



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

328 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002
PHONE 202-547-8189 • FAX 615-202-547-8190

CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: TIM RICHARDSON
(202) 547-8189

JOINT STATEMENT OF FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE NATIONAL PRESIDENT CHUCK CANTERBURY AND STATE LODGE PRESIDENT KEVIN AHLBRAND ON THE GRAND JURY DECISION IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

The decision of the grand jury not to indict Officer Darren D. Wilson of the Ferguson Police Department brings no sense of joy or victory or vindication on the part of Officer Wilson or law enforcement officers today.

It does bring a sense of relief and a hope that this community can begin to heal from its wounds.

A young man is dead. It is a tragedy that Officer Wilson and the Brown family will carry with them throughout their lives. No grand jury decision will restore Michael Brown to his family and no grand jury decision will erase from the memory of Darren Wilson that he took a life in the course of performing his sworn duty.

The men and women of the Ferguson Police Department and their colleagues from around the State of Missouri will be on duty in the days to come. They will be there to protect the rights of those who wish to demonstrate. They will be there to protect the homes and businesses of Ferguson.

They do this because they are sworn to serve and protect their community. Our first and foremost responsibility to our communities is to keep the peace. We are peace officers.

We cannot undo the events of 9 August 2014, but we hope we can learn and grow from them.

We hope that peace prevails in the coming days and that the healing will begin.