



Mayor Daniel Horrigan
166 S High St # 200
Akron, OH 44308

Police Chief Steve Mylett
217 S High St
Akron, OH 44308

July 21, 2022

Dear Mayor Horrigan and Chief Mylett,

We encourage you to request for the Ohio Department of Public Safety to allocate funds to purchase dash cameras for the Akron Police Department. We recently asked Governor Mike DeWine to allocate funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to help our police department make the technological upgrades it needs to improve transparency and accountability. In a follow-up conversation with Representative Emilia Sykes, Director Tom Stickrath informed us that the department needs to receive an official request from the City of Akron before they consider allocating funds. We ask that you please submit such an application, and we encourage you to do so expeditiously.

As you know, our community has been grief-stricken over the past month and continues to mourn the loss of Jayland Walker. It is imperative that we improve police-community relations by making sure law enforcement has the resources it needs to safely protect our communities. Our police department does not currently have an adequate number of dash cameras. We believe increasing the inventory is essential to improving transparency and preventing tragedies such as the death of Mr. Walker from happening again.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Vernon Sykes.

Vernon Sykes
Ohio Senate District 28

Handwritten signature of Emilia Strong Sykes.

Emilia Strong Sykes
Ohio House District 34

Handwritten signature of Tavia Galonski.

Tavia Galonski
Ohio House District 35

CC: Director Tom Stickrath, Ohio Department of Public Safety