



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Honorable J. Peter Ricketts
Governor
State of Nebraska
P.O. Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

30 March 2015

Dear Governor Ricketts,

I am writing in strong support of the sentiments expressed by John J. Francavilla, President of the Nebraska State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, which he expressed in his letter to you on 26 March. I also want to extend the thanks of the members of the National FOP for your statement in support of law enforcement following the hateful remarks by Senator Ernest W. Chambers.

The Senator's comments were indeed repugnant and he owes all the law enforcement officers in Nebraska an apology. To equate law enforcement officers with an organization which terrorizes the populace in the territories it has seized by violence and makes videos of themselves beheading or immolating their captives would be ridiculous if he were not so serious. This is a man who lacks all perspective and he should be ashamed, deeply ashamed, by his remarks.

No doubt he would take offense at the suggestion that his statements are the equivalent of a radical demagogue, urging his followers to beget violence upon those with whom he disagrees. Yet he seems to think nothing of comparing his local patrol officer with a murderous fanatic who has declared war on all of civilization. His remarks are disgusting and those members of the Nebraska State government, like you, are right in calling upon him to apologize.

It is my hope that, by making these reprehensible statements, Senator Chambers has demonstrated himself to be someone who is not to be respected or taken seriously. In any case, you can be assured the 330,000 members of the FOP stand united with our Nebraska brethren and we appreciate your support. If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington, D.C. office.

Sincerely,


Chuck Canterbury
National President