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PRESS RELEASE

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The LLBC Calls for Transparency with the Louisiana State Police Department

From its inception, the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus has spoken out and collectively addressed the issues that affect African American and disenfranchised people everywhere. In light of the most recent events surrounding police misconduct, once again it is incumbent upon us to serve as a conduit; reflecting the voices of a portion of our constituency.

Over the past few years, our LLBC members have addressed and supported issues related to criminal justice reform, voter rights, and police reform. In fact, some of our LLBC members are currently serving on a task force addressing police reform. To date; all of our mentioned efforts have had the Governor's support.

However, with any relationship, there is not 100% agreement on issues and/or resolutions. It has recently come to our attention that there are issues within Louisiana State Police, both substantive and with morale. Recent reports involving Trooper August McKay are deeply disturbing. When Trooper McKay's conduct was brought to light, we addressed the matter immediately.

Now, another issue involving the death of Ronald Green has been brought to our attention. Mr. Green died while in the custody of State Police. It is our understanding that video of the incident exists. While the video may fall within the exception of Louisiana's Public Records law; it is imperative that in an effort of full transparency and public trust; the video be released immediately.

It is within the Governor's authority to grant this request, and it is our desire that he does this without hesitation or delay.

Please know that regardless of the Governor's response, rest assured, we will remain vigilant in making sure that justice is achieved.

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Established in 1977, the primary purpose of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus is to raise the quality of life for those underrepresented, the indigent and working people through legislation, education and economic development.