

Terrence G. Berg, United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan
United States Department of Justice
211 W. Fort Street
Suite 2001
Detroit, MI 48226
Sent Via Fax

Dear Mr. Berg:

I am writing on behalf of Progress Michigan, a Michigan non-profit corporation and citizen watchdog organization, to request that the United States Department of Justice undertake an independent investigation into allegations that the office of Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox and Detroit law enforcement officials engaged in actions that may have undermined the administration of justice in connection with an investigation into events surrounding the murder of Tamara Greene.

This request arises out of both historical and recent developments, including the sworn deposition testimony of a Michigan State Police investigator and reports in the *Detroit Free Press*. The testimony and subsequent reports raise new questions regarding the conduct of Attorney General Cox and the Detroit police that, if true, may have compromised an investigation into a September, 2002 party that was alleged to have taken place at the then-residence of convicted felon and former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. Tamara Greene, a stripper who allegedly danced at the supposed party and was said to have been involved in a fight with the mayor's wife, was gunned down in 2003. The homicide case remains unsolved.

The victim's family has complained in a federal lawsuit that Detroit police deliberately botched the Greene homicide investigation. Deposition testimony in that suit by State Police Detective Sgt. Mark Krebs, who was an investigator in the case, suggests evidence in the custody of the Detroit Police Department went missing. Krebs also testified that state investigators were stymied by Detroit police and were prevented from taking possession of evidence in the case.

Krebs also testified that the Attorney General denied requested subpoenas of hospital records and that officials under the supervision of Attorney General Cox pressured state police investigators to rush to a conclusion within days of being assigned the case. In addition, an extraordinary off-the-record meeting took place between Attorney General Cox and Mayor Kilpatrick. The Cox-Kilpatrick meeting did not include State Police investigators and did not involve questioning the mayor under oath. Krebs' testimony that Cox dismissed State Police investigators' concerns about his meeting with Kilpatrick by telling them it was "just a meeting between two politicians" is particularly troubling and begs the question: can these state and local units of government and law enforcement be trusted to, in effect, investigate themselves?

When Attorney General Cox concluded his five-week investigation in June 2003 - a mere four days after the off-the-record meeting - he dismissed the wild Manoojian Mansion party as an "urban legend." He said he found no reason to pursue any further investigation into any links between Mayor Kilpatrick and Tamara Green. Since that time Mayor Kilpatrick went on to be

convicted on corruption charges while the Attorney General was easily re-elected in 2006 after Mayor Kilpatrick's political party selected a respected but politically inexperienced and underfunded attorney to oppose him.

Public corruption is one of the Justice Department's top investigative priorities. These recent public disclosures in a case linked to a former corrupt Detroit mayor, local police investigators under his control, and the current state attorney general raise questions regarding the motives and potentially corrupt actions of one or more local and state officials. While a new Detroit police chief in October ordered a new multi-jurisdictional task force to re-investigate the events of 2002 and 2003, we believe justice would best be served by consolidating the investigation under the sole authority of the U.S. Justice Department.

All involved in this matter are owed the presumption of innocence. We believe the only way to clear the air, protect the public interest and prevent an erosion in public confidence in our justice system is for the U.S. Justice Department to exercise its authority and responsibility and conduct an investigation that holds any officials who are guilty of wrongdoing accountable and that exonerates the innocent.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
David Holtz
Executive Director
Progress Michigan