



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

May 27, 2015

Secretary Ed Wall
Department of Corrections
3099 E. Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 7925
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7925

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Secretary Kitty Rhoades
Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 650
P.O. Box 7850
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Release of Robert E. Larson and Jonathan A. Miller

Dear Secretary Wall and Secretary Rhoades,

We were shocked to learn with barely a weeks' notice that two sex offenders, Robert E. Larson and Jonathan A. Miller, are being released into the Town of Leroy in Dodge County. We were especially disappointed that we were first made aware of the situation from local residents and only after the court had ordered the individuals released into our community. Such short notice and limited public involvement in this process is unacceptable.

In this specific instance you are placing two Chapter 980 individuals within 100 yards of the residence of two 11-year old children. Sex offender placement is no easy task, and we certainly understand the difficult situation that both of your departments and local communities face in re-integrating these individuals. However, with more advanced notice and community involvement, this situation could have been avoided.

The two individuals about to be released have both been convicted of first degree sexual assault of a child and one of them has been convicted of first degree sexual assault with a deadly weapon. These individuals are currently held by the Department of Health Services (DHS) at the Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center, and once released will be supervised by the Department of Corrections (DOC). Even though the mobility of these individuals will be significantly limited for the first year, the community is still very concerned with the safety and well-being of the surrounding area.

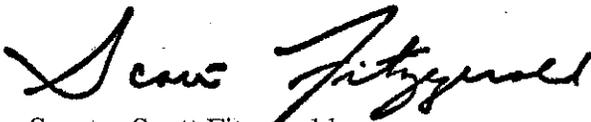
We appreciate that personnel from both DHS and DOC will be in attendance at tonight's community meeting in Brownsville to answer questions and respond to concerns from area residents. Any information that your departments could provide on specific security measures that will be in place to protect the community would be helpful, as we wish to communicate this information to concerned residents who contact our offices.

Going forward, we request that as similar individuals are released that your departments increase their work with local residents, municipal officials, and law enforcement to ensure placing is as appropriate as possible. Residents need to be given as much notice as possible so that they can be involved in the process.

If necessary, we would also welcome the opportunity to work with you to develop a legislative change to meet these goals.

Thank you for your time, and for your service to the State of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,



Senator Scott Fitzgerald
13th Senate District



Representative Mark Born
39th Assembly District