



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

November 17, 2017

MICHAEL McHALE
President
Florida Police Benevolent
Association

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

JOHN A. FLYNN
Vice President
Patrolmen's Benevolent
Association of New York City

Dear Senator Cornyn:

TODD HARRISON
Recording Secretary
Combined Law Enforcement
Associations of Texas

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the United States, I am writing to you to express our support for the Fix NICS Act.

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN
Treasurer
Massachusetts Coalition
of Police

Current law prohibits felons, domestic violence perpetrators, and other dangerous individuals from purchasing or possessing a firearm in the United States. The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) is used to prevent these individuals from illegally purchasing firearms, but this system relies on states and federal agencies to share records on such dangerous and violent individuals. Unfortunately, failures to share such relevant information has led to horrific tragedy. The latest example of this failure occurred in Sutherland Springs, Texas on November 5, 2017, when a man with a chronic past of documented domestic abuse and violence was able to pass a NICS background check and purchase the firearms he used to murder 26 people.

MARC KOVAR
Sergeant-at-Arms
New Jersey State Policemen's
Benevolent Association

CRAIG D. LALLY
Executive Secretary
Los Angeles Police
Protective League

Law enforcement experience the consequences of this failure frequently on the streets of our communities. Domestic dispute calls are the most dangerous types of calls not only for victims but for responding officers as well. According to an August 2016 Report by the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office, "Deadly Calls and Fatal Encounters", the greatest number of officer deaths were for calls for a domestic dispute. In all but one case, the officer was killed with a firearm.

MARK YOUNG
Vice President,
Associate Members
Detroit Police Lieutenants &
Sergeants Association

JAMES PALMER
Parliamentarian
Wisconsin Professional Police
Association

The Fix NICS Act would address reporting failures by requiring federal agencies and states to create NICS implementation plans, holding them accountable to those plans and incentivizing them to share all relevant information, including information on domestic abusers, with NICS. It also reauthorizes key programs within NICS that help ensure that individuals who are prohibited from possessing a firearm are not able to obtain them illegally.

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE
Executive Director and
General Counsel

NAPO stands ready to support this important legislation with any efforts necessary. If you have any questions, or if we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at: (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq.
Executive Director