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Rep. Danny Nadeau
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House District 34A
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Minnesota House of Representatives

September 22, 2025

Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarty C-2000 Government Center 300 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 55487

Dear County Attorney Moriarty,

As public officials and community leaders representing suburban communities across Hennepin County, we are deeply concerned with your office's recent decision to discontinue subsequent traffic stop prosecutions.

At a time when public safety is under strain, it is essential that we remain committed to a justice system that upholds the rule of law and supports those who protect our neighborhoods. Declining to pursue these cases not only limits a proven tool for removing dangerous weapons and offenders from our streets, it also undermines the trust and stability that safe communities depend on.

So far this year, Hennepin County deputies and detectives have seized 377 illegally possessed firearms, with nearly half of them found during lawful traffic stops. Restricting this enforcement tool risks weakening community safety and public confidence.

Supporting Law Enforcement and Public Safety

Law enforcement officers willingly place themselves in harm's way each day. Their ability to protect the public depends on policies that provide them with clarity, consistency, and accountability. When mistakes occur, they should be addressed, but officers also deserve to know that their lawful actions will not be dismissed by prosecutorial policy choices that compromise safety.

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) expressed this concern directly:

"Her new policy is a gift to criminals and a slap in the face to law-abiding Minnesotans. Guns, drugs, and fugitives discovered during traffic stops will now walk free, while officers are left powerless to act. This reckless decision doesn't just weaken law enforcement—it puts every family in greater danger."

In our communities, we have seen the results when enforcement is scaled back: more illegal firearms, more narcotics, repeat offenders, and rising pedestrian and driver injuries. Weakening enforcement tools leads to real consequences—substance dependency, mental health strain, and neighborhood instability.



Upholding the Rule of Law

Minnesota's laws are the product of a democratic process involving legislators, experts, law enforcement, and community voices. They are not optional. Prosecutors are entrusted to apply them consistently, not selectively. When prosecutorial discretion is exercised in ways that appear driven by ideology rather than public safety, it erodes accountability, creates legal uncertainty, and weakens confidence in the justice system. Residents deserve a system that enforces the law fairly, without bias, and in alignment with legislative intent.

A Path Forward Together

This is not about partisanship. It is about safety, trust, and accountability. We believe that through constructive dialogue, we can restore confidence in the justice system and ensure that public safety remains a shared priority.

We respectfully urge your office to:

- 1. Reaffirm publicly your commitment to enforcing all laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature, unless amended or invalidated by the courts.
- 2. Provide clear written guidance to prosecutors and staff, reinforcing the expectation of consistent, evidence-based, application of the law.
- 3. Engage in ongoing dialogue with law enforcement, legislators, and community stakeholders to align office policies with both legislative intent and public safety needs.

We are committed to working in good faith toward a justice system that is transparent, fair, and responsive to the needs of all Hennepin County residents. But we cannot ignore the concerns raised by law enforcement, our communities, and the people we serve.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

State Representative Andrew Myers

House District 45A

State Representative Danny Nadeau House District 34A