



## JOHN RAY CLEMMONS

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## House of Representatives State of Tennessee

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March 3, 2025

Mr. Jonathan Skrmetti  
Attorney General and Reporter, State of Tennessee  
P.O. Box 20207  
Nashville, TN 37202

RE: *Request for Investigation*

Dear General Skrmetti:

I write to respectfully request an investigation into the recently reported incident involving Chattanooga Preparatory School, a Hamilton County charter school.

As you are surely aware, the charter school hired an individual with a documented record of serious allegations of criminal conduct, including inappropriate communications with a student. It is unclear whether or not the school performed any due diligence whatsoever before hiring the individual. Investigations by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services and law enforcement were reportedly noted in the individual's Hamilton County Schools personnel file at the time the charter school hired him. One would fairly expect a school, even a charter that operates with little to no oversight, to make best efforts to protect students by requesting pertinent information from a previous employer and performing a background check.

A formal investigation by the State, in addition to local prosecutors, would demonstrate our commitment to student safety, provide a modicum of state oversight over charter schools, shed much-needed light on how something as seriously disturbing as this could happen, and provide valuable guidance to us legislators with respect to any legislative action that may be necessary to prevent this from ever happening again.

Thank you, in advance, for your response and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Ray Clemmons".

John Ray Clemmons  
State Representative