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Cc: [Susan G. Longchamps](#); [Scott A. Harriman](#); [Chrissy Noble](#); [Bret M. Martel](#); [Bryan Kaenrath](#); [Brian O'Malley](#)
Subject: Statement Concerning proposed OPEGA investigation into Lewiston Mass Shooting Funds
Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 8:06:10 AM
Importance: High

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This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

I apologize for the short notice in which this message is being transmitted, and further that I am not able to attend today's public session, but I feel it is my responsibility to share the statement below with the Governor's office, OPEGA, Maine Community Foundation, the Lewiston Delegation, the Attorney Generals Office, the Speaker of the House, and the Senate President. I unfortunately do not have a direct email for Governor Mill's office, so I ask that one of the recipients kindly forward on my behalf.

This communication also has the support of fellow Lewiston Councilors Susan Longchamps, Scott Harriman, Chrissy Noble, and Bret Martel. Omissions do not mean lack of support, only that there was not enough time to consult other members of the body before the deadline to submit for consideration today. This was also written after consultation with our City Administrator, Bryan Kaenrath.

As the current President of the Lewiston City Council and Ward One representative, I ask that the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA), to the extent legally possible, provide an overview of the City of Lewiston's involvement in fundraising and the decision-making surrounding the management of donation funds associated with the events of October 25th, 2023. I encourage OPEGA to investigate any claims of possible wrongdoing or mistakes made by the City or our partners in the management of and distribution of funds associated with the capital campaign through an independent, nonpartisan, and apolitical framework.

I further urge Maine Community Foundation (MCF) to provide an accounting for the actions taken and the rationale and metrics used for the decisions that led to the allocation of funds to area nonprofits as part of the broad based recovery fund distribution. I would also hope that MCF would be open to dialogue and consider entering into mediation between aggrieved members of our larger community who were present or impacted by the horrific tragedy and advocates for those impacted by the mass shooting events which occurred in Lewiston.

Last, I urge the current State Administration and legislative body to consider that some families of victims and survivors of the events of October 25th still have unresolved financial obligations directly tied to medical expenses and mental health services received after the shootings as well as loss of income which has led to housing instability and other hardships for some due to the trauma caused by the events of that night and do whatever is in your power to correct this current injustice.

I am available for follow up at any time by electronic meeting or telephone and thank you for your consideration to this request.

Respectfully-

Joshua Nagine

Ward One City Council

Lewiston, ME 04240