

Evers' Chief Of Staff Ducks Questions About Personal Relationship With Another Evers Aide She Oversees

By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

Governor Tony Evers' chief of staff and the governor's press secretary are refusing to answer questions about the nature of their personal relationship. Most private employers, including mine (iHeartRadio) ban supervisors from having close relationships with subordinates they directly supervise.

The Gau-Cudaback situation is the subject of a lengthy report on [jsonline.com](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/election/2023/08/31/gau-cudaback-relationship-2023/7048117001) today.

Maggie Gau, Evers' longtime chief of staff and top aide, is not answering my questions about the nature of her relationship with Britt Cudaback, the governor's communications director. Cudaback, who is Evers' lead spokesperson, is also not responding to my inquiries. Several Capitol sources tell me that Gau and Cudaback frequently travel together, have a close relationship and either live together or stay at the same home for extended periods.

Cudaback was promoted from assistant communications director to her current lead communications position during the time Gau was the chief of staff. In virtually all government organizations, the chief of staff is the direct supervisor and boss of the other members of the central administration. Gau reports only to Evers. Most private sector companies ban supervisors from being romantically involved with individuals over whom they have direct supervision as it can lead to allegations of favoritism or harassment. Neither Cudaback nor Gau are answering my questions as to what the Evers administration policy is.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel columnist Dan Bice asked Evers about the Gau-Cudaback situation on Tuesday. Bice's report on [jsonline.com](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/election/2023/08/31/gau-cudaback-relationship-2023/7048117001) today quotes Evers as saying "it is nobody's business" if his managers date subordinates. However, if sexual harassment or workplace discrimination lawsuits are filed against government employers, it is taxpayers that are on the hook/.

Madison sources tell me the Gau-Cudaback relationship is widely known in Capitol circles but it has not been reported on to this point by media outlets.

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