



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

February 9, 2018

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
2309 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
Ranking Member
2187 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Carter
2110 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte, Ranking Member Lee and Congressman Carter,

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs, representing the Nation's largest metropolitan law enforcement agencies in the country, I am writing to voice our strong support of H.R. 4854 the *Justice Served Act of 2018* which would amend the *DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000*. The proposed bill would provide law enforcement more financial backing to investigate and prosecute cold case crimes identified through DNA and rape kit backlogs.

The members of Congress have previously shown their recognition of the value of DNA technology by authorizing and appropriating more than \$100 million per year in the last decade to the Department of Justice to reduce DNA backlogs and enhance crime laboratory capacity. This bill will assist in the funding for prosecution of crimes cleared through DNA.

Through this action, Congress will be bringing justice to the victims of crimes and to their families by giving prosecutors the tools they need to investigate, solve, and close cold cases. This in turn will bring those families closure after sometimes waiting decades for their loved ones' murderers to be identified through DNA analysis as well as exonerate those who have been wrongfully convicted. We hope to see Congress push forward with this bill and ensure appropriate funding to law enforcement.

Sincerely,

J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police
Montgomery County Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Albuquerque
Arlington
Atlanta
Aurora
Austin
Baltimore
Baltimore Co.
Boston
Buffalo
Calgary, Canada
Charlotte-Mecklenburg
Chicago
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Dallas
DeKalb Co.
Denver
Detroit
Edmonton, Canada
El Paso
Fairfax County
Fort Worth
Fresno
Honolulu
Houston
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City
Las Vegas Metro
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Los Angeles Co.
Louisville
Memphis
Mesa
Miami
Miami-Dade
Milwaukee
Minneapolis
Montgomery Co.
Montreal, Canada
Nashville
Nassau Co.
New Orleans
New York City
Newark
Oakland
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Orlando
Ottawa, Canada
Peel Region, Canada
Philadelphia
Phoenix
Pittsburgh
Portland
Prince George's Co.
Quebec City, Canada
Raleigh
Sacramento
Salt Lake City
San Antonio
San Diego
San Francisco
San Jose
Seattle
St. Louis
Suffolk Co.
Tampa
Toronto, Canada
Tucson
Tulsa
Vancouver, Canada
Virginia Beach
Washington
Wichita
Winnipeg, Canada
York, Canada