



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS March 1, 2021

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WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE
Executive Director and
General Counsel

The Honorable Thom Tillis
United States Senate
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tillis:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the United States, I am writing to you to advise you of our strong support for the Protect and Serve Act.

The Protect and Serve Act would provide for new criminal provisions for deliberate, violent targeted attacks on officers. This bill is critical, as there is a serious and growing trend of armed attacks on law enforcement officers. According to a March 2020 report from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), 273 officers were shot in the line of duty in 2019, of which 44 officers died from their injuries and 229 survived. 87 of those officers were shot and 14 died in ambushes or premeditated, calculated assaults.

NAPO has long been fighting to establish stricter penalties for those who harm or target for harm law enforcement officers. Any persons contemplating harming an officer must know that they will face serious punishments. NAPO strongly believes that increased penalties make important differences in the attitudes of criminals toward public safety officers and ensure protection for the community.

NAPO thanks you for your support of the law enforcement community and we look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation. If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq.
Executive Director