



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

317 South Patrick Street. ~ Alexandria, Virginia ~ 22314-3501

(703) 549-0775 ~ (800) 322-NAPO ~ Fax: (703) 684-0515

www.napo.org ~ Email: info@napo.org

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

THOMAS J. NEE

President

*Boston Police
Patrolmen's Association*

MICHAEL J. PALLADINO

Executive Vice President

*Detectives' Endowment
Association of New York City*

MICHAEL McHALE

Recording Secretary

*Florida Police Benevolent
Association*

SEAN M. SMOOT

Treasurer

*Police Benevolent & Protective
Association of Illinois*

CHRIS COLLINS

Sergeant-at-Arms

*Las Vegas Police
Protective Association*

KEITH DUNN

Executive Secretary

*New Jersey State Policemen's
Benevolent Association*

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON

Executive Director

November 17, 2009

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney
The United States House of Representatives
2332 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Maloney:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file law enforcement officers from across the United States, I would like to advise you of our support for the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009,"

H.R. 847. This important legislation would ensure that first responders and community workers who risked their lives responding to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center (WTC) receive medical monitoring and treatment so they can maintain, or regain, their good health.

Eight years after the attack on our nation, we continue to mourn the 84 Port Authority personnel, including 37 members of the Port Authority Police Department, 23 New York City Police Department officers, 11 New York State and Federal Law Enforcement Officers, 343 fire fighters, and over 2,200 civilians who lost their lives. While the nation remembers those we lost, those who responded to the WTC continue to suffer from the physical and mental traumas endured that day and in the days following. According to the Mount Sinai Medical Center study on 9/11 health effects, **70 percent** of the first responders at Ground Zero suffer from chronic lung ailments.

As the health risks associated with exposure to the WTC site become more manifest, it is imperative to ensure that workers in the rescue and recovery effort are properly monitored and treated for exposure related diseases. By establishing the World Trade Center Health Program within the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, H.R. 847 would do just that – make certain that there is a federally funded program to give medical monitoring and treatment to WTC responders, who were exposed to the toxins at Ground Zero. Additionally, this legislation would provide for research into conditions, such as cancers, that may be related to the WTC site.

NAPO appreciates all you are doing to support those who have fallen ill due to their response and subsequent exposure at the WTC. We look forward to working with you to fight for the passage of this bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or NAPO's Government Affairs Director, Andrea Mournighan, at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director