



MARK  
BELLING

## How would you like to be a cop right now?

*Our heroes are under siege*

How would you like to be a cop right now?

You literally put your life on the line while going into the highest-crime neighborhoods we have to try to keep the people who live there safe. You step into the ugliest domestic situations imaginable, try to defuse them and protect victims who were violently attacked. You put your life on the line every time you have to chase somebody driving a stolen car 90 miles per hour through residential neighborhoods. You get insulted and cursed by 15-year-olds who know there is almost nothing they can do that will get them jailed.

You are ordered by your bosses to harass citizens who try to go to church or eat a sandwich in a restaurant parking lot, angering the very people who most support you.

The most liberal cities are the ones most likely to order police to stand down and tolerate the abuse.

You are occasionally shot at. You have to work shifts on weekends, the middle of the night and holidays. You have to somehow help kids sexually abused by their parents. You are surrounded by drugs and mocked by big-time dealers who make millions per year and drive fancier cars than you could ever afford. You save the lives of overdose victims by administering Narcan only to see the same person strung out a few days later.

You get written up by your bosses for arcane violations of the rules. You know that if you make the kind of mistake others make with minor consequences, you will be fired. You are ordered to go to work on a city street where you will be hit by a car, like an OWI, it may cost you your job. You try to explain to your kids why it's possible you might be killed on the job. You go through rigorous training on the use of highly powered weapons. You are the foot soldiers on the front lines of every one of America's deepest social problems.

And, when somebody else who has your job in a city far away screws up, you are blamed. You are hated. You are reviled. In a society filled with violent sociopaths, career criminals, sexual perverts, vandals, thieves, drug dealers, embezzlers and all other manner of human dysfunction, somehow YOU are the baddest guy of all.

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Did you read the signs or listen to the chants in Milwaukee? In Shorewood? In Kenosha?

"F\*\*\* The Police." "F\*\*\* 12." "Stop Killing Us." These signs and these chants are pure, unadulterated hate. They are directed at men and women who live in all of our communities, who go to church, whose kids are in school, who pay their taxes, who coach youth sports, who care for their older moms and dads, who go to the grocery and drug stores like the rest of us. That's who is on the receiving end of all this "F\*\*\* You," and worse.

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Now imagine standing there, ordered to stand motionless as vile insults are screamed at you for hours. Imagine being on your feet for nine hours, sweating like crazy, wearing a hot shield over your face and pounds of vests. And imagine knowing that if you say anything, or do anything, you will be blamed for inciting the very people who are treating you like an animal.

Imagine listening to all those firecracker pops and not knowing if any of them are gunshots.

Imagine being forced to watch people openly break the law 5 feet from you. Imagine being told you can't react when people openly defy curfews and every other type of law and ordinance because enforcing the law will somehow anger and enflame the people breaking it.

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The worst venom of all, remarkably, seems to be directed at officers in the communities with the most passive police forces. Shorewood is the most liberal community in southeastern Wisconsin and it was their cops who had rocks and bottles thrown at them and their vehicles.

Madison's police department has been run by leftist chiefs for decades and has looked the other way at all sorts of illegal activity for years. Yet their cops were the ones who were the victims of the worst violence over the weekend.

Milwaukee's police force is a melting pot of diversity. Women, Latinos, Hmong and African Americans help fill the ranks. Yet those cops are the ones who were most loudly accused of racism.

Chicago has a radical feminist African American mayor and a very integrated police department. Yet, it was Chicago's Loop that was torn apart and the Magnificent Mile gutted by massive mobs.

Why is that?

The answer is actually simple. The most liberal cities are the ones most likely to order police to stand down and tolerate the abuse. The turning point in the national weekend of violence was last Thursday when Minneapolis' inept leftist mayor, Jacob Frey, ordered police to abandon a precinct headquarters and do nothing while protesters burned it down. The message was clear: The cops won't do anything to you.

The same thing happened in Madison on Saturday. State Street was destroyed, officers were injured, there was mayhem everywhere and only a few people were arrested. The violent demonstrators knew they were being allowed to get away with it. In other words, the cities and police most tolerant were the ones most hated and most victimized.

