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ERIE COUNTY COMPTROLLER

KEVIN R. HARDWICK

August 26, 2025

Hon. Kathleen C. Hochul
Governor
State of New York
NY State Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

Re: Request for Referral to Attorney General in the Daniel J. Granville Matter

Dear Governor Hochul:

I am writing to respectfully ask that pursuant to New York State law, you request that the New York State Attorney General commence an investigation into the matter involving Erie County Sheriff's Office Senior Detective Daniel J. Granville's motor vehicle accident on April 11, 2024.

It is my position that the case is not closed simply because Granville pled guilty to a pair of charges in connection with the incident, as I believe a coverup of the incident needs to be addressed. For eleven months from the date of the accident on April 11, 2024 until March 11, 2025 when several Buffalo area media outlets reported on the event, people within the Buffalo Police Department and Erie County Sheriff's Office had to know of the incident and were quite willing to allow Erie County taxpayers to cover the damages resulting from the accident. As the Chief Financial Officer of Erie County, I am offended by this lack of respect shown by public employees toward the people paying their salaries.

I have no knowledge how high up in the chains of command the suspected coverup extended, but I think the Attorney General should find out what City and County officials knew and when they knew it.

Under New York State Executive Law, Section 63, subsection 3 concerning the duties of the attorney general, "upon request of the governor," the attorney general shall "investigate the alleged commission of any indictable offense or offenses...and to prosecute the person or persons believed to have committed the same and any crime or offense arising out of such investigation or prosecution or both, including but not limited to appearing before and presenting all such matters to a grand jury."

Furthermore, under subsection 8, "whenever in his judgment the public interest requires it, the attorney-general may, with the approval of the governor, and when directed by the governor, shall, inquire into matters concerning the public peace, public safety and public justice."

Public confidence in the Sheriff's Office and the Buffalo Police Department has been lost due to this scandal and how it was handled. I believe that the findings of an investigation by the Attorney General could serve as the basis for beginning to rebuild that trust.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. R. Hardwick".

Kevin R. Hardwick, Ph.D.
Erie County Comptroller

cc: Erie County Legislature