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## Minnesota State Patrol

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December 13, 2021

Michael O. Freeman  
Office of the Hennepin County Attorney  
C-2000 Government Center  
300 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55487

Dear Hennepin County Attorney Freeman:

Thank you for writing to me regarding the public and traffic safety dilemma caused by people choosing to flee from the police in a motor vehicle. I appreciated our brief conversation on this matter that occurred on October 22, 2021. At that time, I stated that there is great concern from many perspectives as to why we have seen exponential growth in the number of people fleeing from the police. We are fortunate to have statewide data on this issue, as required by law to be reported by each agency to the POST Board. Those data provide the springboard to explore these many questions.

As I explained on October 22, the Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety, and the State Patrol have been working with the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies, which has been conducting research June, 2020, at our request, on this very topic. Our hope is that this research will provide insights into police pursuits that will inform future public and police policy and training. If you would like, I would be happy to introduce you to the lead researchers who are working on this project. Additionally, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) is working on a two-year project, funded by NHTSA, on police pursuits. I have served as a member of this workgroup since December, 2020. The workgroup includes law enforcement experts and leaders, as well as academic researchers. Both of these initiatives started many months ago as the staggering increase in the number of people fleeing the police was brought to light both in Minnesota and around the country.

This issue is incredibly important to me and the Minnesota State Patrol. I am more than willing to engage with your office, the Minnesota POST Board, and others as we determine strategies to keep both our communities and our roads safe. If I can be of assistance during future meetings of the POST Board, or if you would like to convene a meeting, please let me know. I am ready and willing to actively participate.

Sincerely,



Colonel Matthew C. Langer  
Chief, Minnesota State Patrol

cc: Attorney General Keith Ellison  
Commissioner John Harrington  
Chief Medaria Arradondo

Chief Todd Axtell  
Chief Stephanie Revering  
Erik Misselt, POST Board Executive Director