



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRIAN MICHEL STATEMENT ON SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION

Reform depends upon informed, engaged voters and responsible media

MILWAUKEE - Brian Michel today issued the following statement regarding the outcome of the primary election held on Tuesday, February 21:

“I want to extend my congratulations to William Crowley for his successful primary challenge. I hope the public continues to pay close attention to the problems facing our municipal court and never tempers its demand that our judges treat every person with dignity, fairness, and respect.

“I am grateful for those who cast their ballot for me, but also for each voter who was attentive enough to vote in a February primary election. However, the turnout of less than 9% is immensely disappointing. Coming off of a brutal presidential campaign season which should have taught the entire nation about the importance of a primary election, the lack of interest in casting a vote for positions and figures which have a far greater immediate effect on our city and our residents makes reforming broken systems all the more difficult.

“We must hold our media organizations accountable for failing to publicize a race which was important enough to draw three separate challengers, each with their own perspective. When over 2,700 people who voted in Milwaukee declined to complete 50% of the ballot, it represents a lack of knowledge of the choices and importance of the election. Elected officials who have overplayed their usefulness thrive on a disinterested public. Only by paying attention and holding accountable our public servants can we ever make Milwaukee the model of justice it should be.”

Brian Michel is a staff attorney for Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee. He also served as an assistant district attorney with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office and worked for the Public Defender's Office. Michel is a graduate of UWM and Notre Dame Law School and lives on Milwaukee's south side. He was a candidate for Branch 1 of the Milwaukee Municipal Court in the 2017 election.

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