

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS March 30, 2023

MICHAEL MCHALE President Florida Police Benevolent Association

JOHN A. FLYNN Vice President Police Benevolent Association of New York City

## CRAIG LALLY

Recording Secretary Los Angeles Police Protective League

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN Treasurer Massachusetts Coalition of Police

KEITH CURRY Sergeant-at-Arms New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association

SCOTT LEETON Executive Secretary Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas

MARK YOUNG Vice President, Associate Members Detroit Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association

JAMES PALMER Parliamentarian Wisconsin Professional Police Association

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE Executive Director and General Counsel The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Speaker United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Minority Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers we represent across the country, I am writing to advise you of our concerns with the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act (CPJRAA) that was enacted by the Council of the District of Columbia on January 19, 2023, and our subsequent support for H.J. Res. 42.

The CPJRAA will negatively impact the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the City it serves. The underlying message of this act is that law enforcement officers cannot be trusted. It strips the men and women of the MPD of their right to bargain over accountability or disciplinary issues. This creates substandard collective bargaining rights for the officers, setting them apart from their fellow public servants in the District, who are allowed to bargain over disciplinary issues.

Further, the CPJRAA undermines officers' Constitutional rights, including the right to due process, a right we give to all citizens. This is incredibly concerning. Without guidelines and procedures to protect officers' due process, officers are too often subjected to the whim of their departments or local politics during internal investigations and administrative hearings. The CPJRAA also violates officers' right to privacy by disclosing officer disciplinary records, without regard to personal identifiable information, which risks putting officers and their families in harm's way.

NAPO is concerned the CPJRAA will exacerbate the current hiring and retention crisis the MPD is facing. With the City Council not respecting or trusting the officers who serve and protect their citizens, it will hinder recruitment and impact officer morale. Therefore, we support H.J. Res. 42, disapproving of the CPJRAA, If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely, Lillim

William J. Johnson, Esq. Executive Director