

August 6, 2020

State Senator Scott Newman  
District 18  
95 University Ave. W.  
Room 3105  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Minnesota State Senate Committee-

Greetings distinguished members of the Minnesota Senate Committee. As Chief of the Minneapolis Police Department I greatly appreciate your committee's important work for the people of Minnesota. Thank you for providing me the opportunity to submit for the record the MPD's accounts of our response during the civil unrest which began the week of May 25th, 2020, following the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd.

In the 153 years since the inception of the Minneapolis Police Department we had never experienced the size, scope, scale destruction, and violence of the civil unrest which occurred that week. As Chief my sole responsibility was focused on two key areas preservation of life and protection of property. Based on the overwhelming numbers of individuals who took part in riots, looting, arsons and my limited and strained resources my priority in those ensuing days became only one-to preserve life.

I am extremely proud of and support the men and women of the MPD who did their best to keep our entire city safe during that very volatile and violent week. They are to be commended. I also need to acknowledge how fortunate we are to have such a professional and dedicated Minnesota law enforcement community. I owe a great debt of gratitude to all our local, county, state, and federal partners who assisted the city of Minneapolis during that time. I want to extend a special thanks to the men and women of our Minnesota National Guard. The citizens of Minnesota are blessed to have some of the finest soldiers in the country under the exemplary leadership of Major General Jon A. Jensen. Our soldiers helped to keep the peace and prevent further destruction of property. I praise their service.

I humbly and respectfully submit the attached documents outlining my departments response to the civil unrest. It is my sincere hope that this information will aid the committee in establishing a factual account of what occurred, the response, and lessons learned.

Thank you all for your leadership and service to our great state.

My Best,



Medaria Arradondo  
Chief of Police  
ENCLOSURE