



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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For Immediate Release

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS HONORS AMERICA'S FINEST 23rd ANNUAL TOP COPS AWARDS®

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) is pleased to present its list of winners and honorable mentions for the Twenty-Third Annual TOP COPS Awards®, announced NAPO President Michael McHale and Executive Director William J. Johnson today.

Each year since 1994 NAPO has presented the TOP COPS Awards® Ceremony. The purpose of the TOP COPS Awards® is to educate the American public about our nation's heroes and to pay tribute to law enforcement officers in federal, state, county, and local agencies from across the country for actions above and beyond the call of duty during the preceding year. Our TOP COPS are nominated by fellow officers. An independent Awards Selection Committee comprised of national law enforcement representatives select, from hundreds of nominations, TOP COPS cases from the 50 States and U.S. territories. Officers from the top ten cases have been selected as the 2016 TOP COPS. In each remaining state that nominations were submitted, one case has been selected for which the officer(s) will receive an Honorable Mention award. (*Please see attached list of winners.*)

“The TOP COPS Awards® provide an opportunity for all of us to recognize the brave men and women in America's law enforcement community who selflessly put their lives on the line day in and day out” said McHale. “Law enforcement officers care deeply about the citizens and communities they serve, and this honor is one way of letting them know their contributions are not taken for granted.”

The Twenty-Third Annual TOP COPS Awards® Dinner will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C. at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, 2016. Many celebrities from NBC's hit programs *Law and Order*, *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*, CBS's *Cold Case*, *NCIS* and *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* will serve as award presenters. In past years, civic leaders including the President and Vice President, as well as the Attorney General of the United States, have helped honor these brave men and women by attending and speaking at the ceremony. All proceeds from the TOP COPS Awards® benefit the Police Research and Education Project (PREP), NAPO's 501(c) (3) sister organization which promotes the well-being of officers and their families and educates and informs the public about the role of law enforcement in a democratic society.

NAPO is a coalition of more than 1,000 police units and associations representing 241,000 rank and file law enforcement officers from across the United States. For more than thirty years, NAPO has been instrumental in the passage of many important laws protecting citizens and police officers.

NOTE TO MEDIA: TOP COPS® and Honorable Mentions will be available for print and broadcast interviews prior to the Awards Dinner on Saturday, May 14, 2016. Please contact Elizabeth Loranger at eloranger@napo.org or (703) 549-0775.