

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 7, 2016

The Honorable Loretta Lynch
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

We write to express our collective sadness at the death of Philando Castile, who passed away after being shot in Falcon Heights, Minnesota by a local law enforcement officer last night. Our thoughts are with Philando's family and all those affected by this tragedy.

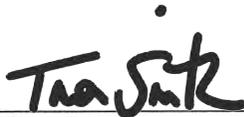
We urge the Department of Justice to launch a full and thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding Philando's death. We know that the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) has already begun the important work of examining these events through its own investigation, and we are grateful for the work of these dedicated professionals.

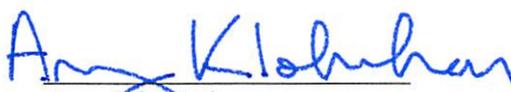
A full and thorough accounting of the facts is necessary in order to secure justice for Philando's family and his loved ones. While we appreciate that the Department has offered to assist the BCA's efforts as necessary, we believe it is important that the Department immediately initiate a federal investigation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Mark Dayton
Governor


Tina Smith
Lieutenant Governor


Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator


Al Franken
United States Senator


Betty McCollum
Member of Congress


Keith Ellison
Member of Congress