

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 13, 2016 Contact: Rep. Mark Spreitzer, 608-266-1192

Rep. Mark Spreitzer statement on horrific violence in Orlando

MADISON – In response to this weekend's horrific violence in Orlando, Rep. Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) issued the following statement:

"I'm horrified by the attack in Orlando early Sunday morning. This was a terrible tragedy, an act of terror, and a hate crime perpetrated against the LGBTQ community. That this attack came during Pride Month, which is meant to celebrate what it means to be LGBTQ, is especially heartbreaking. My heartfelt condolences go out to the victims, to their friends and family, and the entire LGBTQ community that is deeply hurting after this attack.

"Although we cannot accept that this kind of massacre is something that happens in this country, we must not scapegoat entire groups of people. Instead, we must lay the blame where it belongs: the ideology of violent extremism.

"Let us take action to promote legal and social equality, and to keep dangerous weapons out of the hands of those who seek to use them to do harm. Let us choose love over hate, and hug our friends, family, and neighbors even more closely in the days and weeks ahead. Let us continue to build a community where this kind of act really is unthinkable."

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