

# NEWS GRAPHIC

OZAUKEE COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1883

## Community addresses Ozaukee County law enforcement concerns

*A.G. Van Hollen meets with local officials in Mequon*

By Steve Schuster  
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**Mequon** — There was not an empty seat at the law enforcement roundtable sponsored by Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen and Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) at Mequon City Hall on Wednesday.

Seats were filled by top local law enforcement officials, chief prosecutors, Wisconsin legislators, defense attorneys, victim advocate groups and local Ozaukee County residents.

The roundtable discussion provided a medium in which prosecutors and members of the local law enforcement community can work together to address local problems, by establishing an open line of communication, according to roundtable participants.

Both Darling and Van Hollen made it clear that school safety and protecting children against Internet crime are top priorities.

Darling applauded the Attorney General's office for what she called its phenomenal effort to make it a priority to address the backlog at the state crime lab.

Several other topics were covered including next-generation law enforcement technology that may soon be in use and may raise constitutional concerns over privacy

issues.

Van Hollen also made it clear that he does not want to interfere with local law enforcement efforts.

Rather than interfering, he thinks it would be more productive to ask the local communities what tools they need and his office will do its best to assist, he said.

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**'Local law enforcement can do a better job within its own community than we can.'**

— *State Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen*

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"Local law enforcement can do a better job within its own community than we (the state) can," Van Hollen said.

Other concerns were raised by law enforcement officials on alleged security issues at a local hospital (regarding the detainment of the mentally ill).

Many other topics were covered, including problems with the current sex offender notification system, and the current disciplinary process for police and fire personnel.

The use of "Multi Jurisdictional Action Teams," and training and standardization concerns were also raised. Problems with the current open record laws, significant due process concerns, illegal immigration, conceal and carry laws for retired law enforcement officers, and other regionally specific issues were also addressed.

*See Tuesday's edition of the News Graphic for more details.*