

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Kabir Karriem, Chairman
Representative, District 41

Rod Hickman, Vice-Chairman
Senator, District 32

Zakiya Summers, Secretary
Representative, District 68

Tamara G. Butler Washington,
Assistant Secretary
Representative, District 69



**MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATIVE
BLACK CAUCUS**

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Oscar Denton, Treasurer
Representative, District 55

John Faulkner, Parliamentarian
Representative, District 5

Gary Brumfield, Chaplain
Senator, District 38

Robert L. Sanders,
Sergeant-At-Arms
Representative, District 29

August 17, 2026

Attorney General Lynn Fitch and Commissioner Sean Tindell:

Members of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus recently met with the family of Kohen Wiley and their representatives. During that meeting, we listened as they described their profound grief, the questions that remain unanswered, and the lack of meaningful communication they report receiving regarding the investigation into their child's death.

Accordingly, the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus calls for the immediate establishment of direct, timely, and ongoing communication with the Wiley family.

1. Establish a clear and consistent point of contact for the Wiley family.
2. Provide the family with regular and timely updates as the investigation proceeds.
3. Clearly explain what information can and cannot be disclosed.
4. Respond to the family's questions with the urgency, dignity, and compassion that the death of their child demands; and
5. Confirm to the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus that these measures have been implemented.

We fully respect the integrity of the investigative process. We recognize that certain information may not yet be available for release and that investigators may be unable to answer every question at this stage. When that is the case, officials should explain what information cannot be disclosed, provide appropriate context about the investigative process, and clearly communicate what the family should expect next.

Transparency is not a courtesy that government extends when convenient, rather it is a fundamental responsibility that accompanies the exercise of public authority.

Kohen Wiley's family deserves answers. While those answers are being pursued, they also deserve respect, consistent communication, and assurance that the institutions investigating his death recognize their accountability to the people they serve. The State of Mississippi now has an obligation to demonstrate openness, responsiveness, and accountability in practice.

This family has waited long enough.

Respectfully,

Kabir Karriem
Chairman, Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus
State Representative, House District 41