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TASK FORCE CREATION

As District Attorney I have been committed to protecting our community's constitutional rights while helping ensure continued public health and safety during this public health emergency. From the first day of the "Safer at Home" order in Wisconsin, I have had discussions with local law enforcement about the constitutionality of this order, and I continue to have those discussions today. Any determination on the constitutionality of these orders must be made by the judicial branch.

I recognize the tragedy Covid-19 has caused for many within our community and state, as well as the devastation the "Safer at Home" order has created for families businesses, religious groups, and the massive loss of jobs within our community. In listening to our local, state and national public health officials I understand this pandemic could last for months. I also recognize that the safety needs of Milwaukee County or other parts of Wisconsin will not always align with the safety needs of Fond du Lac County, and that must be taken into consideration as our community and state move forward during this public health emergency.

To move forward we need a common sense and responsible plan that will allow our businesses and religious centers to reopen, while at the same time balancing our public health obligations, economic needs, and constitutional protections. In order to seek clarity and reduce further public health violations resulting in criminal charges, I have begun discussions with key community and elected officials within Fond du Lac County to create a plan allowing for businesses to reopen.

Based on those positive discussions a local Task Force is in development to address these issues. The Task Force includes local public health officials, elected officials, law enforcement, and leaders from our business community with more members expected to join in the coming days. My hope is the Task Force will develop a science-based plan using concrete metrics, supported by our local public health officer, to allow families to reunite, businesses and religious centers to reopen in Fond du Lac County, while at the same time ensuring public health needs and constitutional safeguards are protected. Working together, I am confident we will accomplish this mission..

In beginning the formation of this Task Force I have met with:

County Executive Allen Buechel
Fond du Lac City Manager Joe Moore
Public Health Officer Kim Mueller

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Sadie Parafiniuk, incoming President/CEO of Envision Greater Fond du Lac
Sheriff Ryan Waldschmidt
Chief William Lamb
Congressman Glenn Grothman's Office
Senator Dan Feyen
Assemblyman Jeremy Thiesfeldt
County Board Supervisor Sam Kaufman
Councilman Daniel Degner

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