



### COMMUNITY ALERT

#### April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month!

Texting distracts a driver for about 5 seconds; at 55 mph, that is like driving the length of a football field *blindfolded*

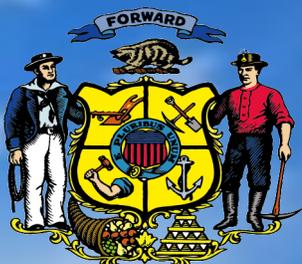
Know the facts, and drive safely!

#justdrive

Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading the legislative update. I hope you find the information provided here useful.

As Always, I'm Here to Serve!



## CREATING AN UNBIASED REVIEW PROCESS

On Tuesday, the Senate passed AB 409, which I authored, requiring law enforcement agencies to have a written policy regarding the handling of deaths involving an officer. The bill calls for two of the three investigators to be from an agency that does not employ the officer involved in the death being investigated. It also requires the district attorney to submit the report to the board of officer review, and the board must ensure that it addresses all aspects of the death.



The heroic actions of law enforcement officials help to ensure that our communities are kept safe, and I know that we all sleep better knowing that they're out there. However, that kind of power requires oversight. Trust leads to cooperation, greater understanding and an all-around safer state. I hope that more thorough investigations will give comfort to families going through an emotional, heartbreaking ordeal and prevent future deaths.

## 90K FOR WRONGFULLY CONVICTED MAN



Can we put a price on 23 years of a man's life? The experiences he missed? I don't believe that we can, but it is our responsibility as the Wisconsin State Legislature to begin to repair a mistake that was made nearly 30 years ago. That is why on Tuesday the Senate passed AB 290, a bill I co-authored, which will pay \$90,000 to Robert Lee Stinson. Mr. Stinson served 23 years in prison for a crime that he did not commit, despite a lack of witnesses and incorrect expert testimony at his trial. We must give thanks to the individuals at the Wisconsin Innocence Project who helped to right this wrong. Though we cannot compensate Mr. Stinson for the years he lost, we can help him to begin again. Let this also serve as a reminder for the future. Our justice system is not infallible, but I promise to work tirelessly to make it as fair and reliable as possible.

Innocenceproject.org



Are you looking to start a non-profit? Do you know someone who is?

The Wisconsin Black Chamber of Commerce will tell you everything you need to know about Articles of Incorporation, Corporate Bylaws, EIN, Conflict of Interest and the 501(c)(3) Application

April 5th, 9 a.m.—12 p.m.  
3020 W. Vliet Street

To learn more and register, visit [www.twbcc.com](http://www.twbcc.com)

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### **CHALLENGING GOP STRIP SEARCH BILL**

During our last day in session this year, I shared my concerns regarding a bill that gives local law enforcement officers the broad power to strip search any person detained for more than 12 hours. AB 556, passed this week, reaches too far; it has the potential to force citizens who have no criminal records or have not even committed a criminal act to be subject to a strip search. Under this bill, even those who fail to pay forfeitures may be subject to these searches. Although it was amended to exclude minors, I believe that the bill blatantly disregards some of the constitutional rights that we hold dear. No person who has only been arrested, but not convicted, should be denied basic protections against unfair search and seizure. We should be supporting legislation that helps our public safety officers conduct law enforcement responsibly. This legislation takes us in the opposite direction, violating the privacy of the citizens of Wisconsin.

### **PROTECTING SENIORS WITH SILVER ALERT**



On Tuesday, the Wisconsin State Senate unanimously passed AB 710, a measure that creates an alert system for missing adults at risk over the age of 65. The bill, which I co-authored, aims to protect elderly adults with cognitive or developmental disabilities, as well as other medical conditions, by using the already-established crime alert network as a location tool. The bill cannot come too soon, as statistics have shown that more than five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease alone, and over 100,000 are Wisconsin residents. It is my hope that we can provide some peace of mind for friends and family members of those affected. We must do all we can to protect our loved ones and to care for those who cared for us.

## **Wise Words of the Week!**

### **Contact Us!**

**We Enjoy Hearing From You!**

“Life without liberty is like a body without spirit”

**From You!**

- *Kahlil Gibran*



“Justice delayed is justice denied”

- *William E. Gladstone*