

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

317 South Patrick Street. ~ Alexandria, Virginia ~ 22314-3501
(703) 549-0775 ~ (800) 322-NAPO ~ Fax: (703) 684-0515
www.napo.org ~ Email: info@napo.org



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Executive Director

April 25, 2011

Randi Weingarten
President American Federation of Teachers
555 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear President Weingarten:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file law enforcement officers from across the United States, including the Los Angeles Police Protective League, I am writing to urge you rescind the resolution adopted by the California Federation of Teachers in support of convicted cop-killer Wesley Cook.

In 1982, Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner, was murdered by Wesley Cook, who also goes by the name of Mumia Abu-Jamal. Abu-Jamal was convicted of this murder and sentenced to death by a jury. Following this conviction, Abu-Jamal alleged that his trial was unconstitutional and demanded a new trial and release from prison. Due to Pennsylvania's Post Conviction Relief Act, Abu-Jamal received several hearings and even a U.S. Supreme Court rejection of his appeals. Ultimately, Mumia Abu-Jamal will not leave prison and the U.S. Supreme Court has ordered the Third Circuit to reconsider its decision to reinstate the death penalty.

NAPO believes that the severity of Abu-Jamal's crime should not be overlooked. The resolution passed by the California Federation of Teachers is not only devastating for law enforcement but a disappointment to the Daniel Faulkner family, the police community, and all who are willing to sacrifice their lives to protect a civilized society.

Therefore, NAPO strongly urges the American Federation of Teachers to oppose the California Federation of Teachers resolution. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at NAPO's Alexandria, Virginia office at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director

cc: Los Angeles Police Protective League
New Jersey State Police Benevolent Association