



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

*Representing America's Finest*

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March 17, 2022

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Heidi Macpherson, Ph. D.

President

SUNY Brockport

350 New Campus Drive

Brockport, New York 14420

Dear President Macpherson,

I am writing to you on behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), which represents more than 1,000 police units and associations and 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the country, including the officers of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and the majority of officers of the State of New York as a whole.

We are appalled by your decision to continue forward with the scheduled speech by Jalil Muntaqim, a.k.a. Anthony Bottom, the murderer of NYPD Officers Joseph Piagentini and Waverly Jones. The civic, survivor, and law enforcement communities have all spoken out in strong opposition to the invitation, which lionizes Muntaqim as a "political prisoner" while callously ignoring the murdered police officers and their families.

Muntaqim is not a political prisoner. He served 50 years in prison for the cold-blooded murder of two police officers, whose families still suffer from the loss of their loved ones, and always will. To consider him so is a slap in the face to the Piagentini and Jones families and the officers who serve the City of New York and the broader law enforcement community. This is not about protesting a "controversial" speaker, it is about opposing the glorification of a murderer. SUNY Brockport has the responsibility to accurately represent who are the individuals it invites to speak, particularly when it purports to be giving students "a new perspective."

We join our brothers and sisters in calling for the rescission of the invitation for Muntaqim to speak at the college and we urge you to really think about the families of Officers Piagentini and Jones. It is not enough to just revoke the grant funding that would have been used to pay the assassin. Show some courage and acknowledge the truth of this man's crimes, and the enduring grief he has caused, the pain of which you are acting as promoter and impresario.

Sincerely,

Michael McHale

President