



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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PATRICK YOES
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JIM PASCO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

3 September 2020

The Honorable Tina M. Stanford, Esq.
Chairman
New York State Board of Parole
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226

Dear Madam Chairman,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to urge you and the Board of Parole to deny parole for Salvatore V. DeSarno (inmate #81A1798), the murderer of New York City Police Officer Cecil Frank Sledge.

On Monday, 28 January 1980, Officer Sledge recognized a driver as being wanted in connection to a robbery that had occurred the previous day and performed a traffic stop. As he approached the vehicle, Officer Sledge was shot without warning. As he fell, Officer Sledge's gun belt caught on the car, resulting in him being dragged a quarter of a mile. After fleeing, this killer, who was on parole for another crime, took an elderly woman hostage in her own home before he was apprehended.

Officer Sledge was a U.S. Army veteran and had served with the New York City Police Department for 12 years. He left behind his wife and two children. Every time his killer is up for parole, Officer Sledge's wife must again mourn the loss of her husband while reliving his horrific murder. Law enforcement officers work tirelessly every day to protect our communities and someone who gruesomely murders an officer should not be subject to parole. In this case, justice demands parole be denied.

On behalf of the more than 355,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I urge you to deny this cop-killer parole. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

Patrick Yoes
National President