



Resolution in Support of Police International Training Exchanges

WHEREAS, the terrorist attacks on worshippers at mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand on March 15, 2019 and the suicide bombings in churches and hotels in Sri Lanka on April 21, 2019, which combined killed more than 340 people, demonstrate the continuing threat of international terror; and

WHEREAS, the attacks carried out by White Supremacists at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC on June 17, 2015, killing nine people, at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA on October 27, 2018, which killed eleven people, and at the Chabad of Poway synagogue on April 27, 2019 which killed one person, demonstrate the increasing threat of extremist violence and domestic terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the bombing at the finish line of the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013, which killed three people and the mass shooting attacks at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, CA on December 2, 2015 which killed fourteen people, at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, FL on June 12, 2016 which killed forty-nine people and in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017 at the Harvest Musical Festival which killed 58 people and wounded 422, and there were three mass shootings from July 28 to August 4 (Gilroy, CA, El Paso, TX and Dayton, OH) that killed 34 people and injured 67 demonstrating the continuing threat of homegrown violent extremism; and

Whereas, FBI Director Christopher Wray said in testimony before the US Senate Judiciary Committee on July 23 there have been more arrests (about 100) so far in 2019 than all of 2018 and the majority of them were motivated by white supremacist violence; and

WHEREAS, the latest FBI data on hate crimes shows a 17 percent increase nation-wide in the number of reported incidents in 2017 over the previous year, and in 2019, New York City has seen a 67 percent increase in reported hate crimes through the end of May, and an 82 percent increase in the number of anti-Semitic hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, police departments play a critical role in preventing and responding to extremist violence and terror attacks which can have a potentially devastating effect on all people, faiths, groups and communities within our country; and

WHEREAS, in order to effectively prevent and respond to extremist violence and terrorism, police departments must have access to the most up-to-date information and expertise, best practices, education and training from leading experts and authorities; and

WHEREAS, mutual cooperation between law enforcement in the United States and their counterparts in other countries enables US agencies to be better prepared to prevent and respond to terror attacks by learning from police with extensive, first-hand experience dealing with terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the Israel National Police have been dealing with active shooters, suicide bombings, the use of vehicles as weapons and other forms of terrorism since the early 1970s and are widely recognized as among the most effective and experienced law enforcement agencies in preventing, disrupting and responding to terrorist attacks; and

WHEREAS, over the past two decades, hundreds of American law enforcement agencies, and millions of people in the cities they serve, have benefited from the lessons learned and best practices of the Israel National Police, as well as those with London, Northern Ireland and Scotland not just on issues relating to protecting people and communities from terrorism, but also on reducing use of force and building community trust in divided communities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Major Cities Chiefs Association supports programs which enable local U.S. law enforcement to better protect the people and communities they serve by having access to the most up-to-date information, expertise and best practices in preventing and responding to extremist violence and terror attacks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Major Cities Chiefs Association supports programs which enable U.S. law enforcement to better prepare for, prevent and respond to terror attacks such as active shooters, bombings, and the use of vehicles as weapons, by participating in exchanges and other forms of mutual cooperation with their counterparts in other countries, including the State of Israel.



Attest: _____

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