

From: [Nina Turner](#)
To: [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Cc: [Nina Turner](#)
Subject: Request for Immediate Passage of a Separation Ordinance in Saint Paul
Date: Friday, January 23, 2026 2:33:09 PM

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Dear Members of the Saint Paul City Council / Governor Walz:

My name is Nina Turner. I am a Saint Paul native, a property owner, and a longtime small business owner who has invested my life, my work, and my resources into this city. Saint Paul is not just where I do business — it is my home, and it is where my family and community live.

I am writing because what I am seeing and hearing in our neighborhoods right now is deeply concerning. Families are afraid to leave their homes. Parents are afraid to take their children to daycare. People are avoiding hospitals, grocery stores, and public spaces out of fear. This level of anxiety is destabilizing our community and eroding trust in basic civic life.

I understand that policymaking carries legal risk. As a property and business owner, I deal with regulations, compliance, and liability regularly. I understand that any meaningful action may be challenged and may require revision. But leadership requires acting even when the legal terrain is complicated.

Waiting for a perfect ordinance is not a neutral choice. Every day of inaction has real consequences for real people.

I am asking you to pass a Separation Ordinance immediately that establishes clear boundaries between local institutions and federal enforcement actions, including:

- Requiring federal agents to be clearly identifiable and unmasked
- Requiring visible name and badge identification
- Prohibiting federal enforcement activity in hospitals, schools, daycares, grocery stores, and other locations essential to daily life

These measures are about safety, accountability, and basic human dignity. They are not about obstructing the law — they are about protecting the people who make this city function.

I recognize the importance of the recent eviction moratorium in Saint Paul. That was a meaningful step. But it does not address the immediate fear and instability spreading through our neighborhoods. Our city needs additional protections now.

If this ordinance must be amended later, then amend it later. If it is challenged in court, then defend it. If it evolves over time, that is the normal course of governance.

But please do not delay action while families continue to live in fear.

Saint Paul has always prided itself on being a city that values fairness, community, and care for the most vulnerable. This is a moment to live up to those values.

Respectfully,

Nina Turner
Saint Paul Native
Property Owner & Business Owner
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