



May 23, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
United States House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy,

We, the undersigned law enforcement associations, write to you regarding federal efforts to improve nationwide policing practices. Effective improvements will require input from legislators, stakeholders, community members, and members of the public safety community. Public safety – for communities and officers alike – will be best served by reaching consensus on key issues. As such, we ask that you urge the Biden Administration to hold off on issuing an Executive Order on police reform, and instead continue to work with Congress to produce bipartisan meaningful improvements.

While police reform negotiations in Congress stalled last year, we remain hopeful that legislative measures to address outstanding policing challenges, including the increasing unprovoked violence directed at public safety officers, can still be enacted. We appreciate the work you have done thus far to engage on these critical issues and urge the process be continued in favor of unilateral action by the Executive branch.

Our nation’s law enforcement community, and the public we serve, is facing numerous public safety challenges that must be addressed. Unilateral and partisan action taken in this regard will likely further the divide between police and communities, making the situation worse, not better. The American electorate is arguably more polarized today than ever before. Pursuing reforms through the legislative process will help to ensure greater buy-in from all parties. Ensuring all voices have the opportunity to be heard throughout the legislative process will lead to more effective and timely implementation of any changes to the laws, policies and resources that influence public safety outcomes across the country. Only through this process can the public interest best be served when it comes to the safety of our communities and the men and women who risk their lives every day to protect them.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. As you continue to engage on police reform and criminal justice issues, we hope you will view us as a valuable resource to you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Brian Marvel
President
PORAC

Chris Tracy
President
WACOP

Sean Smoot
Director & Chief Legal Counsel
PB&PA of Illinois

Robert Cavaco
President
SHOPO

Sgt. Aaron Schmutz
President
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