The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce Statement on Downtown Safety and Violence Prevention

Bloomington, Ind. – November 2nd, 2026 – The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce issued the following statement today regarding the violent incident early Sunday morning on Kirkwood Avenue:

"Violence has absolutely no place in downtown Bloomington or anywhere in our community," said Eric Spoonmore, President & CEO of the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce. "These acts endanger lives, shake public confidence, and threaten the safe, welcoming environment that our residents, students, workers, and business owners deserve. Our thoughts are with the seven individuals injured and everyone affected. We extend our sincere appreciation to our first responders and law enforcement officers for their rapid response."

A safe, welcoming downtown is foundational to Bloomington's quality of life and economic health. Ensuring public safety and managing large gatherings in popular corridors requires robust, unified coordination among municipal leaders, law enforcement, Indiana University administration, and the local business community.

The Chamber will continue its efforts to convene government, business, and community leaders to discuss actionable strategies, resources, and public safety solutions. As leaders consider potential policies or enforcement strategies, it is critical that solutions effectively target violence while preserving downtown accessibility, supporting local businesses, and safeguarding the vibrant community atmosphere that defines Bloomington.

"People must be able to gather, work, and enjoy downtown Bloomington safely and without fear," Spoonmore added. "Public safety is a collective priority, and the Chamber stands ready to partner with city leaders and IU to ensure our downtown remains a safe and thriving heart of our community."

About the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce:
The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit membership organization serving as our community's leading advocate for business. We offer unique leadership opportunities, meaningful volunteer activities, and exclusive business-building programs focused on critical economic, civic, and social priorities. Chamber members support each other and community initiatives, sharing information and resources to help create economic opportunity and community well-being. At the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, we believe that better business leads to a better community.

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