



North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives

HOUSE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVE JAKE JOHNSON, CO-CHAIR
DISTRICT 113

REPRESENTATIVE BRENDEN JONES, CO-CHAIR
DISTRICT 46

REPRESENTATIVE HARRY WARREN, CO-CHAIR
DISTRICT 76

May 26, 2026

sent via email

Estella D. Patterson
Chief of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department
601 E Trade St.
Charlotte, NC 28202

Dear Chief Patterson:

Dominique Moody was six years old. She weighed 27 pounds when she died.

That fact should stop every public official cold. A six-year-old child does not reach that condition in silence. She does not suffer that level of neglect without warning signs. She does not die in this unimaginable condition unless the systems responsible for protecting her fail.

Public reporting indicates that authorities had repeated contact with the home before Dominique Moody's death. The Committee intends to determine what CMPD knew, what CMPD's policies required, how CMPD communicates with Mecklenburg County DSS, and whether repeated calls involving the same home, same child, or same caretakers were ever escalated.

No words can begin to describe the failure that led to Dominique Moody's death. The public deserves to know how many times CMPD was called to that home, whether repeated calls were escalated, what policies governed those calls, what information was shared with DSS, what information DSS shared with CMPD, and what has changed since Dominique died. The Committee intends to find out.

Pursuant to §120-14 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the House Oversight Committee requests your appearance to testify on June 4, 2026, at 9:00 am in the Legislative Building Auditorium.



Before the hearing, please provide written responses to the following questions to the extent permitted by law, court order, and applicable confidentiality requirements. The Committee is not, through these questions, requesting production of CMPD's criminal investigative file, body-camera footage, in-vehicle camera footage, witness statements, criminal discovery, or any file or record prohibited from release by the Protective Order. If you contend that any answer cannot be provided in whole or in part, state the specific legal basis for that position and provide all non-confidential, aggregate, policy-level, publicly available, or otherwise permissible information responsive to the question.

These answers must be submitted with your written testimony no later than **Monday, June 1, at 12:00 noon.**

1. How many times was CMPD dispatched to 7608 Gwynne Hill Road before Dominique Moody's death?
2. How many of those dispatches involved a call, report, or concern relating to Dominique Moody, another child in the home, Tonya Michelle McKnight, Tery'n Jan'ie McKnight, Susan Lee Robinson, or any other adult in the home?
3. For each dispatch identified in response to Questions 1 and 2, please provide the date, general call category, and final disposition to the extent that information can be provided without releasing criminal investigative files, discovery materials, witness statements, recordings, or records covered by the Protective Order.
4. How many times did CMPD notify Mecklenburg County DSS regarding any call, report, or concern involving 7608 Gwynne Hill Road before Dominique Moody's death?
5. How many times did Mecklenburg County DSS notify CMPD regarding any abuse, neglect, welfare, safety, or criminal concern involving 7608 Gwynne Hill Road before Dominique Moody's death?
6. Before Dominique Moody's death, did CMPD have any written policy, general order, training material, or practice for identifying repeated calls for service involving the same child, same address, same household, or same caretaker?
7. Before Dominique Moody's death, did CMPD have any written policy, general order, training material, or practice for escalating repeated child welfare concerns to a supervisor, specialized unit, DSS, or the District Attorney's Office?
8. Before Dominique Moody's death, did CMPD have any process for cross-checking repeated calls for service with prior child welfare concerns, DSS notifications, or prior reports involving the same household?

9. Before Dominique Moody's death, did CMPD have any process for flagging a residence when repeated calls involved vulnerable children or possible child abuse or neglect?
10. Before Dominique Moody's death, did CMPD have any written policy or practice governing when officers must contact DSS after a call involving suspected child abuse, neglect, welfare concerns, unsafe living conditions, domestic violence, or medical concerns involving a child?
11. Before Dominique Moody's death, did CMPD have any written policy or practice governing when officers must notify the District Attorney's Office regarding suspected criminal child abuse?
12. Has CMPD conducted any internal review, after-action review, policy review, dispatch review, or supervisory review concerning its responses to 7608 Gwynne Hill Road before Dominique Moody's death?
13. Has CMPD identified any policy, training, supervision, dispatch, documentation, information-sharing, or interagency communication failure related to this matter?
14. Has any CMPD officer, supervisor, dispatcher, records employee, or command staff member been disciplined, counseled, retrained, reassigned, or otherwise held accountable in connection with this matter? If so, identify the position of each employee and the action taken, without disclosing protected criminal investigative materials.
15. What specific policy, training, dispatch, documentation, supervisory, or interagency communication changes has CMPD made since Dominique Moody's death to prevent this kind of failure from happening again?

The Committee is aware of the Protective Order entered in *State v. Tery'n McKnight*. The Committee respects the authority of the Court and does not, at this time, intend to seek enforcement of its prior demand for production or seek modification of the Protective Order. Nothing in this letter should be construed as a waiver of the Committee's rights, authority, or legal position. The Committee expressly reserves all rights to challenge the Protective Order, to seek modification of the Protective Order, or to move to enforce the Committee's demand for production at a later time.

The Protective Order prohibits the release of the CMPD criminal investigative files and related materials requested from CMPD. It does not prohibit the Committee from holding an oversight hearing. It does not prohibit testimony concerning CMPD policies, dispatch history, aggregate call information, agency failures, supervisory review, interagency communication, corrective action, publicly available information, or the findings contained in the NCDHHS corrective action letter. Accordingly, you are expected to appear and testify regarding this matter.

Please read the remainder of this letter carefully to ensure that you comply with all hearing requirements and that you understand your rights as a witness.

Each witness who is to appear before the House Oversight Committee must file with Committee Staff a written statement of proposed testimony. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the exclusion of your written testimony from the hearing record, the barring of your oral presentation of the testimony, or both. Responses to questions at the hearing should be limited to no more than five minutes per response.

A witness appearing before the Committee must include with their written testimony a current résumé summarizing education, experience, and affiliations pertinent to the subject matter of the hearing.

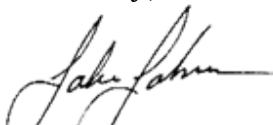
Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel to advise them concerning their constitutional rights, but accompanying counsel shall not directly respond to questions. We reserve the right to place any witness under oath. Finally, witnesses may obtain a transcript copy of their testimony given in open, public session, or in a closed session only when authorized by the Committee.

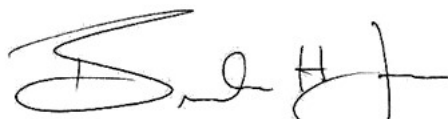
To fully prepare for this hearing, your testimony must be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word (docx), PowerPoint (pptx), or Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format to committee staff no later than **Monday, June 1, at 12:00 noon.**

Accommodations for individuals with disabilities, including assistive listening systems, interpreters, and materials in alternate formats, may be arranged by contacting Committee Staff in advance of the hearing.

Should you or your staff have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mary Moorefield at (919) 301-2025 or Mary.Moorefield@ncleg.gov.

Sincerely,


Rep. Jake Johnson
Co-Chair


Rep. Brenden Jones
Co-Chair


Rep. Harry Warren
Co-Chair