



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Michael Quigley  
Common Sense Coalition  
(608) 217-6328

**MADISON MAYOR CIESLEWICZ OVER REPORTS JOB GROWTH NUMBERS  
*CSC calls for the formation of a cabinet level Office of Economic Development  
to bring accurate assessment of economic growth***

(MADISON) – The Common Sense Coalition is disappointed, but not surprised, to read in today’s Wisconsin State Journal<sup>1</sup> that Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz has been publicly overstating the job growth figures for the city.

“I think this really confirms what I have been hearing many small business owners say.” Said Ray Allen, spokesman and chairman of the Common Sense Coalition, “Jobs are moving out of the city to the surrounding areas. It just seems that some of our local elected officials are not hearing the warning bells, we cannot go on pretending that there are no consequences to the policies that our local government has been mandating on employers.”

The Wisconsin State Journal article also reported that the same data Mayor Cieslewicz used to justify his overstated claim, actually “shows that a net 800 Madisonians lost employment between November 2004 and 2005,” Allen commented “To me, that is the most disappointing. How can you have an honest policy dialogue about economic issues, when you are not even honest with the facts.”

“This is exactly the reason why the Common Sense Coalition has called for the creation of a cabinet level Office of Economic Development,” continued Allen. CSC included this policy initiative as part of its “Common Sense 2010 Agenda” released last September. “We thought it was a good idea then, and know it is a good idea now.”

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<sup>1</sup> Wisconsin State Journal “City Job Data Too Good to be True” Dean Mosiman 1/6/2006

The Common Sense Coalition is a non-partisan, diverse, public policy group comprised of individuals, community leaders, business owners and 17 organized labor unions representing building and construction trades, police officers, fire fighters and stage hands. The group has organized around taking common sense approaches to governing, economic development and providing “jobs, justice and a brighter future.”

**Common Sense Coalition** | P.O.Box 910 | Madison, Wisconsin 53701 | [www.commonsemadison.com](http://www.commonsemadison.com)