

February 27, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Steve Mulroy
Shelby County District Attorney
201 Poplar Avenue, Floor 11
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

District Attorney Mulroy:

We write today regarding allegations about your office's soft-on-crime approach to prosecution of criminal offenders in Shelby County. President Trump, Attorney General Bondi, and Director Patel worked with us to prioritize the safety and well-being of the people of Memphis with the commencement of the Memphis Safe Task Force, and we are deeply disturbed by recent data from December 2025 that shows your office allowed hundreds of alleged criminals to be released back into the community.

According to a Memphis Crime Beat report released this week, hundreds of criminal defendants were released into Shelby County with little or no punishment. Specifically, according to that report:

- **514 felony cases** were resolved in December 2025;
- **144 of those cases** were dismissed through *nolle pros*;
- Of the **370 prosecuted cases**:
 - **178 defendants** received suspended sentences and probation or probation only;
 - **84 defendants** received prison time;
 - **63 defendants** received diversion;
 - **45 defendants** were released with time served;
- **75% of defendants received *no prison time***; and
- **49% of all sentences imposed were less than one year.**

These prosecutorial outcomes raise serious questions about your office's ability to enforce Tennessee's criminal laws and hold violent criminals accountable. When a substantial majority of felony defendants *in a single month* are permitted to avoid jail time, criminals are effectively incentivized to repeat offend and commit more crimes. Memphians expect that serious crimes will be punished with stringent sentences, particularly at a time when extensive federal, state, and local law enforcement resources have been deployed to Shelby County to Make Memphis Safe Again.

To that end, please respond to the following questions by **5:00 PM on Friday, March 6, 2026**:

1. How many of the December 2025 cases analyzed in this report are Memphis Safe Task Force arrestees?
2. Of the cases in the December 2025 report, how many involved violent or serious felony charges?

3. Why were so few prison sentences imposed in cases involving serious felony conduct?

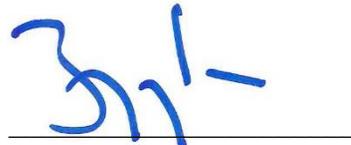
Because of the Trump administration's tireless commitment to restoring law and order in Shelby County, we are on track to making Memphis the safest city in America. The people of Memphis expect you and your Office to uphold the rule of law—not release violent criminals back into our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



Brent Taylor
State Senator (TN-31)