

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

May 30, 2012

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WILLIAM J. JOHNSON Executive Director On behalf of more than 240,000 active duty law enforcement officers and the more than 1,000 police units aligned with the National Association of Police Organizations, "NAPO", I'd like to respectfully urge the Sergeants of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department to exercise your right to choose the St. Louis Police Leadership Organization to continue to fight for your interests in the workplace.

There is simply no substitute for active, effective and experienced leadership at the local level for sergeants to maintain and improve their workplace rights and conditions of employment. Similarly, at the national level, there is no substitute for experienced and effective representation of law enforcement officers' interests before Congress and the Administration. Founded in 1978, NAPO is the strongest unified voice in supporting law enforcement officers in the United States. NAPO represents more than 1,000 police unions and associations, and more than 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers who share a common dedication to vigorous and effective representation on behalf of our nation's law enforcement officers.

NAPO is a *voluntary* federation of law enforcement unions, associations and bargaining units. No group of men and women is automatically enrolled in the national organization, they *choose* to belong, and that means they have a greater say in what your national organization does, how it is run, what its legislative priorities are, what its budget is. Local groups also maintain their own independence under NAPO's bylaws. We don't control what you name your union, who you endorse, what state group or lodge you have to be a part of. Your own local rights, constitution, bylaws, budget and elections will always remain just that, yours.

And when it comes to getting things done at the federal level, no one is more effective than NAPO. What President Obama has publically recognized as "The leader of America's national law enforcement organizations" stands ready to stubbornly defend your individual and collective rights. Please take a look at our website at www.napo.org to see how time and again NAPO has been the only national police organization to appear before the Supreme Court to defend individual officers' rights. Learn how the Administration looks to NAPO for leadership when it comes to local metropolitan police needs. Help to maintain the ranks of police unions from the largest departments in the country who understand and value what NAPO provides for them.

NAPO is proud to support and represent *all* the members of the Police Leadership Organization, and urges the St. Louis's Sergeants to continue their long and proud tradition within the Organization.

Sincerely,

Tom Nee National President