



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS AFL-CIO

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

HUGH CAMERON
International Secretary-Treasurer



January 23, 2017

The Honorable Vern Buchanan
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Buchanan:

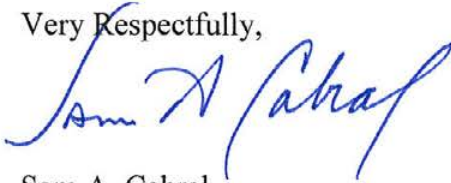
On behalf of the more than 100,000 members of the International Union of Police Associations, I am proud to add our name to those who support and endorse the “Thin Blue Line Act of 2017”, HR 115. This Bill provides as an aggravating factor in the consideration of the federal death penalty, the killing of a Police Officer, Firefighter, EMT, or Prosecutor.

The killing of a first responder during the course of his duties or simply because he or she is a first responder, is an attack on the very fabric of this nation and we view it as nothing less than urban terrorism. It is a very real threat to every American who simply wishes to live their lives, enjoy their families and friends, and go about their days safe from the predators who would deprive them of those basic American ideals. We believe that those who engage in such acts should be subject to the same uncompromising justice as any terrorist who straps a bomb to their chest in order to upset the democratic order of this country.

There are few legislators in Washington, D.C. who do not extol the virtues of American law enforcement officers. Their words are often comforting and reassuring. Your introduction of this legislation shows by your actions that those words are not just hollow rhetoric uttered for support during the campaign cycle, but indicate a willingness to stand alongside our brave men and women who provide for the public’s safety when they are under attack.

As you know, we represent active duty rank and file law enforcement professionals across this great nation and many of our members serve the citizens of Florida. We look forward to working with you and your staff to bring this legislation forward and sign it into law.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sam A. Cabral". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "S" at the beginning.

Sam A. Cabral
International President