



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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April 2, 2019

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**Executive Director and
General Counsel**

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senate
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), and the over 241,000 rank-and-file officers we represent across the country, I am writing to urge you to condemn the invocation of convicted murderer and cop-killer Joanne Chesimard at the April 1, 2019 We the People Summit you attended.

Joanne Chesimard is the only woman on the FBI's most wanted terrorist list for her role in the cold-blooded killing of New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster in 1973. The fact that she is being raised as leader to follow is an affront to the men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our communities as law enforcement officers – above all to the family and friends of police officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

As a Senator and a presidential candidate, our nation's law enforcement community counts on you to stand up for and support the men and women who risk their lives every day to ensure our neighborhoods and communities are safe. You cannot do so unless you repudiate everything for which Joanne Chesimard stands. There is no way to delink Chesimard from the role she played in the execution-style killing of State Trooper Foerster or the fact that she is now a wanted fugitive living free in Cuba while no justice has been brought to Trooper Foerster's family for his murder.

The We the People Program is supposed to promote civic competence and responsibility. It is unacceptable to teach students – the future of our country – that violence and killing a law enforcement officer is a responsible way to affect change. You must condemn the invocation of Joanne Chesimard and everything she represents.

Sincerely,

Michael McHale
President