



International Union of Police Associations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Statement of President Sam A. Cabral: “The Chickens Are Coming Home to Roost”

Since the events in Ferguson, Missouri, the press has leaned towards vilifying police officers and making criminals victims in what have nearly always been found to be the lawful use of deadly force, usually occasioned by the criminal behavior of the deceased. In the rare cases where the use of force has not been lawful or reasonable, the departments and the courts have acted swiftly and decisively.

These isolated events have been exploited by the far left, anti-police vocalists to neuter and defund law enforcement agencies across the country. “Progressive” prosecutors have been elected and statutes decriminalizing behavior have been enacted. The results have been predictable to all of those except their proponents.

Police departments are finding it difficult, if not impossible, for recruiting to keep up with attrition. Some small departments are completely disbanding. Most are operating at far fewer officers than are sufficient to keep our public safe. As a result, crimes of violence are rising and stores are closing, unable to make a profit due to organized retail theft and spineless prosecutors who refuse to hold those who steal for a living accountable. Private security staff simply watch as their shelves are stripped bare. Poorer communities are left without a local store to purchase their daily needs. The elderly are being beaten and robbed in broad daylight. A sitting congressman was carjacked in the Capital.

The border is wide open, leading to a proliferation of illicit drugs flooding our communities. **The leading cause of death in America as of August of this year for those under fifty years of age is drug overdose.**

“Sanctuary Cities” are flooded with refugees. Housing them is impossible. Some are being housed in the lobbies of police stations. Hotels are being occupied by illegal immigrants, even prompting the cancellation of reservations for guests. Neighborhoods are flooded with tent

cities, squalor, and crime. Sadly, during this rush to find food and shelter for those who are in this country illegally, our veterans are being ignored.

The “progressive” agenda has been a visible, obvious, and total failure for most of America. Many of us are unsafe, not secure in our homes or neighborhoods. Many of our elected officials enjoy private or publicly funded security and live in gated communities wondering what the fuss is about.

As they say, if we continue to do what we are doing, we will continue to get what we are getting. We need to elect those who will do more than make promises.

The solution is not complicated. We need those in decision making positions, our employees, to finally commit to enforcing the statutes legally enacted, including those involving immigration. We must fund the police and support them when they are doing their jobs reasonably and effectively, even when it is ugly to watch. We need to have due process when they appear to have acted unreasonably and take decisive and remedial action if it is shown they did.

I pray America wakes up before recovery becomes a distant dream.

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NOTE:

*Originally chartered in 1979, the **International Union of Police Associations** is the only chartered labor union that exclusively represents law enforcement personnel. The I.U.P.A. represents active-duty, rank and file law enforcement professionals and emergency medical personnel nationwide – including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The I.U.P.A.’s mission is to protect and advance officers’ wages, benefits, and work conditions. Membership includes officers from agencies throughout the United States, including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.*

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