

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

January 6, 2017

MICHAEL McHALE
President
Florida Police Benevolent
Association

Senator Pat Toomey
United States Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

JOHN A. FLYNN
Vice President
Patrolmen's Benevolent
Association of New York City

Dear Senator Toomey:

TODD HARRISON
Recording Secretary
Combined Law Enforcement
Association of Texas

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am writing to you to express our support for the Stop Dangerous Sanctuary Cities Act, which will enable federal and local law enforcement officers to work together to protect our communities.

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

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.

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

CRAIG D. LALLY
Executive Secretary
Los Angeles Police
Protective League

The system relies on local law enforcement complying with immigration detainers—requests from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for local law enforcement to hold an illegal immigrant temporarily, to give federal law enforcement an opportunity to take the individual into custody.

RICHARD WEILER
Parliamentarian
Police Officers Labor Council
of Michigan

Unfortunately, several courts have ruled that local law enforcement officers may be sued for violating the Fourth Amendment if they comply with an immigration detainer, even if the detainer was lawfully issued and the detention would have been legal if carried out by DHS. This means that dangerous criminals cannot be held and must be released. The Stop Dangerous Sanctuary Cities Act solves this problem by explicitly stating that local law enforcement officers have legal authority to comply with immigration detainers. The bill also protects civil liberties, ensuring that someone who has had their constitutional rights violated may sue.

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON
Executive Director and
General Counsel

Furthermore, the Stop Dangerous Sanctuary Cities Act takes crucial steps to eliminating sanctuary jurisdictions, which pose real threats to the American people, and increases penalties for criminals who re-enter the United States illegally, providing federal, state and local law enforcement vital tools to help keep our communities safe. We look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation. If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq., CAE
Executive Director