



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Glenn Youngkin
Governor

July 25, 2025

The Honorable Danny Avula
Mayor
900 E. Broad Street, Suite 201
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mayor Avula:

I have been notified by attorneys for Marvin Grimm, who as you are aware was wrongfully convicted and served nearly five decades in prison, that the City of Richmond is ignoring its legal obligation to compensate Mr. Grimm approximately \$5.8 million.

The background that led to Mr. Grimm's wrongful imprisonment is horrific. In order to secure a conviction, employees of the City did illegal and despicable things to a human being and a fellow citizen of Richmond. Thankfully, Attorney General Miyares investigated his case, was convinced Mr. Grimm was innocent and supported the Virginia Court of Appeals entering a Writ of Actual Innocence, in June 2024.

In response to the Court of Appeals' findings, the General Assembly of Virginia unanimously awarded Mr. Grimm compensation for what was the longest wrongful conviction in Virginia history and second longest in the United States.

Under Virginia law, the City of Richmond must match the compensation paid by the Commonwealth because of its indisputable and corrupt involvement in his wrongful conviction and incarceration. To date, the City has ignored its responsibility and has not responded to Mr. Grimm's counsel.

Please be advised that unless the City's matching payment to Mr. Grimm in the amount of \$5,835,758.00 is received by him or his counsel by August 15, 2025, I will, as specifically authorized by Virginia law, notify the Comptroller to begin to withhold funds otherwise owed to the City until Mr. Grimm is paid what he is due.

Mr. Grimm deserves better treatment from the City of Richmond, and I trust you will promptly rectify this situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Glenn Youngkin".

Glenn Youngkin