



Jennifer Bias
State Public Defender

Jeremy Perri
Trial Division Director

Angel Johnson
Regional Attorney Manager

October 24, 2025

Criminal Division Judges
Milwaukee Circuit Court
901 N 9th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Re: Milwaukee District Attorney's Office and Enough is Enough

Dear Judiciary,

We are writing to request that you consider the context surrounding any impact statements or presence from the group "Enough is Enough." We respectfully submit that this court watch group should not be regarded as an independent, grassroots organization.

While Enough is Enough is primarily composed of community members (not necessarily from Milwaukee – the president resides in Walworth County), its activities and formation have been closely coordinated with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office since its inception. ADA Joy Hammond defined, developed and launched the court watch program, and its advocacy has been done in close collaboration with every level of the District Attorney's office (including the District Attorney, Deputy District Attorneys, Assistant District Attorneys, and Director of Victim Witness Services). Consequently, we believe the group functions more as an extension of the DA's office than as an independent entity.

The SPD filed an Open Records request asking for all communication between the Milwaukee County DA's office and Enough is Enough. We received over 258 emails and we have requested additional records. The emails outline extensive meetings with members of the DA's office and Enough is Enough, including "learning sessions" and "Q&As" conducted by members of the DA's office for the group. The DA's office also provided a courthouse complex tour. These meetings included discussions about specific cases prior to sentencing and how to obtain case information to write community impact statements. Emails also revealed the DA office's desire to meet weekly with the group. The president of the group requested the assistance of an ADA to educate Milwaukee youth that stopping for the

police is much better than fleeing from them while also helping police “dispel the “myth” (if it is even a myth any more or just an excuse) about black men being afraid of the police/George Floyd effect etc”.

Samples of the emails demonstrating the role the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office has played in organizing Enough is Enough include:

*When the group nominated ADA Joy Hammond for "Prosecutor of the Year," they did so specifically in recognition of her work with them, stating: "Joy has assisted our nonprofit organization with getting our Court Watch program defined, developed and launched. She has met with us extensively to help us understand and navigate the court system, logistically and functionally. She has served as a bridge to the DA's office and other DAs associated with the cases we are following."

*ADA Joy Hammond and retired ADA Thomas Potter reviewed, drafted, and edited letters for Enough is Enough addressed to the judiciary. In those communications, Enough is Enough was told to remove language that indicated the group's collaboration with the DA's office and to frame their issue as a community, rather than law enforcement, initiative.

*The DA's office established a Dropbox of cases they wanted the group to consider targeting. We've requested the contents of the Dropbox to learn whether the group was provided with information on defendants that would typically not be accessible to other non-profit organizations or the general public. A referral form was also created by the DA's office for Enough is Enough to target certain defendants and courts. Criminal complaints were directly emailed to the group from the DA's office for review.

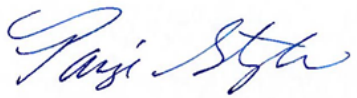
*The group asked the DA's office for information on which judges the group should watch and guidance on how to contact the Chief Judge. Emails were sent from the group to the DA's office on how judges and defense attorneys responded to their filings/presence at court appearances. The DA's office was consulted for feedback prior to the group publishing their findings (including a “judge report”) to their website and the general public. It was made clear to the DA's office that the group's key findings would be shared with press, local leaders, and legislators.

It is our belief that the Milwaukee County DA's office, by supplying information to Enough is Enough and then acting as if it is an independent organization, purposely omitted crucial context that should have been disclosed to the defense and judiciary. In the words shared

between the DA's office and Enough is Enough, they are in this together, the court watch group could not do this without the DA's office, and their continued partnership will get their collective points across.

We urge the judiciary to consider this context when evaluating any impact statements or the presence of Enough is Enough, recognizing them as part of the District Attorney's efforts to influence sentencing decisions.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paige Styler".

Atty. Paige Styler
Deputy Regional Attorney Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angel Johnson".

Atty. Angel Johnson
Regional Attorney Manager

CC: Milwaukee Criminal Judges
Judge Danielle Shelton (named in emails)
Judge Milton Childs (named in emails)
Judge Paul Van Grunsven
Jeffrey Altenburg, Milwaukee Chief Deputy District Attorney
Kent Lovern, Milwaukee District Attorney