



# Major County Sheriffs of America

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March 8, 2021

The Honorable Thom Tillis  
United States Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Tillis,

On behalf of the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), we write to you today in support of the Protect and Serve Act of 2021. The MCSA is a professional law enforcement association of the 103 largest elected sheriffs' offices in the nation, representing over 120 million citizens.

The re-introduction of the Protect and Serve Act is greatly welcomed. The bill would create federal penalties for individuals who deliberately target local, state, or federal law enforcement officers with violence and the MCSA fully supports the passage of this just legislation.

Over the past few years, we have seen a dangerous false narrative playing out across our nation that has unabashedly cast law enforcement officials as the instigators and perpetrators of every breakdown and confrontation between the community and law enforcement. This has led to outright targeting of police as perceived righteous retaliation. That notion in both absurd and dangerous. The random and dangerous trend of ambushes against police must end. The targeting of America's police for murder is an attack on our very way of life.

Building community trust is a shared responsibility and requires open and honest engagement from both law enforcement officials and community members alike. As the only elected law enforcement leaders in the Nation, Sheriffs are held directly accountable to the public they serve and understand very well the importance of public trust.

The MCSA thanks you for your hard work and support of America's law enforcement on this issue.

Very Respectfully,

Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian, Middlesex County (MA)  
President, Major County Sheriffs of America