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**MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATIVE
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**AN OPEN LETTER TO ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH AND
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER SEAN TINDELL**

Attorney General Fitch and Commissioner Tindell:

On June 14, one-year-old Kohen Wiley was fatally shot during a law-enforcement encounter in a Walmart parking lot in Senatobia. The Mississippi Bureau of Investigation is investigating his death.

Members of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus recently met with Kohen's family and their representatives. We heard their grief, their unanswered questions and their concerns about the lack of meaningful communication regarding the investigation.

What we heard was unacceptable.

Kohen's family should not have to fight the State of Mississippi for information about the investigation into their child's death.

Commissioner Tindell, MBI operates within the Mississippi Department of Public Safety under your leadership. Attorney General Fitch, you are Mississippi's chief legal officer. Your offices possess both the authority and the responsibility to ensure this family receives the respect and communication it deserves.

The Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus demands that a clear point of contact be established immediately and that Kohen's family receive direct, timely and ongoing updates.

We respect the integrity of the investigation and recognize that some information may not yet be released, and some questions may remain unanswered. If that is the case, explain it. Tell the family what can be shared, what cannot and what they should expect next.

But do not leave them in silence.

Transparency is not a courtesy government extends when convenient. It is a fundamental responsibility of public service, one that carries particular weight in Mississippi. Black

Mississippians know the consequences of powerful institutions operating without transparency. That history is why public trust cannot be presumed; it must be earned.

This case also raises broader concerns about transparency in law-enforcement shootings, including the handling and release of body-camera footage. The Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus will address these issues during the upcoming legislative session.

But the time for delay has passed. The State of Mississippi must immediately confirm, in writing, that a designated point of contact has been assigned and that direct communication with the Wiley family is underway. Anything less is unacceptable.

Kohen Wiley was only one year old. His family deserves answers, respect and the assurance that the institutions investigating his death are accountable to the people they serve.

We are demanding accountability now—not assurances or future promises, but immediate action demonstrating that this family is being treated with the dignity and urgency this tragedy demands.

This family has waited long enough.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kabir Karriem".

Kabir Karriem, Chairman
Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus