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Chair
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On Thursday, July 12th, the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage (the Council) held a meeting at Webber Park in North Minneapolis. The goal was to hear a report from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) and discuss the impact of police violence in the African Heritage community. The meeting was planned with a coalition of local Black led organizations who respond to violent incidents in the community. As reported in the media, the Council ended the meeting after some community members objected to the presence of the BCA.

The Council offers its sincere condolences to the family of Thurman Blevins. Clearly the decision to bring the BCA to the community this early in the investigative process was hurtful to some members of the family. The Council offers a sincere apology to the family and anyone who felt insulted and disrespected by the actions we took.

The Council will continue to focus on our role to advise the Governor on issues that impact the African Heritage community. Specifically, we are asking the Governor to direct the Commissioner of Public Safety to establish a transparent process with the community and take the following actions when an Officer Involved Shooting takes place:

- Release available and relevant camera footage and the audio of 911 calls as soon as possible.
- At the request of community stakeholders, publicly review the investigative file offering no determination or opinion of the facts.

Thank you,

Nasser Mussa
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