

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR MINIARD CULPEPPER



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION INTO THE IN-CUSTODY DEATH OF SHACOBY KENNY AT THE SUFFOLK COUNTY HOUSE OF CORRECTION

**WHEREAS,** The death of individuals in custody raises serious concerns regarding public safety, accountability, and the protection of civil rights within correctional facilities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Over the past five years, there have been over 20 reported deaths in custody across Suffolk County correctional facilities, including several at the Suffolk County House of Correction, where the death of Shacoby Kenny followed an altercation with correctional officers, raising questions about the circumstances surrounding the incident and the conduct of those involved; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The integrity of any investigation into an in-custody death is essential to maintaining public trust, particularly where existing investigative bodies may have relationships or overlapping responsibilities that could create the appearance of a conflict of interest; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Concerns have been raised by legal advocates and public defenders regarding the current investigative process, including issues related to conflict of interest, witness access and fairness; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A transparent, impartial, and independent investigation is necessary to ensure accountability, protect the rights of all individuals involved, and provide clarity and confidence to the public; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Suffolk District Attorney's Office and the Massachusetts Attorney General has the authority to appoint an independent investigator to ensure that this matter is reviewed free from conflicts of interest and in a manner that upholds the highest standards of justice; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council calls upon the Suffolk District Attorney's Office and the Massachusetts Attorney General to appoint an independent investigator to conduct a full, transparent, and impartial investigation into the in-custody death of Shacoby Kenny at the Suffolk County House of Correction, including a comprehensive review of the actions of correctional staff, the treatment of

individuals in custody, and the policies and practices governing the use of force and oversight within the facility, and that the findings be made public to ensure accountability and restore public trust.

Filed on: April 29, 2026