

Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Bob Fletcher, Sheriff

Minnesota's First Law Enforcement Agency – Established 1849 425 Grove Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

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July 7, 2025

Lori Hodapp Chief Sergeant-at-Arms Minnesota House of Representatives 3rd Floor Centennial Office Building 658 Cedar Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Eric Roeske Captain, Capitol Security Division Minnesota State Patrol G27 Administration Building 50 Sherburne Avenue Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Reference: **Public Safety Threat Notifications**

Chief Hodapp and Captain Roeske,

As a law enforcement officer, few things are more troubling than not being informed for several hours that a murderer is roaming the northern suburbs with a "hit list" in search of his potential victims, many of whom reside in your patrol jurisdiction.

Even more disturbing is that many of the targeted legislators were left uninformed for several hours that the danger lurked. Most of which would have answered their door if the suspect had knocked.

Every minute of delayed notification increased the risk to the potential targets.

The chilling shootings of Senator Hoffman and his wife Yvette followed by the horrific murders of Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman, her husband Mark, and family dog Gilbert, should be a wakeup call for everyone who is concerned and/or responsible for the welfare of our elected officials.

A detailed review of the late night and early morning timeline reveals a striking breakdown in the communication to potential victims that were on the suspect's "hit list" and a failure to notify law enforcement agencies that serve their areas of residency.

Those details may need to be examined as part of a legislative audit and I will be glad to join that discussion in the future but this letter seeks an answer two questions to ensure this delayed communication does not happen again:

- 1. Who, or which agency, is responsible to notify legislators quickly that they are potential victims of a violent criminal stalking them?
- 2. Who, or which agency, is responsible to notify law enforcement agencies in a timely fashion that legislators in their jurisdiction are in potential immediate danger?

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There are several agencies that could be responsible for timely notification. They include:

- The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Minnesota House and Senate
- The Minnesota State Patrol Capitol Security Division
- The Minnesota State Patrol Communication Center
- The Minnesota BCA Fusion Center
- The Minnesota Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- The Commissioner of Public Safety Office
- The State Capitol Complex Emergency Manager
- The Minnesota Senate and House Leadership

The question of who is responsible for emergency notifications and how that will be performed in the future needs an answer if we are to learn from the tragic events of June 14th. I am hoping that your two organizations will ensure this issue is addressed in a timely manner.

We owe it to our public officials. We owe it to their families. And we owe it to the people of Minnesota to ensure that such lapses in communication never happen again.

Sincerely,

Bob Fletcher

Ramsey County Sheriff

Bob Flether

Copy: Bob Jacobson, Commissioner of Public Safety

Col. Christina Bogojevic, Minnesota State Patrol

Sven Lindquist, Chief Sergeant-at-Arms, Minnesota Senate

Allison Farole, Director, Minnesota Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Ryan McVann, Emergency Manager, Minnesota State Patrol

The Honorable Lisa Demuth, Speaker of the House

The Honorable Harry Niska, GOP Floor Leader

The Honorable Jamie Long, DFL Floor Leader

The Honorable Athena Hollins, DFL Whip

The Honorable Erin Murphy, Majority Leader

The Honorable Mark Johnson, Minority Leader