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Christopher M. Hilger
Chairman, President and CEO

October 12, 2021

Via Email

Mayor Melvin Carter
City of Saint Paul
390 City Hall
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Mayor Carter,

We are deeply saddened by the mass shooting early Sunday in Saint Paul, a city we all love and where Securian Financial has been proudly headquartered for over 140 years. What should have been just another fun weekend evening in downtown Saint Paul, turned into an ugly night of violence and a tragic loss of life. We join you in mourning Marquisha Wiley and extending best wishes to the other victims for a fast and full recovery.

In the near term, we must come together as a community to support the people and businesses directly impacted by the violence, as well as our many neighbors who feel hopeless in an era of withering public safety across our city and region. Let's also remember to support our dedicated police and other first responders who are once again being called on to pick up the pieces in the aftermath of tragedy.

As the shock from this latest incident begins to subside, we must confront the public safety challenges our community faces by investing in proven programs and resources that will stem the current tide of violence. The future of our city as a safe and appealing place to live, play, work, and invest is at stake. Our efforts to celebrate and promote the promise of Saint Paul simply will not resonate until we regain the confidence of our residents, businesses, and visitors.

As one of downtown Saint Paul's largest employers, Securian Financial cares deeply about the future of our city. However, our ability to encourage our employees to return to our corporate offices after working from home for 18 months during the pandemic heavily depends on how they feel about the safety and vitality of downtown Saint Paul. Likewise, our ability to recruit and retain talent in a very competitive and increasingly mobile labor market will be impacted by these same factors.

I implore you to take immediate and bold action to address the crisis at hand. We stand by ready to assist you in supporting the city we call home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris", written in a cursive style.

Christopher M. Hilger

C. Hilger to Mayor Carter
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cc: Dai Thao, Saint Paul Councilmember (Ward 1)
Rebecca Noecker, Saint Paul Councilmember (Ward 2)
Chris Tolbert, Saint Paul Councilmember (Ward 3)
Mitra Jalali, Saint Paul Councilmember (Ward 4)
Amy Brendmoen, Saint Paul Council President (Ward 5)
Nelsie Yang, Saint Paul Councilmember (Ward 6)
Jane Prince, Saint Paul Councilmember (Ward 7)
Todd Axtell, Saint Paul Chief of Police