August 19, 2020

The Honorable Bill Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 1145
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General,

During a recent House Judiciary Committee hearing, I asked you about the murder of Bernell Trammell, a well-known, black activist and supporter of President Trump who was gunned down in broad daylight on a Milwaukee street corner in July.

There is widespread concern that Mr. Trammell may have been targeted because of his political views, and increasing public concern that the violence and lawlessness that has plagued Milwaukee for several weeks has rendered local officials either unwilling or unable to thoroughly investigate his murder and bring those responsible for his death to justice.

Given the seriousness of this crime, I hope the Justice Department will move swiftly to initiate a federal civil rights investigation into Mr. Trammell’s murder. The failure of local officials to apprehend any suspects nearly a month after the crime was committed sets a dangerous precedent, one that could encourage more political killings and undermine the civil rights protections afforded to all Americans by the U.S. Constitution.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Tiffany
Member of Congress

cc: Matthew Krueger, U.S. Attorney