

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL International President

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International Secretary-Treasurer

Message from the President:

The International Union of Police Associations takes pause to commend all of you for the incredible work you do, each and every day of the year; especially in these most difficult days.

In this moment, my reflection is focused toward your well-being. As I am forever concerned with the daily perils you face – today I feel compelled to remind you and those you work with, to stay safe, remain as healthy as conditions will afford, and know that we are grateful for what you do. We care deeply for you and your family.

Riotous lawlessness throughout the nation is taking an undeniable toll. Far too many of our membership are overtasked and underappreciated as they stand the line between good and evil. Those that choose to assault our officers are nothing short of evil. While injurious acts manifest in officers physically being impaired, the toll may be much deeper and longer-lasting than we know today.

In recent days so much has happened.

In Daytona Beach, two of our brothers were injured, one shot in the chest and the other suffered a broken neck. We are so blessed to know that both are, *relatively*, progressing well.

Our brethren in Sulphur, Louisiana are navigating the aftermath of Hurricane Laura. Nearly every member was affected in some adverse manner by the hurricane.

And most recently, suicides have affected Local 21, Milwaukee; one a former member and another that was still active. With an emotional voice, our Executive V.P. Mike Crivello shared the information with me. He knew the active officer and obviously was quick to refer to him as a brother – a kind and friendly person.

While the Milwaukee Police Association mourns, we also understand that the family of the lost officer wants the public to be conscious of the difficulties that their officer undoubtedly faced; as do so many others.

With resolute voice, I implore all to bring awareness to the programs that may be available to your members. For locals that simply cannot find or do not know where to look – let us know. Our Research Department may be able to find resources for your membership near to you. One such resource is COPLINE. They offer a 24 hour a day toll-free number, staffed

by retired officers who have received serious vetting and training to listen, to help, and to refer. Their number is (800) 267-5463. There is no way for certain that you may ever know what the officer standing next to you in roll-call may privately be facing, or maybe your squad partner [if you're so fortunate to have one] is going through, but let us all *-together*-do the best we can to take care of one another. None of us need face these private demons alone.

In Solidarity,

Sam A. Cabral

International President