

EXCLUSIVE: Milwaukee Public TV (Channel 10) Cuts Off Walker-Evers During Walker's Closing Statement

The debate Friday night on Milwaukee PBS affiliate Channel 10 between Governor Scott Walker and Democrat Tony Evers was cut off the air in the middle of Walker's closing statement. Milwaukee Public TV officials say it was a mistake on not politically motivated. They say station personnel gave the station's master control technicians the wrong end time for the debate, which was hosted by the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association. The master control techs thus stopped the debate early, based on the instructions for the end time. It is unclear if anyone could have overridden the original orders given that the debate was obviously not over.

Channels 10 and 36 are both licensed to Milwaukee Area Technical College. Several MATC unions are aggressively supporting Evers. Most of the tech and engineering staff at the stations is unionized.

To its credit, Milwaukee Public TV officials re-aired the debate several times over the weekend with Walker's closing statement aired in its entirety. The debate aired on a number of other state TV stations. There is no indication it was cut off early on any of those stations.

Mark Belling
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