



The Office of
Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
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July 17, 2026

Commissioner Rick Greene, Chair
Chisago County Board of Commissioners
313 North Main Street, Room 239
Center City MN 55012

cc: Commissioner Ben Montzka, Vice Chair
Commissioner Marlys Dunne
Commissioner Dan Dahlberg
Commissioner Jim Swenson

RE: Local 320 Strike and Vital Chisago County Services

Dear Chair Greene and Members of the Board,

I want to thank you for your hard work in overseeing county services. County government can be an unappreciated and not well understood level of government in Minnesota, but I am keenly aware that Chisago County and counties around Minnesota deliver a wide variety of services that are essential to Minnesotans' ability to afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect. I appreciate the work you do and thank you for doing it.

I write also to draw attention to a concern in the public interest and a threat to essential services in Chisago County. As you are well aware, members of Teamsters Local 320 have been on strike for more than 60 days and their contract dispute remains unsettled. I am concerned that the failure to reach an agreement is impacting the community and the delivery of essential services to Chisago County residents who need and rely on them.

As you know, the prolonged absence of these dedicated workers represents a significant break in the stable delivery of essential services to Chisago County's most vulnerable populations. Among my concerns are that senior citizens may be facing delays in accessing their vital Medicaid benefits and that a lack of child-protection services may be putting at-risk children in jeopardy. I fear that the essential safety nets that county social workers manage — which, as you know better than most, are already frayed due to chronic state and federal underfunding — are further fraying every day workers do not have a contract.

This shutdown may well be having impacts beyond human services, including on the local economy and our democratic infrastructure. For local business owners, services such as permitting, licensing,

and economic development have slowed dramatically. At the same time, the disruption to county election services threatens the integrity and smooth operation of our upcoming primary- and general-election voting processes at a time when Minnesota's nation-leading elections are under intense scrutiny.

I respectfully urge all parties to return to the bargaining table to hammer out a solution that benefits workers, taxpayers, and community and resolves this important matter so that our mutual constituents, the residents and businesses of Chisago County — particularly its most vulnerable — are able to resume receiving the full range of vital public services that they contribute to and rely on.

Thank you again for the important work that you do and for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Keith Ellison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Keith" and last name "Ellison" clearly distinguishable.

Keith Ellison
Minnesota Attorney General