

April 21, 2020

The Honorable Bryan K. Barnett  
President, US Conference of Mayors  
1620 I Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006

Chief Steven Casstevens  
International Association of Chiefs of Police  
44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 200  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mayor Barnett and Chief Casstevens,

As current and former police officers of every rank across the country, we feel the importance firsthand of keeping officers, our families, and our communities safe at a critical moment in our nation's history. We are truly on the front lines of responding to COVID-19, balancing public safety related to criminal acts and public safety related to the spread of the novel coronavirus. As a result, we are writing in support of the [recommendations recently issued by a coalition of leading conservative and other organizations](#) to help police departments work safely and effectively in the time of COVID-19.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted society in previously unimaginable ways and has put us all in danger. Law enforcement officers are especially susceptible to contracting the virus because we must put the safety of others before our own. Officers have already [lost their lives to the virus](#), and more tragic deaths will follow before we have the situation under control.

It is critical that leaders at all levels of government act quickly to protect our law enforcement from COVID-19. We believe the following actions are critical in order for police and city leadership to truly stand behind officers on the streets:

1. Ensure officers can take unlimited sick days and have sufficient access to testing and personal protective equipment.
2. Give officers more discretion to reduce arrests. Increase options for citations, minimize warrant enforcement, and halt eviction enforcement.
3. Reassign officers from nonessential operations like parking enforcement to emergency services, allowing officers to focus on supporting the elderly and medically high-risk.

We believe these recommendations are crucial to increase the health and well-being of both law enforcement and our communities during this unprecedented time in our history. We urge mayors and police departments across the country to adopt these policy reforms as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,

Major Neill Franklin (Ret.)  
Baltimore and Maryland State Police Departments, Maryland  
Executive Director, Law Enforcement Action Partnership

Chief Chris Magnus  
Tucson Police Department, Arizona

Chief Isaiah McKinnon (Ret.)  
Detroit Police Department, Michigan

Chief Jeff Smythe  
Burlington Police Department, North Carolina

Chief Norm Stamper (Ret.)  
Seattle Police Department, Washington

MSW Police Commissioner Peter Volkmann  
Hudson, New York

Captain Sonia Pruitt  
Montgomery County Police Department, Maryland

Sheriff James Manfre (Ret.)  
Flagler County Sheriff's Office, Florida

Commander Marc Buslik (Ret.)  
Chicago Police Department, Illinois

Chief Betty Frizzell (Fmr.)  
Winfield Police Department, Missouri

Captain Joe Perez (Ret.)  
Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland

Lieutenant Diane Goldstein (Ret.)  
Redondo Beach Police Department, California

Captain Howard Rahtz (Ret.)  
Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio

Sergeant Steve Miller (Ret.)  
Canton Police Department, Michigan

Officer Janell Murphey (Ret.)  
Salina Police Department, Kansas

Detective Nick Morrow (Fmr.)  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, California

Officer Brian Gaughan (Ret.)  
Iowa and Illinois Police

Lieutenant Joanne Naughton (Ret.)  
New York Police Department, New York

Detective Sergeant J. Gary Nelson (Ret.)  
Scottsdale Police Department, Arizona

Reserve Officer Jack Wilborn (Ret.)  
Glendale Police Department, Arizona

Officer Nick Bucci (Ret.)  
New Jersey State Police

Lieutenant Tom Barham (Fmr.)  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office, California

Lieutenant Jay Hall (Ret.)  
Houston Police Department, Texas

Detective Kenneth Williams (Ret.)  
Brockton Police Department, Massachusetts

Deputy Inspector Corey Pegues (Ret.)  
New York Police Department, New York

Detective Justin Boardman (Fmr.)  
West Valley City Police Department, Utah

Officer David Franco (Ret.)  
Chicago Police Department, Illinois

Detective Sergeant Ted Nelson (Ret.)  
Michigan State Police

Sergeant John Padgett (Fmr.)  
City of Augusta Police/Richmond County Sheriff's Department, Georgia

Officer Christopher Broome  
Pascagoula Police Department, Mississippi

Deputy Chief Stephen Downing (Ret.)  
Los Angeles Police Department, California

Assistant Chief John Bennett (Ret.)  
Tampa Police Department, Florida

Chief Brendan Cox (Ret.)  
Albany Police Department, New York

Major Mike Hilliard (Ret.)  
Baltimore Police Department, Maryland

Chief Mike Butler  
Longmont Police Department, Colorado

Enc. [REFORM Alliance and Allies Letter](#) to US Conference of Mayors and the International Association of Chiefs of Police