

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

July 29, 2020

MICHAEL MCHALE
President
Florida Police Benevolent
Association

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker United States House of Representataives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Minority Leader United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

TODD HARRISON Recording Secretary Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN
Treasurer
Massachusetts Coalition
of Police

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

CRAIG D. LALLY
Executive Secretary
Los Angeles Police
Protective League

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 On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the country, I am writing to respectfully request that direct, flexible funding to state and local governments be included in this next COVID-19 relief package.

State and local governments big and small are struggling with budget holes and significant revenue losses due to the pandemic and the steps that had to be taken to protect the public. As a result, police departments across the country have told their officers that department civilian staff are being furloughed and laid off and that they will be next for furlough and layoffs. This is at a time when law enforcement agencies are stretched to their limits between the impact of the virus on police forces, the ongoing protests, and rising violent crime rates across the country. Law enforcement and public safety will be negatively impacted if direct, flexible funding is not given to state and local governments to help them offset budget and revenue shortfalls created by these crises.

Providing additional funding to state and local governments will also help pay or reimburse for all COVID-19 related overtime costs, additional sick and administrative leave, and hazard pay for first responders in areas greatly impacted by the coronavirus. Providing for these workplace needs will help ensure we are able to retain trained and experienced officers and law enforcement agencies are able to continue to serve and protect the public.

Thank you for your consideration of this pressing matter. NAPO urges you to include direct funding to states and localities in this next coronavirus response legislation and we stand ready to work with you to get this done. If you have any questions, or if we can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me at: (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq.

Executive Director