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Contact:
Chelsea Irvine
(916)448-3444
Chelsea@MarketplaceCommunications.com

Statement from PORAC President Mike Durant Regarding Anti-Law Enforcement Statements of Quentin Tarantino

Sacramento, CA - The Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) represents over 67,000 public safety members in over 910 local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

As a career cop, and as the President of PORAC, I join other law enforcement officers around the country in condemning the terribly irresponsible comments by film director Quentin Tarantino.

Mr. Tarantino understands the impact of words and images. His ridiculous characterization of police officers as murderers is a dangerous and unfair caricature and a giant step backward. His comments are an affront to the hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers risking their lives every day, a salute to criminals, an invitation to be combative when working with law enforcement, and an offensive display from an entertainer inviting increased polarization.

Law enforcement officers will face greater danger because the noisy Mr. Tarantino decided to take on the role of an idiot demagogue. Our members will decide on their own if they want to boycott his films, and we will continue to participate in efforts to find real-world solutions to genuine problems.

Our law enforcement officers work around the clock in every one of our communities, responding to calls that present the full range of human interaction. The job is dangerous, increasingly complex, incredibly demanding and ultimately rewarding. We are proud that millions of our neighbors are protected and served by men and women who take seriously the responsibility of wearing a badge.

We are also painfully aware of what our California Attorney General has called a 'crisis of confidence between law enforcement and the public.' There are real problems that must be dealt with emphatically and without posturing or seeking excuses.

We have worked with the Attorney General on the launch of Open Justice, a website clearinghouse for public safety data in California. We support the responsible use of body cameras, and believe strongly in neighborhood policing, attracting more diversity into our ranks, increased transparency and collaborative efforts at enhancing communication between law enforcement and our communities.

It is imperative for the safety of our entire society that we focus on engendering trust with every person who interacts with law enforcement. All of us must be the architects of that bridge.

However, if we are to engage respectfully and fruitfully with members of our community, the discourse must be sincere. Mr. Tarantino has done a disservice with his vile comments and headline-seeking antics.

The Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) was incorporated in 1953 as a professional federation of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Today, PORAC represents over 67,000 public safety members and over 910 associations, making it the largest law enforcement organization in California and the largest statewide association in the nation.