

FILED
02-25-2026
Anna Maria Hodges
Clerk of Circuit Court
2026CM000557
Honorable Kristela L.
Cervera
Branch 5

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Plaintiff,

DA Case No.: 2025ML027442
Court Case No.:

vs.

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

ORTIZ-VELEZ, SYLVIA N
1336 SOUTH 11TH STREET
MILWAUKEE, WI 53204
DOB: 09/04/1977

Defendant(s).

For Official Use

THE BELOW NAMED COMPLAINANT BEING DULY SWORN, ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF STATES THAT:

Count 1: DISORDERLY CONDUCT

The above-named defendant on or about Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 1336 South 11th Street and other locations, in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, in a public or private place, engages in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud or otherwise disorderly conduct under circumstances in which the conduct tends to cause or provoke a disturbance, contrary to sec. 947.01(1), 939.51(3)(b) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class B Misdemeanor, the defendant may be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000), or imprisoned not more than ninety (90) days, or both.

Probable Cause:

Complainant is a Detective with the Wisconsin State Capitol Police and bases this complaint upon her own investigation, as well as the investigation of fellow Capitol Police Officers, which Complainant believes to be truthful and reliable because Complainant has relied on such investigations in the past and found them to be truthful and reliable and because those investigations are conducted in the ordinary course of the official work of the Capitol Police. Those investigations revealed the following:

Ortiz-Velez is a Representative in the Wisconsin State Assembly. Witnesses 1, 2, and 3 are also Representatives. In that role, each of these individuals share the primary role of making state laws, including by introducing, debating, and passing bills and resolutions to be considered by the Assembly. They are also responsible for representing the interests of the citizens within their specific Assembly districts.

In August of 2025, Witness 1 offered an Assembly Joint Resolution in regards to Hispanic Heritage Month. The resolution related to the Hispanic Heritage Month. In addition, Witness 1 was also creating a resolution to honor Latino veterans (the Latino Veteran’s Resolution). Ortiz-Velez was upset by this, as she believed she had been purposely excluded from the drafting of the resolution. Complainant notes that Ortiz-Velez was included in an email invitation in June of 2025 to participate in the Hispanic Heritage Month Resolution with other representatives; she chose to not participate in the Caucus, but wished to participate in the drafting of the resolution. Based on her feelings of exclusion, Ortiz-Velez contacted several media outlets in regards to that exclusion, stating that she had been purposely excluded from the bill. This caused Ortiz-Velez to express increased anger towards Witness 1.

On August 29, 2025, Witness 1 circulated another Joint Resolution honoring Latino Veterans. Ortiz-Velez sent an email to Witness 1 and others saying that her feelings were hurt by her exclusion from the Latino Veteran's resolution. In an email to the entire Assembly, Ortiz-Velez attributed her hurt feelings to the fact her late husband was a Latino veteran. Witness 1 acknowledged she was aware of the death of Ortiz-Velez's husband and the circumstances. Ortiz-Velez was still excluded from participation.

In September of 2025, Capitol Police became aware of concerning statements made by Ortiz-Velez. Immediately before Labor Day weekend, on August 29, 2025, Witness 2 reported that she spoke on the phone with Ortiz-Velez. Ortiz-Velez told Witness 2 that she would go to the press with negative things about Witness 1 if Witness 1 did not rescind her resolution. On September 2, 2025, Witness 2 again spoke with Ortiz-Velez on the phone. Ortiz-Velez was upset about the resolution. She stated that because Witness 1 was moving forward with the resolution, Ortiz-Velez was going to tell the press negative personal information about Witness 1. Witness 2 reported Ortiz-Velez stated, "I'm going to call the press and tell them [Witness 1]" is engaging in inappropriate personal actions.

Complainant also interviewed Witness 3. Witness 3 reported that there was ongoing animosity between Witness 1 and Ortiz-Velez regarding the Hispanic Caucus and different bills. Witness 3 stated that on August 29, 2025, Ortiz-Velez called him. During that call, Ortiz-Velez stated, "they are going to do what I want them to do, or I'm going to x, y, and z." When Witness 3 asked what x, y, and z were, Ortiz-Velez made comments about Witness 1's personal life, as well as comments about Witness 1 and other legislators. These were personal attacks regarding Witness 1 that were outside the bounds of political response. The statements were indecent and tended to disrupt the good public order.

VENUE

Venue is appropriate in Milwaukee County. At all times during this complaint, Ortiz-Velez and Witness 1 lived within Milwaukee County. Ortiz-Velez's actions were directed at Witness 1. During the entirety of that phone call with Witness 3, Witness 3 was present in Milwaukee County. In addition, Ortiz-Velez informed Complainant and Deputy Chief Litzkow that she was present at her home during the phone call with Witness 3 where some of the statements were made, which is in the City and County of Milwaukee.

****End of Complaint****

Electronic Filing Notice:

This case was electronically filed with the Milwaukee County Clerk of Circuit Court office. The electronic filing system is designed to allow for fast, reliable exchange of documents in court cases. Parties who register as electronic parties can file, receive and view documents online through the court electronic filing website. A document filed electronically has the same legal effect as a document filed by traditional means. You may also register as an electronic party by following the instructions found at <http://efiling.wicourts.gov/> and may withdraw as an electronic party at any time. There is a \$ 20.00 fee to register as an electronic party. If you are not represented by an attorney and would like to register an electronic party, you will need to contact the Clerk of Circuit Court office at 414-278-4120. Unless you register as an electronic party, you will be served with traditional paper documents by other parties and by the court. You must file and serve traditional paper documents.

Criminal Complaint prepared by Matthew Richard Westphal.
ADA Assigned Email Address: Matthew.Westphal@da.wi.gov

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 02/25/26
Electronically Signed By:
Matthew Richard Westphal
Assistant District Attorney
State Bar #: 1071292

Electronically Signed By:
Det. Bryn Blank
Complainant