

2
3
4
5 **A RESOLUTION**
6

7 requesting that the State of Wisconsin develops a task force to review current State
8 domestic violence law, evaluate implementation of the law, and identify ways in which
9 the law can be strengthened
10

11 WHEREAS, domestic violence is a multi-faceted issue faced by communities,
12 including those within and surrounding Milwaukee County; and
13

14 WHEREAS, recent incidents in the Milwaukee area community have brought to
15 light issues surrounding law enforcement's response to domestic violence issues; and
16

17 WHEREAS, due to the nature of domestic violence issues, it is imperative that
18 first responders and law enforcement called to the scene of a suspected domestic
19 violence issue be trained to carefully follow established best practices to ensure the
20 safety of domestic violence victims; and
21

22 WHEREAS, current domestic violence practices proved inadequate to support
23 victims in recent high-profile cases and may even bear a part in the fatalities, which
24 resulted; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance has a
27 comprehensive domestic violence training guide; and
28

29 WHEREAS, media reports have indicated that while the State of Wisconsin has
30 some of the most comprehensive domestic violence laws on the books, including a
31 mandatory arrest law, that the laws are often not enforced; and
32

33 WHEREAS, it is important that State leaders evaluate current State Statutes for
34 both their content and effectiveness, and identify ways in which current law can be
35 clarified and/or strengthened; and
36

37 WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has an abundance of resources, including
38 Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and several other community partners
39 and stakeholders to provide resources in support of strengthening the response to
40 domestic violence incidents; and
41

42 WHEREAS, a task force of representatives, including representatives from all
43 aspects of both the criminal justice and social service community, including local law
44 enforcement officers, should be convened to examine current practice, and bring forth
45 recommendations for best practices in responding to domestic violence incidents; now,
46 therefore,

47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby requests that the State of Wisconsin develops a task force to review current state domestic violence laws, evaluate the extent to which current laws are implemented, and identify ways in which the State law can be strengthened; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Attorney General, and members of the Milwaukee County Delegation in the State Legislature.