

# Senate

State of Minnesota

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Sent via U.S. Mail and Electronic Delivery

Re: Pattern and Practice Investigation Request

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

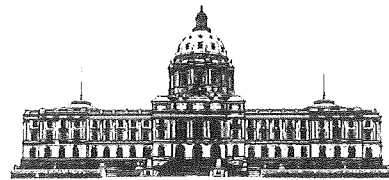
With the death of George Floyd on May 25<sup>th</sup>, the City of Minneapolis exploded into violence with looting, arson, and rioting ultimately spreading to other cities throughout our nation. For the first time in our State's history, it was necessary to call up the entire contingent of Minnesota's National Guard in order to restore order.

In response, a veto proof majority of the Minneapolis City Council expressed their intention to dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department. In addition, upon Governor Tim Walz ordering the Minnesota Department of Human Rights to conduct an investigation into the actions of the Minneapolis Police Department, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Rebecca Lucero, stated that people of color and indigenous communities "have suffered generational pain and trauma as a result of systemic and institutional racism."

Under these circumstances, we do not feel it is possible to protect the civil rights of the citizens of the City of Minneapolis if the Minneapolis City Council follows through with its proposed action. Further, it is apparent the State of Minnesota is not capable of conducting a fair and impartial investigation into allegations of constitutional civil rights violations by the Minneapolis Police Department, nor does it have the subject matter expertise or wherewithal to conduct such an investigation.

Therefore, in our capacity as Members of the Minnesota State Senate, we respectfully request that you order a Pattern and Practice Investigation of the Minneapolis Police Department pursuant to 34 USC 12601.





# Senate

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State of Minnesota

Respectfully Submitted:

Senator Scott Newman,

Chair, Minnesota Senate Transportation Finance  
and Policy Committee

Senator David Senjem,

Chair, Minnesota Senate Capital  
Investment Committee

Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen,

Chair, Minnesota Senate Environment and  
Natural Resources Finance Committee

CC:

Eric Dreiband  
Assistant Attorney General,  
Civil Rights Division

Erica MacDonald  
United States Attorney,  
District of Minnesota

