



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Loretta Lynch
Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear President Obama and Attorney General Lynch:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am writing to you to urge you to persist in seeking the return of Joanne Chesimard – and other violent fugitives like her – from Cuba as part of the reestablishment of diplomatic ties between our two countries.

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.

Joanne 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. The fact that she – and violent felons like her – are living free in Cuba 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.

NAPO is encouraged to hear that the apprehension of fugitives, including Chesimard, located in Cuba is a top priority for the Department of Justice. The U.S. Government should do everything in its power to ensure the extradition of violent criminals and cop-killers from Cuba so that justice may be served. As diplomatic relations between the two countries are being restored, the Administration must continue to address this issue. You have the ability to ensure that these felons face justice and to bring peace to the families of those who lost their lives.

All criminals who flee the United States must be promptly returned. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq., CAE
Executive Director

Cc: Vaughn A. Ary, Director, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Justice