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**Standing in Solidarity with Minnesota's Somali Community**

We, at India Association of Minnesota and SEWA-AIFW, are deeply saddened and outraged by the horrific and brutal attack on Mohamed Yusuf, a Somali American Uber driver, who is fighting for his life after being violently assaulted in Hopkins, Minnesota.

Our hearts go out to Mr. Yusuf, his family, his loved ones, and the entire Somali community. We pray for his full recovery and for strength and comfort for his family during this unimaginably difficult time.

**No one should ever have to fear for their life because of their name, ethnicity, religion, national origin, or simply because they are trying to earn an honest living and provide for their family.**

The circumstances surrounding this attack are deeply disturbing, particularly the allegations that prejudice may have played a role. We call for a thorough and transparent investigation, including examination of any potential hate-related motive, and for those responsible to be held fully accountable.

At a time when hateful rhetoric and intolerance are increasingly directed at immigrant and minority communities, we must recognize that words and actions have consequences. When we normalize prejudice, dehumanize entire communities, or remain silent in the face of hatred, we risk creating an environment where discrimination and violence can flourish.

**As members of Minnesota's Asian Indian community, we stand shoulder to shoulder with our Somali brothers and sisters.** Our communities share the aspirations of building better lives for our families, contributing to our state, preserving our cultural identities, and being treated with dignity and respect.

**We must never allow hatred to divide us. Instead, moments like these must bring us closer together — across race, religion, ethnicity, and national origin — in our shared commitment to compassion, justice, and humanity.**

To our Somali neighbors: **You are valued. You belong. You are not alone. We stand with you.**

May Mohamed Yusuf recover fully, may his family find strength, and may this tragedy strengthen our collective resolve to build a Minnesota where everyone can live, work, worship, and raise their families without fear.

**Hate has no place in Minnesota. Solidarity must be stronger than division. Humanity must always prevail.**

Sincerely,

Mangala Acharya, President

India Association of Minnesota

Board of Directors

Anjuli Mishra Cameron, CEO

SEWA-AIFW

*India Association of Minnesota (IAM), founded in 1973, is an umbrella coalition organization representing 50,000+ Asian Indians (the second largest group of foreign born Minnesotans) and 50+ partner organizations that represent cultural, regional, service, spiritual, religious, and social causes across the community.*

*SEWA-AIFW is a nonprofit organization committed to serving, supporting, and enhancing family wellness for the South Asian community. We provide health care access, mental health programs, violence prevention and intervention resources, and elder support services.*