



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statement from Rep. Bowen on the Shooting of Anthony Robinson:

MILWAUKEE – Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) issued a statement today in response to last Friday’s fatal shooting of 19-year-old Anthony Robinson by City of Madison Police:

“My heart goes out to the family in Madison who lost their son and the community in Madison who lost their friend. While this is undoubtedly a terrible tragedy, the response from the community—especially the young people—peacefully demanding justice, accountability, and transparency as the investigation of this incident moves forward gives me hope.

I’m grateful to my colleagues Rep. Chris Taylor (D-Madison) and former Rep. Garey Bies (R-Sister Bay) for their work passing legislation to require independent investigations of officer-involved shootings, and I’m grateful to Gov. Walker for signing it. Unfortunately, as we saw with the Dontre Hamilton case in my home city of Milwaukee, this legislation was only a first step, and important changes still need to be made. We also need to ensure the Department of Justice has the funding it needs to hire enough investigators to handle the increased workload, and to close the loopholes under the current law that allow investigations to be conducted by retired officers from the same department.

I urge Gov. Walker and my colleagues in the Legislature to listen to voices of the hundreds of citizens who marched on the Capitol on Monday and move forward with the necessary changes so that both our communities and the police officers that serve them can have faith that investigations into incidents like the shootings of Dontre Hamilton and Tony Robinson are conducted to serve justice, not political agendas.
