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SCOTT WALKER AND TOM BARRETT: WHERE DID THE JOBS GO?
New federal report shows metro Milwaukee among the nation's biggest job losers

WAUKESHA, Wis. – Feb. 3, 2010 - New statistics from the U.S. Department of Labor show the Milwaukee area saw the nation's third-largest percentage drop in employment, prompting gubernatorial candidate Mark Neumann to call on his opponents to explain their record of job losses as the leaders in the Milwaukee metro area.

The report can be found at <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/metro.pdf> and finds that Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis saw a 5.7 percent drop in employment from 2008 to 2009. Only the Detroit and Las Vegas areas fared worse.

"This is the latest in a series of grim reports about the thousands of jobs that have disappeared from the Milwaukee area," Neumann noted. "The creation of good-paying, secure jobs is the number-one issue in the race for Governor this year. This new report begs the question that my opponents should have to answer: where did all the jobs go on their watch?"

"Based on this dismal record in the Milwaukee area, why should the people of Wisconsin now believe that either of my opponents knows how to create jobs as Governor?" Neumann added.

In contrast, Neumann pointed to his decades of experience in the private sector, creating businesses from scratch and surviving challenging economic times. Neumann's home development businesses have created hundreds of Wisconsin job opportunities and survived the recession, which has otherwise devastated the housing market in recent months.

"Sustained job creation throughout Wisconsin is vitally important to our economic future, and the Milwaukee area should be the engine that drives this growth," Neumann noted. "While my opponents offer all the typical rhetoric of career politicians, the statistics expose the truth. Right now, folks need real-world solutions to the biggest problem facing our state."

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