



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

May 13, 2021

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The Honorable John Rutherford
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Rutherford,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. The MCCA is proud to support H.R. 3079, the *Protect and Serve Act of 2021*, and would like to thank you for reintroducing this important piece of legislation in the 117th Congress.

This legislation is deeply personal for the MCCA and all of our law enforcement colleagues. Law enforcement agencies, including MCCA members, have had far too many officers injured or killed in violent attacks targeting law enforcement. For example, during the civil unrest that occurred throughout the summer of 2020, MCCA members had more than 2,000 officers injured in the line of duty.

The *Protect and Serve Act of 2021* creates a new federal offense for knowingly assaulting a law enforcement officer. This will serve as a strong deterrent and help prevent future violence directed towards our brave members of law enforcement. The bill also contains important protections to ensure that this new statute is only applied when it is appropriate.

Thank you for your support for our country's law enforcement officers. The MCCA looks forward to working with you to advance this vital piece of legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact me at art.acevedo@miami-police.org if the MCCA can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Chief Art Acevedo
Chief, Miami Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association