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Cratic Williams Drafts Law Enforcement Accountability and Transparency Act (LEAT Act)

One of my earliest memories and first encounters with police occurred when I was 13 years old, in the eighth grade living in Chicago. A cooperative student was arrested in a classroom, placed in handcuffs and the arresting officer grabbed the back of the student's head and slammed his face against the corner of the metal door frame. The officer looked back at us, smirking. I will never forget that feeling of hopelessness, oppression and anger as a child. We have all seen and heard of stories like this from all across the country. This is unacceptable. No person should go through what I had to experience.

As a Black police officer and the only candidate for State Assembly District 76 who is an expert practitioner within the criminal justice and social service systems, I have written some of the most progressive and comprehensive police reform policies in the country.

If elected, my plan for Wisconsin is to introduce the LEAT Act to redefine the role and responsibilities of law enforcement through:

- Increasing transparency by mandating demographic reporting on every investigatory contact, officer complaints and use of force or its threats (even the unholstering of weapons). Also create a public statewide, searchable database for demographic reporting.
- Increasing accountability by revoking licenses and making officers financially liable for violating civil rights. State funding for Departments will also be suspended for failing to follow demographic reporting mandates.
- Increasing funds, bringing back collective bargaining and building frameworks to diversify staffing levels in the social services, healthcare and educational systems. We need more social service providers who are culturally reflective of the clients they serve. Provide more autonomy for social service providers and not require police for non-violent and non-criminal matters.

Please read my full article for further details on the LEAT Act here.

Respectfully,

Tyrone Cratic Williams

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