

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



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445 Minnesota Street • Suite 1000 • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-5100

Phone: 651.201.7160 • Fax: 651.297.5728 • TTY: 651.282.6555

www.dps.mn.gov

July 28, 2025

Dear Federal Delegation,

I am writing concerning a critical issue that affects the safety and security of our state. The recent termination of the Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) grant by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has significant implications for Minnesota to execute our Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy¹. DHS sent a letter terminating this grant effective immediately, and without warning, on July 21, 2025,

The State of Minnesota was awarded over \$700,000 through the TVTP grant, which was instrumental in funding two essential positions, including a special agent and criminal intelligence analyst at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). These positions were crucial in our efforts to prevent and respond to targeted violence and terrorism threats within our state. This team was developed through our previous engagement in this work with the FBI, which is an excellent resource, but lacks the capacity to take on all of this work for every jurisdiction.

The funding was considered seed money for this BCA team as we build out this vital capacity in Minnesota. We never considered it permanent funding, but cutting the funding without notice with no ability to have this discussion with our legislature creates an immediate gap.

The employees funded by this grant are part of the BCA's Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) team. BTAM teams are designed to examine individuals who engage in concerning behaviors that are on the potential pathway to violence with the goal of preventing that violence from occurring². This proactive process then identifies appropriate interventions, resources, and support systems to manage the risk of harm.

We are concerned by the decision to terminate this grant that funds important work that stops terrorism and targeted violence. This team is designed to fill known gaps in this work across the state while building capacity in communities to replicate this work. The loss of this funding will severely impact our ability to maintain the functionality of this team and continue the vital work they support. The BTAM team will be cut in half during a time when

¹ <https://s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/assets.dps.mn.gov/s3fs-public/Targeted-Violence-Prevention-Strategy-for-the-State-of-Minnesota.pdf>

² <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/investigative-services/behavioral-threat-assessment-and-management-team-btam>

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we need to expand. As you know, Minnesota has faced unprecedented political violence recently and, if the defendant had been reported as concerning, this is the very team that would have examined his activities.

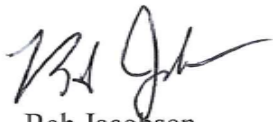
Additionally, this team at the BCA had planned a critical training for law enforcement across Minnesota to bolster skills and build this capacity across our state. Building this network is the key to preventing mass violence events before they occur. This training will now be canceled.

Without this funding, our capacity to protect our communities from targeted violence and terrorism will be significantly diminished. Given recent events in Minnesota, including targeted violence toward religious organizations, political terrorism, and threats at schools, this funding cut will further jeopardize the safety of Minnesotans.

I urge you to consider the importance of this grant and the critical role it plays in ensuring the safety and security of our state. I respectfully request your support in advocating for the restoration of the TVTP grant funding. Your assistance in this matter is vital to maintaining our state's preparedness and response capabilities.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue. I look forward to your support and collaboration in addressing this pressing need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Jacobson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bob Jacobson

Commissioner, Department of Public Safety