



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

December 17, 2021

MICHAEL McHALE

President

Florida Police Benevolent
Association

Hon. Eric Adams

Mayor-Elect

City Hall Park

New York, NY 10007

JOHN A. FLYNN

Vice President

Police Benevolent
Association of New York City

Dear Mayor-Elect Adams,

CRAIG LALLY

Recording Secretary

Los Angeles Police
Protective League

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 Troopers of the New Jersey State Police.

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN

Treasurer

Massachusetts Coalition
of Police

We are dismayed with the choice of location at which you announced Nassau County Chief of Detectives Keechant Sewell will be the next Commissioner of the New York City Police Department (NYPD). The mural prominent in the background of the news conference featured, amongst others, a painting of Joanne Chesimard (a.k.a. Assata Shakur), a convicted murderer and cop-killer.

MARC KOVAR

Sergeant-at-Arms

New Jersey State Policemen's
Benevolent Association

Chesimard is the only woman on the FBI's most wanted terrorist list for her role in the cold-blooded killing of New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster in 1973. She later escaped from prison and fled to Cuba, where she remains to this day with a \$2 million bounty for her return. As a retired NYPD Captain and the next Mayor of New York City, we are disappointed that you would choose a location that honors a cop-killer for this historic announcement. Her depiction as a hero on the mural is an affront to the men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our communities as law enforcement officers – above all to the family and friends of police officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

SCOTT LEETON

Executive Secretary

Combined Law Enforcement
Associations of Texas

MARK YOUNG

Vice President,

Associate Members
Detroit Police Lieutenants &
Sergeants Association

As the mayor-elect of our nation's largest city, the officers who serve the City of New York and the broader law enforcement community count on you to stand up for and support the men and women who risk their lives every day to ensure our neighborhoods and communities are safe. You cannot do so unless you repudiate everything for which Chesimard stands. There is no way to delink Chesimard from the role she played in the execution-style killing of Trooper Foerster or the fact that she is now a wanted fugitive living free in Cuba while no justice has been brought to Trooper Foerster's family for his murder.

JAMES PALMER

Parliamentarian

Wisconsin Professional Police
Association

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE

Executive Director and
General Counsel

We wish you every success as Mayor and believe you will support the law enforcement community of New York City and get the City back on track. However, honoring Chesimard defeats these goals. An apology should be given to law enforcement officers everywhere, to the members of the New Jersey State Police and, most of all, to the family of Trooper Werner Foerster.

Sincerely,

Michael McHale
President