



## **Ramsey County Sheriff's Office**

Bob Fletcher, Sheriff

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***Minnesota's First Law Enforcement Agency – Established 1849***

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February 14, 2025

### **Ramsey County Sheriff Bob Fletcher Issues Statement in Response to the Hennepin County Attorney's Editorial Comments**

"The tactics used by our Ramsey County Deputies and the US Marshal's Task Force are some of the safest in the country, designed to minimize risk to officers and the public and also to ensure the timely arrest of dangerous fugitive criminals before they victimize others. These tactics help prevent suspects from fleeing and reduce the opportunity for violence or injury to others.

Winston Smith was on the run and armed. He failed to comply with officers' commands and refused to open the car door – even ignoring his passenger's pleas.

Winston Smith chose another tactic. He produced a handgun and shot at officers and deputies, who were lucky to survive the encounter.

Hennepin County Attorney Moriarty's editorial comments demonstrate her lack of understanding of the real dangers that peace officers face every day."

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