

Steve Bullock
Governor, State of Montana
Office of the Governor
PO Box 200801
Helena MT 59620-0801

Dear Governor Bullock,

My name is [INSERT HERE]. I am a resident of [INSERT HERE] and I am writing 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 that same neighborhood. Law enforcement did not inform the family that Kaysera's body had been found until almost two weeks later on September 11.

And when they did inform the family, the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office made no attempt or effort to interview a single person in Kaysera's family. Instead of interviewing the individuals who constitute the most obvious sources of critical information in a criminal investigation, the investigating officers at the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office refused to meet with Kaysera's mother, aunties, and grandmother/legal guardian, who had to call and show up in person, repeatedly, for weeks before anyone at the Sheriff's Office would even speak with them.

This is a miscarriage of justice. Even worse, the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office has told the family they will not investigate her murder because she died "of natural causes." Healthy, eighteen year old girls, however, do not lay down at the corner of a busy suburban intersection, die, and then lay there unnoticed for five days (Kaysera went missing on August 24 but was not found until August 29). Kaysera's body was discovered at the corner of Mitchell Ave. & Rangeview Dr. on August 29, by a resident of the neighborhood, when he went for his daily jog. He told law enforcement that had her body been there for five days straight, he would have noticed her before August 29. The autopsy dates her death as days before August 29, and it is clear that whoever murdered Kaysera dumped her body at this busy intersection corner on August 29. This is more than enough to command an investigation.

Despite the suspicious circumstances surrounding Kaysera's death, the FBI, the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office, State of Montana, and the Montana Department of Justice have done absolutely nothing to investigate. Kaysera's family has provided the authorities with tips and evidence to aid the investigation yet they continue to be ignored.

Kaysera's family has repeatedly contacted the Montana Department of Justice and requested their intervention to investigate Kaysera's murder. They have done nothing. Governor Bullock, your administration has done nothing.

Your inaction is the reason Montana is the current epicenter for Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls. Currently the Sovereign Bodies Institute's database reports 245 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Montana. 20% of these cases are in Big

Horn County. Currently 193 of those cases are considered open/unsolved and in 11 of these cases the perpetrator was not charged. It is your job to make justice happen. Your job is to ensure Native girls like Kaysera receive justice and are not ignored and forgotten by the very organizations put in place to protect them. Tips must be followed up on, questions need to be asked, and comprehensive investigations must take place.

Without transparency and communication between families, and state and federal authorities, there will continue to be cases like Kaysera's where the murder of Native girls and women go uninvestigated. Governor Bullock, you should be holding these state agencies accountable. You must ensure that these cases do not get lost in a jurisdictional void and become forgotten. There can be no more hollow gestures when the lives and legacies of our families are on the line.

Sincerely,
[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]