



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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Executive Director

October 16, 2014

Hon. Joseph P. Clancy
Acting Director
United States Secret Service
245 Murray Drive, Building 410
Washington, D.C. 20223

Re: President's visit to Newark Liberty International Airport

Dear Director Clancy,

I write to you on behalf of the more than 240,000 professional law enforcement officers across this country represented by our association, and in particular the men and women of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department. It is our understanding that on October 15, 2014, as part of the preparations for the arrival of the president at Newark Liberty Airport, the Secret Service demanded that the regularly assigned police officers of the PAPD on the airport ramp be stripped of their firearms.

Given your years of service to this nation within the law enforcement community, I am sure that you appreciate the significant and unnecessary risk to the personal safety of these officers engendered by such a demand. A uniformed but visibly unarmed police officer is a prime target for physical assault or worse. This is particularly true in a dynamic and attention-getting environment such as the arrival of the president at a public airport. The risk to the public is also greatly increase without reason by disarming the very men and women assigned to protect them, especially when those men and women are highly trained and experienced in the unique operational environment of an active international airport.

On behalf of our officers, and the public they serve, we would respectfully request that you look into this matter, and correct any mistaken views on the part of the Service regarding their fellow law enforcement professionals.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director and General Counsel

cc: Mr. Paul Nunziato, President, PAPD PBA