



**Murder
Accountability
Project.**

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December 8, 2021

Chairman Jerrold Nadler
House Judiciary Committee
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Jim Jordan
House Judiciary Committee
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act

Dear Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Jordan:

The Murder Accountability Project (MAP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating Americans on the importance of accurately accounting for unsolved homicides within the United States, wishes to express its unconditional support for the Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act under consideration before your committee.


MAP regularly receives communications from family members of victims of un-solved homicides. We cannot adequately express to you the depth of emotion, frustration, and consternation these people feel, as well as helplessness that anything can be done to bring justice and closure to these killings.

We regularly advise families to request a formal review of the investigation by police personnel to determine if new avenues are available to seek case clearance. This recommendation would be precisely codified in the Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act. More specifically, this legislation allows family members or loved ones to seek additional review and re-investigation into files that have achieved a "cold case" status. It would also ensure that older files are reviewed under the most up-to-date investigative standards to aid law enforcement in identifying new probative leads or potential perpetrators.

In short, we believe that the policies within the Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act should be adopted by law enforcement agencies as best practices for unresolved murders. It is our hope that the House Judiciary Committee will promptly markup this legislation so that it can be received before the full House floor for swift passage.

For further information about our organization, or if you have additional questions regarding our support for this legislation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Hargrove". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'T' and 'H'.

Thomas Hargrove
Chairman
Murder Accountability Project