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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT FROM SENATOR VAN WANGGAARD ON THE FACTS OF THE JACOB BLAKE INCIDENT

“Too many people today are misrepresenting the facts of what happened one year ago in Kenosha. A couple of seconds of video repeated endlessly in the media fails to put the incident in perspective.

At the time Jacob Blake was shot, he was at minimum trying to kidnap children. At worst, he was turning with a knife to attack a police officer.

Prior to being shot, Blake ignored police demands to drop the open knife he held in his hand.

While armed with the knife, he wrestled with officers - putting one in a headlock, while actively resisting his attempted arrest.

Police were attempting to lawfully arrest Blake on a felony sexual assault warrant, and had been called to the scene for a domestic disturbance and attempted car theft.

To make the arrest, police attempted to subdue him using non-lethal force. Three times police deployed Tasers to gain control of the situation. Blake removed the Taser prongs.

And all of this took less than a minute.

Blake wasn't shot in a vacuum. There was a series of events and escalations by Blake leading to the shooting. Ignoring the facts of the incident may serve someone's political narrative, but that doesn't change them.

Facts matter - and they don't change because you ignore them.

While thinking and praying for those involved in the incident, please do not forget law enforcement officers and their families all across the state who were impacted as well.

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