

Milwaukee's Planned Failure.

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Madison, WI- State Representative Janel Brandtjen issued the following statement regarding the four deaths in the county jail and the ongoing murder rate in Milwaukee.

“Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett share some common philosophies on budgeting money. They both seem to feel public safety is a low priority and they both demonstrate that fact by cutting law enforcement budgets.

Chris Abele has been cutting the sheriffs budget every year since he took office, while at the same time the Milwaukee Police Department is roughly 300 police officers short. Talk about a recipe for disaster.

While crime in Milwaukee is reaching critical mass and homicides are as many as four or five over a single weekend, the talk seems to be focused upon four deaths in the county jail. Certainly this could be considered “selective outrage” as the Sheriff clearly does not share the same law enforcement philosophy as the Milwaukee County Board, the County Executive or most elected city officials.

In fact the County Executive Chris Abele has gone on record as cutting the Sheriff's budget because Clarke has a negative view of the group “Black Lives Matter.” Once again Milwaukee will make the top 10 most dangerous cities with close to last year's homicide total 153. Cutting funding in an aging jail, with a population of over 70% alcohol and other drug addiction issues coupled with a large section of mentally ill and physically sick repeat offenders has made managing the jail population extremely difficult.

Stop the trolley, hire the necessary police officers, restore the sheriff's budget, and work together to stop the circuit court's revolving door policy.”

State Representative Janel Brandtjen