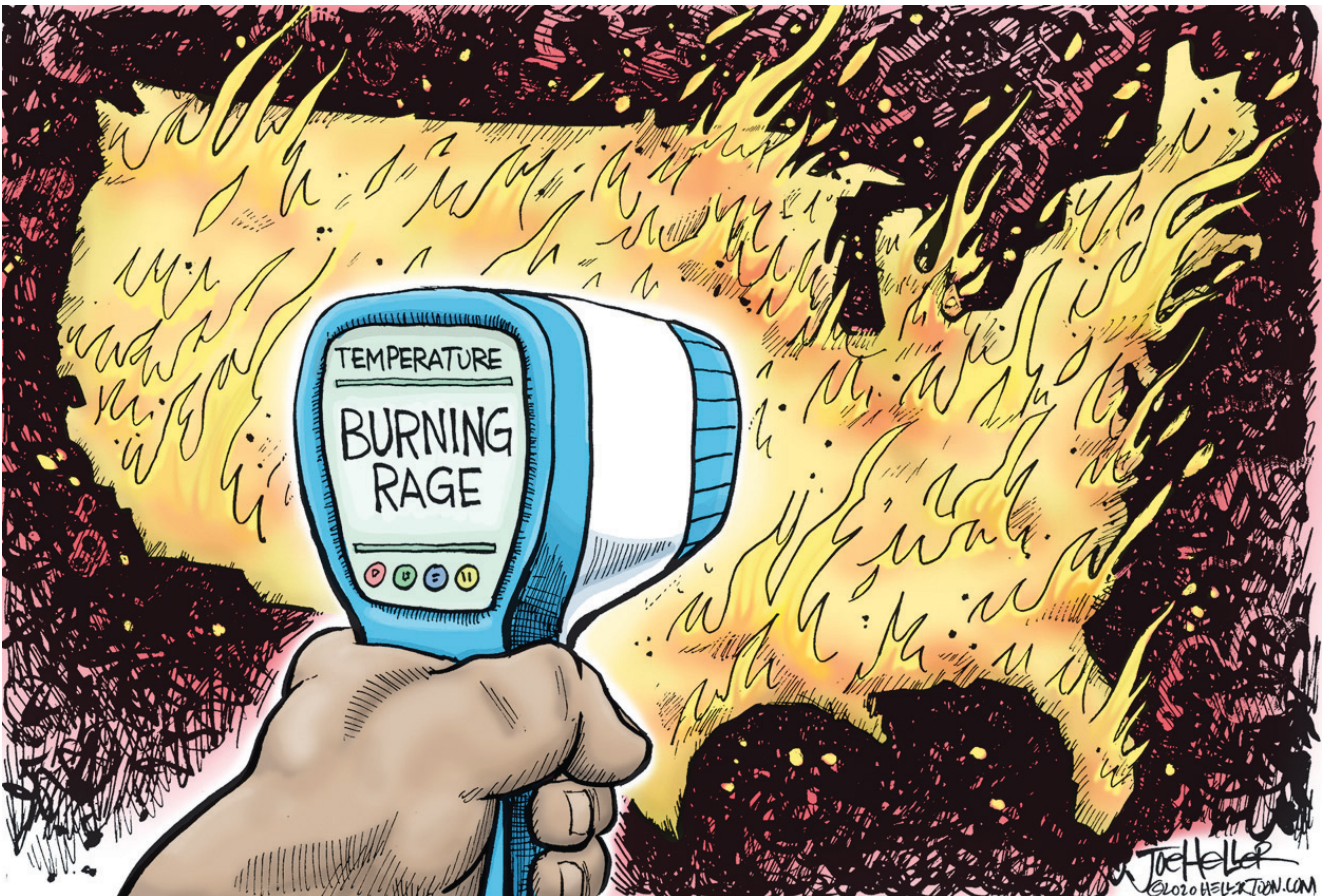
Minneapolis eventually got its act together and even Madison has started arresting people. In Milwaukee, the police are doing their best to manage a situation on the precipice of anarchy. And in every one of those places the people being asked to keep the order, protect us, and keep us safe are the ones being called racist, monstrous killers. The rest of us need to say this: God bless our police.

(Mark Belling is the host of a daily WISN radio talk show.)

## TODAY'S INSPIRATION

*"Positive anything is better than negative nothing."*

— Elbert Hubbard



## UW System needs big hitters to step to plate

*System in need of bold strategies*



JOHN  
TORINUS

If ever there were a time for the big hitters in the Milwaukee area to rally behind UW-Milwaukee and the other UW campuses in southeastern Wisconsin, this is it.

In this COVID-19 crisis, Gov. Tony Evers and the Republican legislators have proven they are no friends of the 26 UW campuses in the state. The campuses are reeling from abrupt revenue fall-offs that include collapses in enrollment and tuition (except for UW-Madison), dormitory rentals and food services.

The revenue drop at UWM, for example, will cause a deficit of \$9 million to \$18 million for the current budget year and as much as \$50 million to \$100 million for the 2020-21 school budget year. That's a gigantic slice out of a current budget total of about \$650 million.

The first round of costs cuts, already underway, on top of successive bipartisan reductions over the last decade, may be manageable through massive restructuring on the Milwaukee, Waukesha and West Bend campuses. But where, oh, where will the UWM leaders find enough cuts to navigate the 2020-21 revenue drop?

Instead of riding to the rescue with some kind of

major help to get the university through the crisis in the short and long term, the governor and Legislature added to the pain by slicing its contribution to the system by 5% — \$46 million. UWM Chancellor Mark Mone told the UW regents that the current financial situation is "catastrophic" and added that the projected losses for next year put the campus "in peril." It's hard to think of stronger words for his plea for help.

