



ROBERT BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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June 24, 2020
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Representative Rob Brooks Statement on Capitol Destruction

Madison, WI—Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) issued the following statement condemning Tuesday evening’s violent rioting in Madison and destruction of the Wisconsin State Capitol:

“Last evening, Wisconsin’s capital again fell victim to attack by senseless rioting. While I support peaceful protest, I condemn the violence and destruction caused to the people’s house. The individuals responsible for this property damage, also assaulted a fellow colleague—Senator Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee), who was attacked by rioters while taking photos of the destruction, on the way to his legislative office. These are not “protestors;” they are criminals who must be held accountable for their actions. Protesting for justice, while simultaneously violating the law defies logic. Furthermore, the unwillingness of city authorities to address this destruction is hypocrisy at its finest.”

In addition to numerous broken windows in Capitol offices, two statutes were torn down and removed from Capitol Square. The first was of Colonel Hans Christian Heg, an anti-slavery activist who served in Wisconsin’s 15th Infantry in the Union during the American Civil War. Colonel Heg bravely gave his last full measure of devotion at the Battle of Chickamauga (1863). Col. Heg’s statue was decapitated, dragged through the streets of Madison, and thrown in Lake Monona. The second statute of Lady Forward, a symbol of Wisconsin’s time-honored motto and commitment to tolerance and progress, was careened from its pedestal and thrown in the middle of State Street.

“I respect everyone’s right to peacefully protest. That said, we should not tolerate or accept the criminal behavior of those who resorted to destruction and violence to send a message. I am confident that this type of behavior will not be tolerated in Washington and Ozaukee Counties and peaceful protestors will still have every opportunity to have their voices heard without breaking the law. My thoughts and prayers go out to Senator Tim Carpenter, who was severely injured last evening. This type of behavior is disgusting and reprehensible. I hope last night’s events motivate Governor Evers and Mayor Rhodes-Conway to take action, if not, the voters will, in forthcoming elections, to address this senseless violence.”

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