadership to stand up for the children of our state. If Wisconsinites can come together and agree on the need to pass these two proposals, then so should our elected leaders working in the state capitol."

About the 80% Coalition:

The 80% Coalition is non-partisan and is comprised of advocacy, business, education, faith-based, professional and service organizations committed to pushing back against hate and urging our legislators at the state and federal levels to condemn domestic terrorism and pass commonsense firearm reform legislation.

Coalition members include Advanced Wireless, Inc., Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Brady: United Against Gun Violence, Community Coalition for Quality Policing, Crusaders of Justicia, Doctors for America, The Rt. Rev. Steven Andrew Miller, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee, Felmers Chaney Advocacy Board, First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, Forward Latino, Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA, Hours Against Hate, Islamic Society of Milwaukee, JCRC - Milwaukee Jewish Federation, League of United Latin American Citizens Wisconsin, March for Our Lives MKE, March For Our Lives Wisconsin, Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH), Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition, Mom's Demand Action for Gun Sense in America - Central Milwaukee, NAACP - Milwaukee Branch, Wisconsin State NAACP Conference of Branches, NAMI Dane County, NAMI Wisconsin, Serve 2 Unite, UMOS & Wisconsin Anti Violence Effort (WAVE).

To learn more visit <u>www.80percent4wi.org</u>.

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