



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

SAMANTHA KERKMAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Kerkman Statement Regarding the Police Officer-Involved Shooting in Kenosha on August 23

Madison – Representative Samantha Kerkman (R-Salem Lakes) issued the following statement in response to the police officer-involved shooting in Kenosha yesterday:

“Along with many in our Kenosha County community, I have seen the brief but disturbing video of yesterday’s officer-involved shooting in Kenosha. I would like to offer my thoughts and prayers to Jacob Blake and his family. I am hopeful that he recovers quickly.

During this time of heightened tension, I respectfully call on the Kenosha County community to be peaceful. What we saw in Kenosha last night – burned buildings and vehicles – is unacceptable and cannot continue. I am thankful that Governor Evers has activated the Wisconsin National Guard to Kenosha County in order to help keep our community safe.

As a community, we need to be careful to not pass judgment regarding a case where not all of the facts are known. The investigation of this incident has already been turned over to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) pursuant to state law. It is imperative that we allow the DOJ adequate time to complete a comprehensive investigation. If the DOJ finds that the actions taken last night were not warranted, there will be appropriate consequences for those who were involved.

I look forward to the work of the Speaker’s task force that will focus on racial disparities, educational opportunities, public safety, and police policies and standards. I am pleased that Assembly Speaker Robin Vos announced today that he is creating this important task force.”

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