

25 April 2024

Ms. Lori Sharpe Day Chairman National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund 444 E Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Madam Chairman,

We write to you today on behalf of our respective organizations—the National Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)—to provide you our perspective on H.R. 3381, the "National Law Enforcement Officers Remembrance, Support and Community Outreach Act."

The FOP and IACP are strong supporters of the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) and all of its activities and projects. As members of the Board of Directors, we are acutely aware of the financial status of the NLEOMF and we support efforts to expand fundraising, including seeking support from the Federal government. However, H.R. 3381 proposes to create a grant program to support the various activities of the NLEOMF, but does not identify an offset, meaning Congress could shift up to \$6 million over the next seven fiscal years from existing programs administered by the U.S. Department of Justice. This means that funding for anti-crime programs, joint task forces, and even the hiring program administered by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) could see their funding reduced and used by the NLEOMF instead. We cannot agree to this.

We object to Section 3. (e)(2), which would allow the U.S. Attorney General to unilaterally shift "sums as may be necessary" from the Office of Justice Programs for any fiscal year in which the NLEOMF grant program is not fully funded. As stated above, we cannot accept creating a situation where the NLEOMF is competing against the needs of law enforcement officers and agencies in the field.

To conclude, we want to continue to work with the NLEOMF and its efforts to improve its financial health. We stand ready to work with you to identify other potential sources of funding, but we cannot, however, do so at the expense of our men and women on the beat.

Sincerely,

Patrick Yoes National President

Vincent Talucci Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer