

HYPOCRISY: PUBLIC SAFETY CUTS

Despite talking tough on crime, Scott Walker has proposed cutting public safety officers in every one of his budgets, and he has contracted with private security companies to transport mental health patients and guard public buildings who knowingly employed sexual predators.

Proposed sheriff deputy & correction officer cuts in every budget

Year	FTE's Abolished
2003	-17.0
2004	-15.0
2005	-8.0
2006	-4.0
2007	-13.0
2008	-7.0
2009	-2.0
2010	-1.0

[Proposed Executive Budgets, 2003-2010]

Wisconsin Security Police Services

Contracted to transport patients from the mental health complex

A security guard employed by WSPS raped a patient he was to transport from the county jail to the mental health complex. The guard had no valid state license to work security and was an ex-con with a lengthy rap sheet. He was out on bail when he raped the victim.

WSPS “denied contentions regarding the absence of background checks performed in the context of its hiring practices.”

From Walker’s interim Health & Human Services Director, LisaJo Marks, about the rape:

"This individual never came up as someone who was going to be dealing with our patients," said Lisa Marks who runs Milwaukee County's health and human services. Marks said county contracts require private firms to check the backgrounds of those they employ.
[\[WISN, 5/18/2010\]](#)

No apologies to the rape victim. No harsh words for the private contractor not doing the required background checks, or calling them out for hiring a known convicted criminal.

Also, the county never fired WSPS, who was hired to keep mental health patients safe.

"Nonetheless, two years after Gonzalez sexually assaulted Sherri Lorimer the company that hired him still transports patients from Milwaukee County Mental Health."

But I guess that's what can you expect from the administration that just a few months earlier, in response to accounts of sexual assault of women patients at the mental health complex, responded: "This is not a case where there was a fatality or serious injury," Marks said.
[\[Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 2/12/2010\]](#)

Wackenhut

Contracted to provide building security at the county courthouse

In May 2010, Wackenhut was found to have a sexual predator managing courthouse security guards, including Children's Court security. This guard was approved by Wackenhut to supervise other guards, even though they knew of his misdemeanor offenses – drinking while armed, disorderly conduct and sexual overtures to male subordinates in his department.

From Walker's interim Public Works Director, Jack Takerian:

No apologies, no taking responsibility: "Jack Takerian, the county's interim public works director, said it was Wackenhut's responsibility to do its "litany of background checks.""
[\[Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 4/26/2010\]](#)

Wackenhut has put their guard on "administrative leave," not firing the guy. It's not clear from the story if Wisconsin Security Police Services immediately fired their sexual predator, or if he remained in their employ until 8 months later when prosecutors charged him.
[\[WISN, 5/18/2010\]](#)