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Dodge County Sheriff: Evers Must Close Allouez and Waupun Prisons

Deaths, lawsuits and safety failures prompt recommendation

Madison, WI—Today, the Dodge County Sheriff's Office held a press conference releasing additional details surrounding the deaths of four inmates at Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI). State Representative David Steffen (R-Howard) released the following statement:

"For nearly six years, Governor Evers has ignored the experts, the staff, and the taxpayers by not decommissioning these two crumbling, 19th century buildings. It is well past the time for the Governor to put his politics aside and do the right thing: close GBCI and WCI. Our prison system is in desperate need of responsible leadership from our Governor and the deficiencies within the DOC must be addressed.

"Lack of leadership and accountability have resulted in failing prison facilities. What do failing prison facilities look like? Extended lockdowns, overcrowded, short-staffed, unhygienic, unsafe, federal investigations...and the list goes on. Conditions, especially at Green Bay and Waupun, are ripe for tragedy. This is unacceptable. Governor Evers must step up and begin actively addressing the failures within our corrections system, starting with the closure of these two facilities."

For more information please contact the office of Representative Steffen at (608)237-9104 or by email at <u>Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov</u>.

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