

Since being first elected over 5 years ago, I have spent countless hours working alongside Chairman Nudo in order to facilitate good government. Chairman Nudo selected me to serve as Chairman of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee himself, and he made that choice because he knew I had the experience, knowledge, and passion to lead the committee well. In my time chairing the committee, we saw the largest investment in Sheriff's personnel in recent memory. \$356,000 was added to the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department budget resulting in the hiring of more deputies and detectives. Such an investment had not been passed by the committee in at least 20 years, and I'm proud to have proposed that legislation. I oversaw approval of the agreement with Lake Behavioral Health that brought critical mental health services closer to Kenosha County. Further, I led the approval the COSSAP program, which brought Medication Assisted Treatment to inmates with opioid addictions in our jail. I also prided myself in building strong relationships with Sheriff Zoerner and his administration, something previous chairmen had struggled with.

It is unfortunate that Chairman Nudo chose to remove me from my leadership role after the committee has made such wonderful progress for the safety and well-being of Kenosha County residents. He made it clear to me and several of our colleagues on the county board that his choices were due to differences we had in pending policy proposals. I informed Chairman Nudo that I was not in favor of stripping county supervisors of their authority in order to increase the power held by the Chairman of the county board. I was then told by Chairman Nudo that he was immediately stripping me of my leadership position. It is upsetting to see that Chairman Nudo has taken this route in an attempt to funnel power away from the duly elected supervisors.

###

--

***-Zach Rodriguez***