

Federal Bureau of Investigations
2929 3rd Ave N #400
Billings, MT 59101

September 2, 2020

To the Federal Bureau of Investigation,

My name is [INSERT HERE]. I am a resident of [INSERT HERE] and I am writing today to demand justice for Kaysera Stops Pretty Places.

On August 24, 2019, Kaysera Stops Pretty Places went missing in a suburban neighborhood of Hardin, Montana, less than a half mile off of the Crow Reservation. On the morning of August 29, her body was found in the same neighborhood where she was last seen alive. Law enforcement did not inform the family that Kaysera's body had been found until almost two weeks later, on September 11.

The Big Horn County Sheriff's Office mishandled Kaysera's case every step of the way and the FBI sat idly by despite countless pleas for intervention and assistance.

When Kaysera went missing, her family attempted to file a missing person's report and the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office did not file any such report. On August 31, Kaysera's family was not allowed to identify the remains nor were they allowed to look at personal effects. As a result, her family continued to search and held false hope for thirteen days before they were notified. When the family was finally notified that the remains found on August 29 belonged to Kaysera, Big Horn County Coroner and Bullis Mortuary owner Terry Bullis coerced the family into cremating her remains, thus destroying any evidence.

Days before Kaysera went missing, she filmed and posted to social media the beating of her 15-year-old brother by law enforcement at Crow Fair. The officers beating the minor in a wheelchair included Big Horn County deputies. The U.S. Attorney's Office investigated the incident and officers were reprimanded. There is reason to believe that one of the Big Horn County Sheriff's deputies who was under investigation for the scene filmed by Kaysera was a responding officer when her body was discovered. Despite this blatant conflict of interest and suspicious situation, the FBI still did not do their job.

Kysera's family, not the FBI, Big Horn County Sheriff's Office, or the Montana Department of Justice has worked diligently to collect evidence surrounding the suspicious circumstances of Kaysera's death. Although Kaysera's family has given the evidence and tips to the FBI, you, and the other law enforcement agencies have done absolutely nothing.

The FBI has a federal trust responsibility and a duty to protect tribal citizens, including Kaysera. When a tribal citizen living on a reservation goes missing and is murdered, the FBI has a trust duty and responsibility to investigate. Here, the FBI stated it would *not* investigate because her body was eventually found half a mile off the Crow Reservation border. Instead of abiding its federal trust duty and responsibility to protect the lives of our Native women and girls, the FBI

abandoned its responsibility and claimed it had “no jurisdiction” to investigate this taking of a young girl’s life, despite the fact that the FBI knew of *no* evidence to prove her life had not been taken *on* the reservation—where the FBI would have undoubtedly had jurisdiction. To be sure, the fact that the Supreme Court and Congress have created a complex web of jurisdiction for crimes committed in Indian Country is no excuse for the FBI to sit by and doing nothing as our girls and women are murdered. The FBI can always investigate the murder of a tribal citizen on or near a reservation. If it turns out the murder occurred off tribal lands, the FBI can turn over the investigation to the property authority to prosecute.

Bottom line, there is no lawful or moral reason that justifies your failure to investigate the murder of Kaysera Stops Pretty Places. Now, one year after she was murdered and discovered just a half mile off of a reservation, I respectfully demand that you take her murder seriously and commence a legitimate investigation immediately.

Sincerely,
[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]