Mone will have to make major changes in the near term, and he will need the support of community leaders as he makes his decisions. Regional business leaders, who have dealt with similar challenges, can help.

There will be a lot of resistance on campus, primarily from faculty. But make moves he must. The pandemic and the deepest of recessions give him no choice.

Here are some of the near term changes he will probably have to make:

■ Raises and bonuses will be gone.

■ Furloughs will be extended for many staff members. Some layoffs will be unavoidable.

■ Colleges and departments will be consolidated. Dean positions will be eliminated. For example, the two health care colleges could be combined.

■ UWM will open in the fall with on-campus classes, but more online classes will be added for all degree programs. UWM already leads the system with 11,000 students taking some on-line offerings.

■ Judiciously collected reserves will be tapped.

For the longer term, major restructuring of the system is in the cards. Here are some of the moves that the regents need to be considering, regardless of who the next UW president is:

■ Prune the UWS balance sheet to raise money from non-core assets. UW health is an example.

■ Re-examine the split of general purpose revenues to the campuses. Madison, which has multiple major revenue streams (R&D, foreign students, foundation earnings, hospital profits) gets the lion's share of GPR dollars. The other 25 campuses have lower reserves and fewer places to go for crisis money. The Wisconsin Idea says the boundaries of the state are the boundaries of the system. Walk the talk in this challenging time.

■ Allow the bonding by the four-year regional campuses.

■ Move smartly and decisively into online learning. UWM can lead the way

across the state.

■ Follow President Ray Cross' lead and sharpen the missions of the four-year campuses. Examples are natural resource management at Stevens Point, recreation management and nursing at La Crosse, and engineering at Platteville.

■ Use a small portion of the \$8 billion in foundation assets around UW-Madison for bailouts for the next two years. Invasion of principal is OK in severe crises.

■ Close or merge campuses that are no long sustainable. A regional framework makes that more palatable.

These are all bigger and bolder moves than UW regents have entertained in the past. But the status quo doesn't cut it when then state and country are facing a triple whammy, the pandemic, the resulting economic collapse and now a racial confrontation.

All three, plus the enrollment declines, mandate that the regents, governor and Legislature make major structural and financial changes to keep our very valuable public university system vital, pivotable and sustainable.

(John Torinus is chairman of the board of Serigraph Inc. in West Bend and blogs regularly at [www.johntorinus.com](http://www.johntorinus.com).)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Politics has been ugly for some time now

To the editor:  
John (Torinus), what do you mean it's going to get ugly? (Thursday) Where have you been the last four years? Let's start with Hillary and the Democratic National Committee. They paid for a Russian dossier (that was leaked to the press). Remember the story of the ladies of the night in a Russian hotel? (That was before the election.) Then the Russian dossier was used for a FISA warrant to spy on the Trump campaign. (AG'S words, not mine.) Then let's not forget about good ol' Adam Schiff. Every day on TV he had proof of collusion. (lies)

Let's not leave out FBI Director Robert Comey. He went to the White

House with two FBI agents to trap Gen. Michael Flynn. He was even on TV bragging about it. They knew there was no collusion but started the Robert Mueller investigation anyway. After putting America through this for two-and-a-half years, still no collusion.

Let's move on to Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh and the #MeToo "I believe her" movement. He had to be investigated by the FBI. Where are all the "I believe her" liberals today? Joe Biden! Crickets! Here we go again impeachment! What a joke!

We the People who voted for the president have been called every name in the book. "Deplorable" is just one of the kinder words used. Now it's your turn to wait for the Durham report. Why is it no one

seems to remember the Russian dossier that started this whole thing? And, yes it was paid for by the Democrats. And you're worried about a tweet!

Bruce Corbin  
West Bend

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## SOUND OFF

### Media

In his 400-plus-word sound off Thomas Parnau said "Think for a minute about all you hear from the mainstream media. Are the charges real, or backed with any facts?" If you want to call news outlets like the Waukesha Freeman, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel or nightly TV news shows mainstream, then yes, they are filled with facts. You can tell because when they make a mistake they publish a correction and they clearly label the opinion section with LARGE type telling us it is commentary.

But if you want to call 24/7 cable "news" stations like Fox or radio talk shows mainstream media then they

are filled with commentary on the news, not factual news. Sadly people who watch those commentary shows thinking they are actual news shows seem to think opinions they like trump facts they do not.

And that brings me to Thomas' claim that he and his Republican friends believe in health care. Well, Thomas, as long as you support politicians that work to assure the poorest among us do not have the same access to the health care you enjoy, you really do not support health care, you merely believe you deserve to be treated better than the poor.

— Jim Honeck,  
Town of Mukwonago

### Trump

So Trump's upset about being fact-checked on Twitter. It can be two things: No. 1, stop lying and embellishing; and No. 2, just don't use Twitter. It would save us all a whole bunch of grief.

— Dave Christnacht, Waukesha

### SOUND OFF

Responders are required to sign their names. Please provide a phone number for verification and the community where you live. Your phone number will not be published.  
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