Jon Koznick
State Representative
Assistant Minority Leader

District 58A
Lakeville, Dakota County

**Minnesota
House of
Representatives**

The Honorable Tim Walz
Governor of the State of Minnesota
75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard. #130
St Paul, MN 55155

Governor Walz:

I am writing with great concern regarding riots that have developed in the aftermath of the tragic murder of George Floyd. The State responsibility to provide public safety is urgent.

We all were disgusted by the lack of humanity in the disturbing video which revealed the inexcusable treatment of Mr. Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers. With that video, I have focused on listening to my constituents in order to determine how we can best work together for peace and justice.

Protestors exercising their first amendment rights and rioters are two different things. Protesters were understandably communicating to us their desire for justice for both Mr. Floyd and our larger society. It is clear however, that some unscrupulous individuals have chosen to take advantage of the tense situation and began to loot and riot.

Things are quickly spiraling out of control in both St. Paul in Minneapolis. It appears the resulting threat is spreading, and negatively impacting public safety as each hour passes.

Constituents from my district have reported that their properties were among those vandalized and looted last night. The situation remains too dangerous for them to return to their storefronts to even turn off sprinklers and secure what remains of their properties. Most alarmingly, another life has already been lost in this descent into chaos.

These riots must be quelled immediately to protect the lives and property of Minnesotans, and to return the attention to the case of justice for Mr. Floyd. I urge you to take immediate and strong action by engaging the Minnesota National Guard to help restore the peace.

Sincerely,

Jon Koznick
State Representative
Assistant Minority Leader