

For Immediate Release 20 April 2021 Contact: Rep. Scott Allen (608) 266-8580

## **Statement on anticipated Chauvin verdict**

"In advance of the expected verdict in the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, I call on public leaders in every community at every level, from city council members to members of Congress, to governors and to the President to provide rhetorical leadership that respects feelings and preserves peace. I call on leaders to lead.

Regardless of the outcome, we know that two wrongs do not make a right. No matter how strongly you might disagree with a judicial verdict you do not improve the system of justice by creating more victims. Violent acts that hurt others never improve the system of justice.

People are emotional. When an incident occurs that shocks us, that offends us to our core, our nature is to cry and shout. We may come together in the public arena and collectively express our frustration. We demand justice.

Our system of justice is imperfect. Sometimes it moves too quickly, sometimes too slowly. Sometimes our system gets it right, sometimes wrong. Sometimes justice is too harsh, sometimes too soft.

Our foremost responsibility as elected officials is to protect people and property. We must empathize and redirect energy toward positive goals.

A leader's job is, in part, to anticipate and prepare. We must show our communities the way forward."

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The 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District includes portions of the City and Village of Waukesha and the Towns of Genesee, and Mukwonago.