



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

*Representing America's Finest*

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**Executive Director and  
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February 12, 2015

The Honorable David Jolly  
United States House of Representatives  
1728 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Jolly:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am writing to you to express our full support for the Thin Blue Line Act.

NAPO is a coalition of police unions and associations from across the United States that serves to advance the interests of America's law enforcement through legislative and legal advocacy, political action, and education. Founded in 1978, NAPO now represents more than 1,000 police units and associations, 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers, and more than 100,000 citizens who share a common dedication to fair and effective crime control and law enforcement.

The Thin Blue Line Act increases penalties on those who harm public safety officers by making the murder of a local police officer, firefighter, or first responder an aggravating factor in death penalty determinations.

This bill is critical, as law enforcement officer assaults, injuries, and deaths have increased sharply in recent years. Establishing stricter penalties for those who harm law enforcement officers will deter crime. Any persons contemplating harming an officer must know that they will face serious punishments. Increased penalties make important differences in the attitudes of criminals toward public safety officers, and ensure protection for the community.

We look forward to working with you to pass this important bill. If we can provide any additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact me at: (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson  
Executive Director