



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

March 28, 2025

MICHAEL McHALE
President
Florida Police Benevolent Association

The Honorable Malik D. Evans
Mayor
City of Rochester
City Hall Room 308A
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York, 14614

Police Chief David M. Smith
Rochester Police Department
Office of the Chief of Police
Public Safety Building
185 Exchange Boulevard
Rochester, New York 14614

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

CRAIG LALLY
Recording Secretary
Los Angeles Police Protective League

Dear Mayor Evans and Chief Smith:

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN
Treasurer
Massachusetts Coalition of Police

I am writing to you on behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPPO), which represents more than 1,000 police units and associations and over 250,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the country, including the officers of the Rochester Police Locust Club.

BRYAN YANT
Sergeant-at-Arms
Las Vegas Police Protective Association

Your response to the actions of your officers, who responded to an emergency call for assistance from federal Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) agents, illustrates that you place partisan politics over public safety. While we understand that it is the policy of the Rochester Police Department not to engage in any immigration enforcement efforts, that does not and should not mean that your officers cannot respond to emergency calls for assistance from federal partners.

SCOTT LEETON
Executive Secretary
Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas

The occupants of the vehicle the HSI agents had pulled over were not complying with the agents' request to exit the vehicle. Instead of escalating the situation, which could have easily put the agents, the vehicle occupants, and the immediate public in harm's way, the HSI agents called the Rochester Police for emergency backup. Your officers responded as they have been trained to respond, with lights and sirens, to what they believed was a critical incident involving fellow law enforcement.

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

JAMES PALMER
Parliamentarian
Wisconsin Professional Police Association

The Rochester Police Officers involved in this incident helped secure the scene and their actions maintained public safety and the safety of the HSI agents. There were clearly no efforts by the officers to actively engage in HSI's immigration enforcement efforts. It is purely politics driving your reactions to this incident and we are disappointed that you are targeting these officers for merely doing their job.

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE
Executive Director and
General Counsel

What we see here is officers being thrown under the bus for political expediency. It takes real courage to stand up to politics and back your officers who were simply acting to protect public safety and what they believed was the safety of fellow officers. We hope, for the sake of your Police Department, you find that courage.

Sincerely,

Michael McHale
President