

**From:** [MPPOA Media](#)  
**To:** [MPPOA Media](#)  
**Subject:** RELEASE: MN Police Association calls for immediate state intervention to justly prosecute the McKeever murder in Hennepin County  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 11:55:58 AM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 28, 2023

## **MN Police Association calls for immediate state intervention to justly prosecute the McKeever murder in Hennepin County**

(St. Paul, Minn.) – Recently the newly elected Hennepin County Attorney, armed with a new policy on juvenile crime, determined that murder is an offense that will no longer require incarceration. This decision implicitly impacts the suspects in the killing of Brooklyn Park resident Zaria McKeever, who was shot and killed inside her apartment last November. Investigators say her ex-boyfriend bought a gun and ordered two teenagers to kill her new boyfriend, as well as her, if she got in the way. The two brothers, 15 and 17 years old, callously shot several times and McKeever lost her life. The two brothers had formerly been certified as adults and charged with homicide from the previous County Attorney but are now facing 1-2 years at a juvenile facility and then probation.

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Associations General Counsel and former county prosecutor Imran Ali said, **“Giving juveniles a soft slap on the wrist for murder – the purposeful taking of another’s life - is an appalling decision by the Hennepin County Attorney. Rather than seeking justice for victims of crime, her decisions re-victimize and make the community less safe. The consequences of improper charging decisions and weak sentences will embolden crime by violent juveniles and adults who prey on them – knowing that in Hennepin County, juveniles will be treated fondly under the new policy. The family of Ms. McKeever is in our thoughts and prayers.”**

MPPOA Executive Director Brian Peters calls for immediate intervention and action. **“In this case of great criminal importance, the state should immediately intervene, as the reckless charging decisions from County Attorney Moriarty embolden those that seek mayhem and make the community less safe for every resident and every law enforcement officer.”**

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The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the state.

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