

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

> CHRIS COLLINS Vice President Las Vegas Police Protective Association

JOHN A. FLYNN Recording Secretary Patrolmen's Benevolent Association of New York City

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

TODD HARRISON Sergeant-at-Arms Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas

MARC KOVAR Executive Secretary New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association

RICHARD WEILER Parliamentarian Police Officers Labor Council of Michigan

> WILLIAM J. JOHNSON Executive Director and General Counsel

May 28, 2015

The Honorable Steve Cohen United States House of Representatives 2404 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cohen:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am writing to you to express our opposition to the National Statistics on Deadly Force Transparency Act (H.R. 306).

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 National Statistics on Deadly Force Transparency Act would require local law enforcement agencies to provide data to the Attorney General on use of force incidents. NAPO has significant concerns with this legislation. Despite all of the requirements included in the bill, the language is vague, and does appropriately address all scenarios. Most importantly, the legislation does not provide a comprehensive definition of "deadly force."

NAPO urges you to strongly consider our concerns with this legislation. If you would like to discuss this issue further, please feel free to contact me at: (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson Executive Director