



UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW • Suite 1150 • Washington, DC 20425 www.usccr.gov

May 21, 2018

Senator Paul E. Gazelka, Majority Leader

Senator Thomas M. Bakk, Minority Leader

Senator Warren Limmer, Chair
Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Minnesota Senate
95 University Ave. West
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senators Gazelka, Bakk, and Limmer:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

The Commission maintains 51 Advisory Committees - one for each state and the District of Columbia. The role of the Committees is to study civil rights issues in their communities and report findings and recommendations to the Commission. The Commission appreciates the Minnesota Committee's focused attention on civil rights impacts of policing practices in the state.

The Commission requests that your office review the recommendations in the report, which can be viewed at: <http://www.usccr.gov/pubs/2018/03-22-MN-Civil-Rights.pdf>. The recommendations can be found on pp. 53-56, as well as in the stand-alone "Recommendations" document attached to this letter. In response to these recommendations, we advise that you take the steps necessary to protect civil rights in your jurisdiction.

We have similarly asked Minnesota House leadership, the Governor's Office, the Governor's Council on Law Enforcement and Community Relations, the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, and the League of Minnesota Cities to review the recommendations.

The Commission appreciates your consideration, in the hope of ensuring civil rights protections. We look forward to hearing from you on what actions you will take in response.

Sincerely,

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Catherine E. Lhamon
Chair

Encl. Minnesota Advisory Committee Report (via email only)
Recommendations in Report



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May 21, 2018

Rep. Kirk Daudt, Speaker

Rep. Melissa Hortman, Minority Leader

Minnesota House of Representatives
95 University Ave. West
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Daudt and Representative Hortman:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

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May 21, 2018

Commissioner Ramona Dohman
Department of Public Safety

Commissioner Kevin Lindsey
Department of Human Rights

Government of the State of Minnesota
State Capitol
75 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Commissioners Dohman and Lindsey:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

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May 21, 2018

Mr. Andy Skoogman
Executive Director
Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association
803 Old Highway 8 NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

Dear Mr. Skoogman:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your office our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

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May 21, 2018

Dave Metusalem
Executive Director
Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association
525 Park Street
Suite 250
St. Paul, MN 55103

Dear Mr. Metusalem:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your office our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

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May 21, 2018

Patricia Beety, General Counsel
Gary Carlson, Director, Intergovernmental Relations
Laura Zenz, Director, Communications
League of Minnesota Cities
145 University Ave. West
Saint Paul, MN 55103

Dear Ms. Beety, Mr. Carlson, and Ms. Zenz:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

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May 21, 2018

Judge Pamela G. Alexander, Co-Chair
Chief Scott Johnson, Co-Chair
Governor's Council on Law Enforcement and Community Relations
c/o State Capitol
75 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 5515

Dear Judge Alexander and Chief Johnson:

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May 21, 2018

Timothy Bildsoe, Chair
Nathan Gove, Executive Director

Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards & Training
1600 University Ave. Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55104

Dear Mr. Bildsoe and Mr. Gove:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Minnesota Advisory Committee's [report](#), *Civil Rights and Policing Practices in Minnesota*.

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