

Your neighbor, not a politician.

I'm **Jack Ordman**. I've lived in Dane County for ten years. I'm a software engineer. My beagle Cecil was rescued from Ridgland Farms. On April 18th I stood with roughly a thousand nonviolent people outside that facility and watched our own Sheriff's office answer them with tear gas. I was there, and I was gassed without raising a hand. I'm running for Sheriff because an unopposed, unchecked incumbent is how a county ends up with an April 18th.

CHECK THE RECORD

April 18: not one officer harmed

Roughly a thousand people, nonviolent and trained in de-escalation, were met with tear gas, pepper spray, and less-lethal rounds, much of it fired from behind fences. Deputies took direction from the facility's private security contractors. There is no evidence a single deputy was so much as scratched.

"You cannot call a crowd violent and then send your own people strolling through it unprotected."

The story that changed afterward

On the day, the Sheriff's own office wrote that order was maintained "without anyone being seriously injured." In fact, one demonstrator was beaten by officers at the fence line: he lost multiple teeth, and livestream footage shows him unconscious for roughly fourteen minutes. Others were struck by less-lethal rounds. Every serious injury that day was a demonstrator's.

Days later, the Sheriff went on camera: demonstrators "jumped on the backs of our deputies, took their batons, struck them with the batons, and then tried to take their weapons." The facility's own cameras show the worst of it: a demonstrator threw a deputy's baton into the woods.

He has never substantiated those claims, and he has never corrected them.

One standard of justice?

At Ridgland Farms, a Wisconsin judge found probable cause of felony animal cruelty. State inspectors documented 311 violations. Surgeries were done by unlicensed staff with no anesthesia. The facility: never charged, never fined. The rescuers who exposed it: 51 charged, 47 with felony burglary. The man who drove his truck into activists, on video: not charged at all. (*Charging status as of July 2026.*)

One law, applied equally, no matter who you know.

The jail, in his own words

The Sheriff calls his own jail "unsafe, inhumane, and borderline unconstitutional." People have died in custody. The new jail is the most expensive project in county history, over \$207 million, and a 2022 redesign cut in-person visitation, work-release housing, and programming space to save money.

I'll deliver the jail honestly, fight to restore what was cut, and treat every death in custody as a demand for answers.

I am not inventing this standard. The Justice Department under Obama built an entire civil-rights practice on one premise: a department's account of its own use of force cannot be taken on faith. It has to survive the evidence. The DOJ's Ferguson report is the canonical example. That is all I am asking of ours.

WHAT I'LL DO

- ★ **De-escalation first.** Strict written limits on crowd-control weapons, never an opening move.
- ★ **Fill the vacancies, end mandatory overtime.** I'm running for the deputies, not against them.

- ★ **Deputies answer to the public,** never to private security contractors.
- ★ **Publish use-of-force policy and data,** and cooperate with real oversight.



Don't take my word for any of this. Read the record, with sources and dates:

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Vote in the Democratic primary **Tuesday, August 11, 2026**

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