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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RESPONSE TO THE MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT'S PRESS RELEASE
REGARDING USE-OF-FORCE INCIDENT OF JUNE 3, 2019**

The Madison Police Department announced today that it completed its internal investigation into a use-of-force incident that occurred on June 3rd, 2019, at a home in Madison during an interaction with a young student.

A full and careful review of the security camera video from the interior of the child's home shows a frail young boy who the police knew had a history of mental health issues, walking through his home following police direction. The video then shows the boy unexpectedly being overpowered, immobilized and beaten in the head as he is held down by multiple officers.

The Madison Police Department's conclusion in its September 20, 2019 press release is self-serving, but it does admit that the department's training for such situations is inadequate and recognizes that internal improvements must be made.

We agree wholeheartedly with the Mayor that police officers have to be held accountable, especially when working with the most vulnerable members of our community—such as young persons of color suffering from mental illness. We also agree with the Mayor that we all must expect higher performance standards—standards that would never allow an officer to believe the officers' actions and beating that occurred on June 3rd were anywhere near acceptable or appropriate.

We vehemently disagree with the Madison Police Department that beating this young boy was "objectively reasonable" and will vigorously pursue all available legal remedies on his and his family's behalf.