



**PATRICK YOES**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

## **NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®**

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

**JIM PASCO**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

20 August 2026

The Honorable John N. Kennedy  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Katie Britt  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James C. Justice  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Kennedy, Cruz, Britt, and Justice,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for S.477, the "Fairness in Fentanyl Sentencing Act."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly 80,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2024—61% of which are attributable to fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. The National Institute on Drug Abuse recently found that fentanyl and fentanyl analogs are "the main driver of drug overdose deaths."

Even though less than one gram of fentanyl can kill, current law states that 400 grams of fentanyl is the required amount to trigger a Federal 10-year mandatory minimum sentence. Since 400 grams of fentanyl is enough to kill over 200,000 people, we believe that this is too high. Your legislation would reduce the amount of fentanyl needed for a 10-year mandatory minimum sentence from 400 grams to 20 grams. It would also lower the 5-year minimum sentence from 40 grams to two grams. These changes would apply to fentanyl analogs as well.

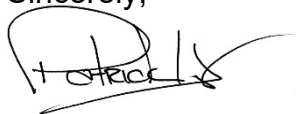
In 2024, I testified in front of the Senate Banking Committee in support of sentencing reform and promised to support legislation that would strengthen the ability of law enforcement to detect, prevent, and disrupt the trafficking of fentanyl and other dangerous synthetic opioids. This legislation does just that, and we will work with you to get it enacted into law.

On behalf of the more than 382,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you for your leadership on this important issue. If I or Executive Director Jim Pasco can be of any further assistance on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact us.

--BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION--



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Yoes", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Yoes  
National President

cc: Darrell Basco, President, Louisiana State Lodge  
Kelly Gibson, National Trustee, Louisiana State Lodge  
Clint McNear, President, Texas State Lodge  
Ken Gardner, National Trustee, Texas State Lodge  
Ron Leek, President, Alabama State Lodge  
Jay King, National Trustee, Alabama State Lodge  
Adam Crawford, President, West Virginia State Lodge  
Stephen Walker, National Trustee, West Virginia State Lodge