



# SOCIETY OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FBI, INC.

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April 3, 2023

The Honorable John H. Rutherford  
1711 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Rutherford:

The Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation offers its formal endorsement of the PROTECT AND SERVE ACT H.R. 743 introduced by you on February 2, 2023. Our Society has been in existence since 1937 and is the oldest and largest membership organization for former federal law enforcement officers. We have approximately 8,500 members and 120 active Chapters throughout the United States. Our members are keenly interested in law enforcement safety issues such as set forth in H.R. 743.

This bipartisan bill was re-introduced by Representatives John H. Rutherford (R-FL) and Joshua S. Gottheimer (D-NJ) . This bill continues to address the surge of violence directed at law enforcement officers in the form of calculated ambush-style attacks and would impose Federal penalties on individuals who deliberately target law enforcement officers with violence.

Ambush-style attacks and violence targeting law enforcement officers have been steadily increasing in recent years. Historically, 56% of officers killed in an ambush were not on a call or engaged in any enforcement activity. Many of these officers were simply eating, sitting on post, or were targeted and killed while at their home or on their way home. Law enforcement is a higher calling for those who take the oath to protect and serve. It is these men and women who run toward danger to protect our community members.

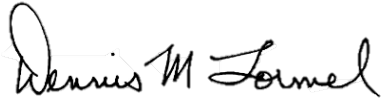
Last year, there were **331** law enforcement officers shot in the line of duty and **62** killed by gun fire. **89** ambush-style attacks targeted law enforcement officers, which resulted in **125** officers being shot with **31** of those officers killed. These numbers reflect that half of the officers killed last year were killed by ambush. This loss of life is not simply numbers – each officer killed was a father, mother, son, daughter and **a hero**. Each one of those deaths leaves a family grieving and a community less safe.

The Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI has supported previous versions of this legislation and will continue to advocate for its passage in the 118th Congress.

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We thank you greatly for your leadership in this critical area. If you need anything from our Society, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis M. Lormel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

Dennis M. Lormel

President

Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI