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## LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP STANDS WITH MEMPHIS COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Police Group Says We Need Bold Changes to the Way We Police

**Beverly, MA** — In the wake of another horrific tragedy, the Law Enforcement Action Partnership stands with members of the Memphis community in mourning Tyre Nichols's death. We mourn all of the lives lost to police violence, and renew our calls to <u>transform policing</u>. We extend our deepest condolences to Tyre's family, but we also know that words ring hollow without decisive action.

"In addition to banning pretextual stops, which could have prevented this tragedy from occurring in the first place, we need investment in community responders as a viable alternative to armed police response, and we need to drastically change policies on qualified immunity, holding officers accountable," said Lt. Diane Goldsten (Ret.), executive director of LEAP. "Black and brown community members are scared of police and do not trust us because they fear for their lives. We need to rethink the way we practice policing and earn the trust of all community members. That starts with greater transparency and holding law enforcement accountable to the same degree that we hold everyone else. The best solutions to these structural problems often come from the communities most affected, and we need to listen to those communities and center their needs as we envision policing for tomorrow."

LEAP worked to end pretextual stops in Oregon and Virginia, and has been an ongoing advocate for reforming qualified immunity throughout the country.

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The Law Enforcement Action Partnership (<u>LEAP</u>) is a nonprofit group of police, judges, prosecutors, and other criminal justice professionals who use their expertise to advance public safety solutions. LEAP's nearly 200 law enforcement representatives from diverse backgrounds speak on behalf of thousands of law enforcement professionals across the U.S.