

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 16, 2024

RELEASE: New Information Reveals Trooper Londregan Acted Lawfully to Save the Life of His Partner Police Association expands request for Walz to reassign case

(St. Paul, Minnesota) Two more State Patrol trainers have signed sworn declarations saying Trooper Ryan Londregan acted lawfully to save his partners and acted in accordance with Minnesota State Patrol policy. These two new declarations are in addition to State Patrol's Use of Force Training Coordinator Sergeant Jason Halvorson's sworn declaration, where he stated that Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarty lied by omission to hide the facts from her charging decision. All three of these trainers testified before the grand jury.

With this new information, the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association <u>sent a second</u> <u>letter to Governor Tim Walz on April 3, 2024.</u> In that letter, MPPOA provided the two new declarations (from <u>Lieutenant Wenzel</u>, <u>Ret. Trainer Morrell</u>, and also from <u>Sergeant Halverson</u>) and requested immediate reassignment of the case *State of Minnesota v. Ryan Patrick Londregan* from the Hennepin County Attorney's Office. That letter and the subsequent declarations from the State Patrol Troopers are being made public today.

The letter states, "Recent events have now made this request even more imperative... not only has the HCAO's own use-of-force expert stated that Trooper Londregan acted reasonably, but now *each* of Trooper Londregan's State Patrol trainers has provided the defense with sworn declarations stating that Trooper Londregan (1) acted in accordance with his training; and (2) did not violate the Minnesota's State Patrol's use-of-force policy."

MPPOA Executive Director Brian Peters said, "The Hennepin County Attorney's Office own hired expert found Trooper Londregan acted lawfully. Now we're hearing that State Patrol's own trainers, who Moriarty interviewed in and out of the grand jury, say he ALSO acted lawfully. It's past time to reassign this case away from Moriarty to best serve a fair and honest judicial system – and not an unjust prosecution. Governor – for the sake of fairness and for the sake of our public safety and judicial system – transfer this case away from the Hennepin County Attorney's Office."

MPPOA General Counsel and former Washington County prosecutor Imran Ali said, "It is a dangerous and unjust world where an officer can follow policies, training, and act in accordance with the law and still be charged criminally. Based on the Hennepin County

Attorney's past statements about police and her ongoing public comments regarding Trooper Ryan's case, it is clear the Hennepin County Attorney has an anti-law enforcement bias. With the rise of violence towards law enforcement increasing significantly, we simply can't wait. We ask Governor Walz to act to provide fairness and equity in Hennepin County."

President of the Minnesota State Patrol Troopers Association Mike LeDoux said, "The Minnesota State Patrol Troopers Association fully supports MPPOA's request for Governor Walz to reassign the Londregan matter to a new, independent, and fair prosecutor. Quite literally 100% of our State Troopers are appalled this case was ever filed in the first place and believe it must be dismissed."

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Past media statements on the HCAO evidence from March 11, 2024:

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association General Counsel Imran Ali said, **"These new developments make it clear that the Hennepin County Attorney was going to charge a police officer with a crime, and no one, even the expert secured by her, was going to get in the way."**

Past media statements on the HCAO charging decision from January 24, 2024:

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association General Counsel Imran Ali said, "County Attorney Moriarty has made politics and ideology her source material, not the law. The law is well-established and clear: law enforcement may use reasonable force if they are confronted with death or great bodily harm. The State Trooper made a critical and necessary decision to use reasonable force during a dangerous and dynamic situation. Law enforcement officers die in similar situations."

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association Executive Director Brian Peters said, "We unwaveringly support these committed individuals as they put their lives on the line each day to keep our communities safe. MPPOA will vigorously defend our trooper who is unjustly charged as a result of acting in accordance with his legal responsibilities. The State Troopers used their training and acted accordingly to arrest the driver and address the imminent threat to both law enforcement personnel and the public at large as the driver unlawfully and dangerously attempted to escape in his vehicle. The State Trooper's actions were driven by his lawful duty."

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association is the largest organization representing police and peace officers in Minnesota.