



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

April 3, 2023

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

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rick Scott
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Klobuchar, Sen. Scott, Sen. Peters, and Sen. Capito,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 987, the *Providing Resources for Exceptional Veterans to End Narcotic Trafficking of Fentanyl (PREVENT Fentanyl) Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

The HERO Corps program trains wounded, ill, or injured veterans to serve as computer forensic analysts to assist with investigations involving crimes against children. However, DHS has reported that because of the program's exclusive focus on child exploitation, HERO Corps members experience secondary trauma, which creates significant burnout, amongst other challenges.

S. 987 will expand the focus of the HERO Corps to include fentanyl trafficking investigations. This will not only bolster the impact of the program, but it will also help align it with best practices regarding health and wellness for individuals tasked with investigating crimes against children. For example, given the heinous nature of these crimes and the material investigators are exposed to, many MCCA members limit the amount of time an investigator can work on these types of cases before requiring them to move to another assignment.

While the *PREVENT Fentanyl Act* will undoubtedly improve the program, the MCCA encourages Congress to look closely at further expanding the types of investigations HERO Corps members support. It is important to recognize that many of the program's participants have already experienced significant trauma during their military service to our nation.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical topic and your continued support of law enforcement. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the MCCA can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Garcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eddie Garcia
Chief, Dallas Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association