



Marshall County Judge / Executive's Office

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Attorney General Andy Beshear,

On Tuesday, October 15th, during the Kentucky Gubernatorial Debate, you made the following statement regarding the tragic school shooting at Marshall County High School.

"I also met with the parents of the Marshall County school shooting, and while I didn't go in front of the cameras, what I offered them was every resource of our office..."

Since this statement was made, I have been contacted by and spoken personally with some of the families whose children were victims of the shooting. They have made me aware that the all of the other families they have spoken to are extremely upset by the comments made by you as they feel the comment was misleading and was used in a time and place as to politicize and exploit the tragic events that are forever etched in their hearts and minds.

As of the time of this correspondence, twelve of the sixteen victims' families, including the Cope and Holt families who lost their children, have all confirmed that they have never been contacted or approached by you or any of your staff in any way. The remaining four families have not yet responded to the inquiry.

As Judge Executive of Marshall County, I am reaching out to you on behalf of these families who have contacted me asking for clarification and justification of your statement. I have heard that you may have been at the Marshall County Judicial building two days after the shooting for the first court appearance, but please clarify which victim's parents specifically you spoke to as none of the families we have heard from seem to remember this interaction.

On January 23, 2018 our county experienced the most unthinkable tragedy imaginable. The citizens of Marshall County came together with the support of so many across the state and even the nation and truly embraced the heart of the meaning of "Marshall Strong". Let this correspondence serve as notice that we are still "Marshall Strong" and will continue to stand for and with the families who will forever be impacted by those unfortunate events.

I welcome your response.

Sincerely,

Kevin Neal
Judge/Executive