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Family, friends bid final farewell to Daren Hidalgo at West Point

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Waukesha North hires Hall of Fame football coach

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Waukesha closer to tighter sex offender rules

Committee approves idea, ordinance must now be drafted

By Sarah Craft
Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA - Waukesha is one step closer to tightening restrictions on sex offender residency, as the Ordinance & License Committee unani-

mously approved, at its Monday night meeting, a recommendation to add additional language to the residency restrictions for sex offenders, which would disallow offenders from being placed in the city of Waukesha if they

weren't a permanent resident at the time of their offense.

Alderman Steve Johnson made the referral, citing what he said is Waukesha's reputation as a "dumping ground" for sexual offenders.

"The rationalization from

the Department of Corrections is that the city can provide more services, such as access to probation officers," Johnson said.

He said the inclusion of the additional language would obligate the Department of

Corrections to explain to the public why it's placing an offender in Waukesha.

Alderman John Kalblinger suggested that the wording be changed from "resident" to "permanent resident," because a permanent resident is already defined earlier in the ordinance as someone who lives in the city for

14 or more consecutive days.

The City Attorney's office will have to draft the additional language, but Johnson said he hopes it will be similar to language the Town of Delafield recently used to make its residency requirements more strict.

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Hundreds gather in Waukesha to protest Governor Walker

Political officials discuss future of state during radio forum



Associated Press

The family of 1st Lt. Daren Hidalgo salutes a container with his remains during a graveside service in West Point, N.Y., on Monday. From left are sister Carmen Spellman, brothers Army Capt. Miles Hidalgo and Marine Capt. Jared Hidalgo and parents Andrea and Jorge Hidalgo.

Daren Hidalgo laid to rest at West Point

By Michael Hill
Associated Press

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Family, friends and scores of comrades bid their final goodbyes to 24-year-old 1st Lt. Daren Hidalgo on Monday on the grounds of the storied academy where he, his father and an older brother trained to become Army officers.

Hidalgo, a 2009 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, was killed Feb. 20, in Afghanistan's Kandahar province after insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Soldiers from Hidalgo's old cadet company at the academy stood by Hidalgo's family at a graveside ceremony under clear, cold skies.

Hidalgo is the 81st West Point graduate to be killed in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since the Sept. 11 attacks and the 27th to be buried in the same cemetery as such famous alumni as Lt. Col. George Custer and Gen. William Westmoreland.

Members of Hidalgo's family took time before

the afternoon ceremony to remember Daren as a bit of a prankster who loved laughing, racquetball, rock climbing, wrestling, his family and his country. His brothers talked about how he took some shrapnel to his leg in a separate attack two weeks before he died. Only midway through his first deployment, Hidalgo opted to put off surgery and go on antibiotics instead so he would not lose command of his platoon while he was laid up.

"He had really grown up," recalled his brother, Capt. Miles Hidalgo, West Point class of 2006. "He made his choices. He had a purpose."

His father, Jorge Hidalgo, of Waukesha, said Daren called him and his wife after the first attack to tell him he was OK. It ended up being the last time he spoke to his parents. Jorge Hidalgo said his son told him "it's not that bad, but I can set off metal detectors now."

Jorge Hidalgo graduated from West Point in 1981, and all three of his sons

went into the military. The eldest, Jared, is a Marine captain who has served in Iraq. Both Daren and Miles were in Afghanistan when Daren was killed, which briefly added another level of anxiety when the military informed the parents of the death.

"We have two sons in Afghanistan, so the biggest question we had at that time was, 'Which one?'" Jorge Hidalgo said.

Hidalgo was a 2005 graduate of Dallastown Area High School in south-central Pennsylvania. He had been assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck, Germany.

Miles Hidalgo said he had been sent to meet his younger brother in Afghanistan on Feb. 21. Instead, he met his brother's body at Dover Air Force Base.

Daren Hidalgo would have turned 25 on Friday, the day of his funeral. Mourners sang "Happy Birthday" at the service.

"That was really tough," said his younger sister, Carmen Spellman.