



## 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](http://www.napo.org) ~ Email: [info@napo.org](mailto:info@napo.org)

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS June 5, 2025

**MICHAEL McHALE**  
President  
*Florida Police Benevolent Association*

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

**CRAIG LALLY**  
Recording Secretary  
*Los Angeles Police Protective League*

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**SCOTT HOVSEPIAN**  
Treasurer  
*Massachusetts Coalition of Police*

Dear Chairman Cole and Chairwoman Collins and Ranking Members DeLauro and Murray,

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

**SCOTT LEETON**  
Executive Secretary  
*Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas*

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the approximately 250,000 sworn law enforcement officers we represent across the country, I am writing to thank you for your consistent leadership in supporting federal assistance to state and local law enforcement and criminal justice programs, particularly the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program, the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant Program, and the Body Worn Camera Grant Program. As you work on the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations, we respectfully urge continued robust funding for state and local law enforcement in the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) spending measures.

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

**JAMES PALMER**  
Parliamentarian  
*Wisconsin Professional Police Association*

Federal grant funding supports state and local law enforcement efforts to combat crime, drugs, and gangs in our communities. It has assisted in reducing and preventing the manufacture, distribution, and use of illegal drugs; improving law enforcement response to mental health crises; training officers to respond to active shooter scenarios and acts of terrorism; and addressing emerging law enforcement needs, including officer mental health and wellness.

**REV. WESLEY McDUFFIE**  
Chaplain  
*Tarrant County, Texas Sheriff's Office*

**WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE**  
Executive Director and  
General Counsel

Law enforcement officials and the public recognize the benefits of putting more police on the street, which is why initiatives to hire and maintain more officers in the field to promote community policing, fight crime, and improve officer safety and wellness should be continued and supported. As major cities across the country are facing a serious recruitment and retention crisis, now is not the time to put additional stress on state and

local police forces by leaving them short-handed. It is vital that DOJ and DHS state and local law enforcement assistance programs be adequately funded.

Further, we have concerns with the President's FY 2026 Budget proposal to merge the COPS Office into the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), together with the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW), the Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ), and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program.

The COPS Office is the only office within the Department solely dedicated to the needs of state and local law enforcement. COPS leadership and staff have built close relationships with state and local law enforcement agencies and representatives, and it is known for its accessibility and responsiveness to stakeholders and grantees. It is a trusted office within the Department that over the past 30 years has become an essential partner to the law enforcement community.

COPS initiatives to put and maintain more officers in the field promote community policing, fight crime, and improve officer safety and wellness and should be continued and supported as part of an independent COPS Office.

NAPO has long prioritized strong federal funding for state and local law enforcement grant programs, which play a vital role in ensuring our members have the resources necessary to efficiently and effectively protect and serve America's communities. We look forward to working with you to support our nation's state, local, and Tribal law enforcement. Please contact me at (703) 549-0775 if you have any questions or need further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William J. Johnson', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

William J. Johnson  
Executive Director