



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

328 MASSACHUSETTES AVE., N.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

PATRICK YOES
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JIM PASCO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
2 OCTOBER 2019**

**CONTACT: TIM RICHARDSON
(202) 547-8189**

STATEMENT OF FOP NATIONAL PRESIDENT PATRICK YOES REGARDING FAIRFAX VIRGINIA OFFICER SUSPENDED FOR ENFORCING THE LAW

I am very disappointed and frustrated to hear that Chief Ed Roessler of the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia has suspended one of his officers for enforcing the law and cooperating with his Federal counterparts to protect the citizens of the county.

All police officers at every level take an oath to enforce the law—not just laws that are politically agreeable to elected officials in their jurisdictions. If politicians don't like the law, they should make an effort to amend that law; if they fail, the law stands. Police officers don't have the luxuries that politicians have in terms of which laws are good and which are not—we enforce them as they're written.

Unfortunately, Chief Roessler has decided to penalize an officer for being faithful to his oath of office rather than to the political likes and dislikes of his superiors. The Chief was an officer once—he needs to remember where he came from. Leave the lawmaking to the lawmakers, who in this case are in the United States Congress.

My thoughts today are with the officer who went the extra step to protect his community and found himself in trouble.