



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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February 14, 2025

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Executive Director and
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The Honorable Josh Hawley
United States Senate
115 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senate
530 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Hawley and Whitehouse :

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPPO), I am writing to advise you of our strong support for the Reauthorizing Support and Treatment for Officers in Crisis (STOIC) Act, S. 419.

According to Blue H.E.L.P., 144 current or active-duty officers died by suicide in 2024. In 2023, there were 168 officer suicides. 16 officers have taken their own lives so far this year. These are just the numbers that are reported and tracked. Additionally, according to the National Study of Police Suicides, officers are 2.5 times more likely to die from suicides than from homicides, a sobering statistic.

State and local law enforcement officers are our nation's first responders. They respond to our country's greatest tragedies as well as violent and abhorrent crimes that unfortunately occur with some frequency in our neighborhoods. They have seen and experienced horrors that they cannot forget, yet they still put their lives on the line every day to protect and serve our communities.

The stresses and strains of the job not only affect officers' mental and physical wellbeing, but also the wellbeing of their family life. It is vital that we recognize the stress factors of the job and give officers and their families the resources they need to address their emotional and mental health. NAPPO proudly supported the enactment of the STOIC Act in 2019. The reauthorization of this important program will help ensure important support services are available for officers and their families.

We look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation. If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director