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MURDERER FREED THREE MONTHS AFTER BEING DECLARED AN "UNREASONABLE RISK" Evers Administration Releases Balsewicz Parole Record After 139 Days

MADISON – <u>Newly released documents</u> show that convicted murderer Douglas Balsewicz, who stabbed his wife 42 times, killing her in front of their two young children was denied for parole just three months before his proposed release because he posed "an unreasonable risk to the public."

"The decision to release Balsewicz was unconscionable from the start," said Senator Van Wanggaard (R-Racine). "But to find out that the Parole Commission said the he was "an unreasonable risk" just three months prior makes the choice to parole him even more mind boggling. I see why the Evers Administration waited 139 days to provide me the records."

Wanggaard released Balsewicz's 2019-2022 parole records on Wednesday, having received the records 139 days following his first request for the records. The parole records show that there were no changes in Balsewicz's "treatment" or behavior between 2019 and his eventual proposed parole in April 2022. The records also indicate that the Parole Commission consistently said Balsewicz had not served enough of his 960-month sentence. However, in April, after just three additional months had passed, the Commission decided he had served enough time.

"The Evers Administration released him three months after saying he hadn't served enough time," said Wanggaard. "The record shows Balsewicz had no changes – nothing – in those three months. But now, magically, he's good to go? No wonder the family and victims were so upset. They just decided to let him out!"

Wanggaard has been trying to investigate the Wisconsin Parole Commission but has been obstructed by the Evers Administration's lack of responsiveness. Yesterday, the appointment of Christopher Blythe as Chairman of the Wisconsin Parole Commission was referred to Wanggaard's committee following <u>Wanggaard's request</u>. Wanggaard is still waiting on two record requests from the Department of Corrections.

Balsewicz's parole records can be found on Wanggaard's website, senatorwanggaard.com or by <u>clicking here</u>.

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