



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 24, 2023**

**Contact:**  
[info@karenkeysgamarra.com](mailto:info@karenkeysgamarra.com)  
(202) 540-0504

**Statement of Karen Keys-Gamarra on the  
Police-Involved Shooting of Timothy Johnson**

Fairfax County, HD-7 — Yesterday, the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) released video footage of the police-involved shooting of Mr. Timothy Johnson which occurred on February 22, 2023. This disturbing video shows his death was unnecessary and unjustified. As an attorney and the only African American elected official countywide, I extend my deepest condolences to the Johnson family and acknowledge the horrific impact of their loss.

Now that more facts about this tragedy are available, additional action is necessary. Those in law enforcement are in positions of a sacred trust. While I appreciate the steps that the FCPD has taken toward reform and that the majority of officers operate with care, statistics show that excessive force within the criminal justice system disproportionately impacts African Americans and other communities of color.

Fairfax County residents have the right to expect this matter will be treated with urgency, transparency, accountability, and prosecution when appropriate. The Johnson tragedy harms community trust. Now, law enforcement officials must assure us they are dedicated to the rule of law and fairness.

The misappropriation of police authority wounds our community, especially when it results in the loss of life. As the mother of three young men who are of African American and Hispanic descent, I understand the trauma caused by such violations. Thus, the response must recognize the history of such actions and seek healing—healing that can only occur with the acknowledgment of the concerns of those within our community. I ask law enforcement leaders to quickly provide a resolution that addresses our concerns.

###

[www.karenkeysgamarra.com](http://www.karenkeysgamarra.com)