



House of Representatives

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May 7, 2020

VIA Electronic Mail

The Honorable Chris Carr
Attorney General of Georgia
40 Capitol Square SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear General Carr:

This letter is in response to the shooting death of Mr. Ahmaud Arbery outside Brunswick, Georgia on February 23, 2020. As the leadership of the Georgia House Democratic Caucus (GHDC), we are very concerned that there has not been an arrest made in the shooting death of Mr. Ahmaud Arbery. We strongly request that arrests be made immediately in this case. We stand with our House Democratic Caucus Member Rep. Al Williams, local elected leaders, members of the clergy, and community organizers in Glynn County and all across Georgia in their fight for justice.

The Glynn County Police Chief or your office through the GBI can seek an arrest warrant for both perpetrators today from a Glynn County Magistrate Court Judge. GBI Investigators or the Glynn County Police Chief can submit an arrest warrant application to a Glynn County Magistrate Court Judge today for the two suspects. That Magistrate Court Judge can then sign an arrest warrant for Murder, Manslaughter or whatever charge(s) the Magistrate Court Judge has probable cause to support for the criminal offenses arising from the shooting of Mr. Ahmaud Arbery on February 23, 2020.

O.G.G.A. 17-4-40(a), states any judge of a superior, city, state, or magistrate court or any municipal officer clothed by law with the powers of a magistrate may issue a warrant for the arrest of any offender against the penal laws, based on probable cause either on the judge's or officer's own knowledge or on the information of others given to the judge or officer under oath. Any retired judge or judge emeritus of a state court may likewise issue arrest warrants if authorized in writing to do so by an active judge of the state court of the county wherein the warrants are to be issued.

Atlantic Judicial Circuit District Attorney Tom Darden can still schedule a Grand Jury Presentment once the Judicial State of Emergency Order expires after June 12, 2020. Immediate action can be taken now with a warrant application being presented to a Magistrate Court Judge so that an arrest warrant can be issued for the two perpetrators. That can and should be done today and without further delay.

Attorney General Carr, we demand that the justice process in the shooting death of Mr. Ahmaud Arbery begin with the immediate arrest today of Mr. Gregory McMichael and Mr. Travis McMichael. The family of Mr. Ahmaud Arbery needs to see the wheels of justice begin to roll in Glynn County. Thank you for your immediate attention to this most urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Bob Trammell, Minority Leader
State Representative, House District 132

William Boddie, Minority Whip
State Representative, House District 62

James Beverly, Minority Chair
State Representative, House District 143

Erica Thomas, Minority Vice-Chair
State Representative, House District 39

Pat Gardner, Minority Secretary
State Representative, House District 57

Dar'shun Kendrick, Minority Chief
Deputy Whip
State Representative, House District 93

Kimberly Alexander, Minority Treasurer
State Representative, House District 66