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ORGANIZED 1896
MEMBERSHIP OVER 30,000

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New Jersey State
Policemen's Benevolent Association, Inc.
158 Main Street Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095

January 6, 2017

The Honorable Duncan Hunter
United States Representative
1429 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hunter:

On behalf of the 33,000 members of the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association, I want to thank you and express my admiration for your defense of the nation's law enforcement community by personally removing the offensive and troubling painting that depicted police officers as pigs.

While we respect the right of any person to express their opinions, the hanging of the painting in the U.S. Capitol Complex by Congressman Clay placed a stamp of approval by the Congress that it is ok to insult and demean our nation's law enforcement officers. Congressman Clay's endorsement of the artwork only served to widen the divide between the people and the police and to encourage those who express hatred and violence against our officers.

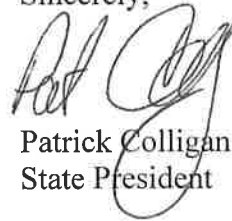
Last year (2016) was a dangerous year for police officers and the murder of so many of our brother and sister officers should shock the conscience of our elected officials and the people. Now is the time for police, the public, and our elected representatives to come together for the good and the safety of society to put an end to the anti-cop rhetoric that has led to far too many officer deaths.

Thankfully, you had the guts and the integrity to take it into your own hands to do something about it and to stand up for the men and women who wear a uniform across the United States. The federal, State, county and local officers we represent owe you a debt of gratitude for having the courage to take down what never should have been put up in the first place.

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Do not hesitate to call on me if I can ever be of assistance to you and thank you again for your passionate defense of the law enforcement officers of our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Colligan". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Pat" and the last name "Colligan" clearly visible.

Patrick Colligan
State President

c: Congressman Lacy Clay
New Jersey Congressional Delegation