



# DEVIN LEMAHIEU

## SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

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### **Green Bay Mayor Agrees to No Further Illegal Spying After Costing City Taxpayers More Than \$500,000**

**Madison-** Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg) issued the following statement regarding a settlement announcement with the City of Green Bay after Mayor Eric Genrich illegally recorded citizens' conversations in City Hall:

**"Mayor Genrich broke state and federal laws and violated the Constitutional rights of numerous citizens. His actions were so egregious that a federal court took the rare step of stripping Mayor Genrich of qualified immunity."**

**"Despite two different courts rulings in the Senate's favor, and the liberal American Civil Liberties Union condemning his spying, the Mayor still refuses to publicly admit wrongdoing. Regardless, this settlement guarantees that Mayor Genrich will not continue his snooping on citizens in City Hall carrying out their civic duties like paying taxes and voting."**

The settlement includes a payment of \$200,000 from the City to cover legal fees and a public statement from Mayor Genrich indicating that he will not illegally record citizens in City Hall again. In all, the Mayor's actions have cost the City of Green Bay more than \$500,000.

The City of Green Bay issued this statement: "The City Council has barred the Office of the Mayor from unilaterally implementing a policy of undisclosed audio-and-video surveillance of City Hall. Mayor Genrich and the City Council as presently constituted agree not to renew the prior surveillance policy. Mayor Genrich further agrees that any audio/video surveillance policy that he might in the future propose would require approval from the City Council to take effect."

The State Senate and Senator Andre Jacque (R-De Pere) were plaintiffs in the case. An additional plaintiff reached a previous settlement with the City for \$100,000.

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*Senator Devin LeMahieu represents the 9th Senate District, which includes portions of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Calumet Counties. He serves as Majority Leader for the Wisconsin State Senate.*