

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, October 7, 2010
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Fletcher Rejects Only Remaining Public Debate

(St. Paul, MN) Ramsey County voters will not see a public debate between the candidates who are running for County Sheriff this election year.

Bob Fletcher, seeking a fifth term as Sheriff, is being challenged for the office by Matt Bostrom, former Assistant Chief of Police and a 28 year veteran of the St. Paul Police Department.

After previously rejecting two League of Women Voters debates Bob Fletcher cancelled his appearance at the St. Paul Building Owners and Managers Association sponsored forum scheduled for October 28th. Matt Bostrom had agreed to participate in all three events.

“Apparently Bob does not want to discuss issues with the voters this election year,” Matt Bostrom said after learning of Bob Fletcher’s latest cancellation. “I can only guess that Bob wants to keep his record away from public discussion.”

“This past year I have been talking with voters throughout Ramsey County, sharing my vision for transforming the Sheriff’s Department. I’ve found that people are very concerned with Bob’s leadership,” Bostrom said. “On the campaign trail citizens have repeatedly brought up numerous examples where their trust in law enforcement has been eroded by the actions and operating style of the current sheriff. This could be why Bob is afraid to appear at a public forum where ordinary citizens can ask questions.”

When the first LWV forum was rejected Bob then proposed his own series of debates at times and locations of his choosing as an alternative to the public forum. The Bostrom campaign was waiting to hear if Fletcher’s campaign was going to participate in the traditional public forums before attending Bob’s new private alternative plan.

Bostrom campaign spokesperson, Randy Gustafson, observed that “the only alternative that Bob has left the voters with is to either do it his way or not do it at all, just another example of his playground bully style of public discourse. Our campaign will now have to negotiate with his campaign to see if Bob is sincere in wanting to debate, or if his new proposal is just the smokescreen it appears to be.”

For more information about Matt Bostrom and his positions on the issues of law enforcement and public safety in Ramsey County visit his web site at www.BostromForSheriff.com.

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