



Media Advisory...

from State Representatives Mary Flowers and La Shawn K. Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Mary Flowers

773-471-5200

Reps. Flowers, Ford to Host Emergency Press Conference on DCFS

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – On Friday, May 5, at 11am, state Rep. Mary Flowers, D-Chicago, state Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and child care advocates will host a press conference on steps forward, following a fatal incident last week under the supervision of DCFS. The press conference will be held in the 15th Floor Blue Room of the Thompson Center, at 100 W Randolph St. in Chicago.

“When I heard of what happened with Semaj Crosby, I was completely heartbroken,” said Flowers. “I hope that this incident is eye opening and shows what can really happen when there is a lack of stability in taking care of our children. There is no telling how many lives will be damaged with every day that goes by and we don’t have a state budget. We cannot allow the Governor to hold our youth and their futures hostage any longer, because our children’s lives are literally at stake.”

Flowers, Ford and others will discuss a recent incident in Will County that caused the death of a 16-month-old girl whose family was under investigation of DCFS. There will also be discussion of specific struggles and instances that DCFS has faced since the state last passed a full budget, under Governor Quinn.

“It’s not always possible for DCFS to know all the cases of children at risk in Illinois. The failure to pass a budget has caused yet another death in a community in need,” said Ford. “Every child deserves to grow up safe, secure and loved. Children from all across the state of all ages, backgrounds and abilities are taken into temporary care when it is not safe for them to remain at home. The Governor and the General Assembly must enact a budget and prevent senseless deaths in Illinois.”

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Flower’s constituent service office at 773-471-5200.

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| WHO: | State Rep. La Shawn Ford State Rep. Mary Flowers Department of Children and Family Services Child Care Advocates |
| WHAT: | DCFS Budgetary Press Conference |
| WHEN: | Friday, May 5, 2017 11:00a.m. |
| WHERE: | James R. Thompson Center; 15th Floor Blue Room 100 W Randolph St. Chicago, IL |

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