



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

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

MICHAEL McHALE
President
*Florida Police Benevolent
Association*

JOHN A. FLYNN
Vice President
*Patrolmen's Benevolent
Association of New York City*

TODD HARRISON
Recording Secretary
*Combined Law Enforcement
Association of Texas*

SEAN M. SMOOT
Treasurer
*Police Benevolent & Protective
Association of Illinois*

MARC KOVAR
Sergeant-at-Arms
*New Jersey State Policemen's
Benevolent Association*

CRAIG D. LALLY
Executive Secretary
*Los Angeles Police
Protective League*

RICHARD WEILER
Parliamentarian
*Police Officers Labor Council
of Michigan*

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON
Executive Director and
General Counsel

July 14, 2016

Mr. Roger Goodell
Commissioner, National Football League
280 Park Avenue, 15th Floor
New York, New York 10017

Re: Violent, Anti-Cop Instagram Post by Isaiah Crowell

Dear Commissioner Goodell,

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am writing to you to condemn in the strongest possible terms the image posted on Instagram by Isaiah Crowell of the Cleveland Browns.

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 image Mr. Crowell posted graphically depicts a man dressed in black slitting the throat of a white police officer. This image is beyond offensive; it is reprehensible. It is such violent anti-police rhetoric and imagery that inspired Micah Xavier Johnson to murder five Dallas police officers on July 7, 2016.

Although Mr. Crowell has since taken down and apologized for posting the image, there has been no response from you or the National Football League (NFL). As a national organization that has an audience of millions of Americans it is unacceptable that the NFL did not step up and condemn the posting. By not denouncing it, you are complicit in promoting violence towards police and further endangering the lives of officers on street – officers who provide security at NFL games and put their lives on the lines every day to keep our communities safe.

After your inaction on Beyonce's Super Bowl half-time performance promoting cop-killers, we find it shameful that you have yet again sat silent while a member of your organization endorses the killing of officers. You should be ashamed of your inaction on Mr. Crowell's Instagram post and the hate that it endorses.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director