



## NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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**CHUCK CANTERBURY**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

**JAMES O. PASCO, JR.**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
7 March 2019

The Honorable Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Cory S. Gardner  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Gillibrand and Gardner,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our strong support for S. 546, the "Never Forget the Heroes: Permanent Authorization of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Victim Compensation Fund Act."

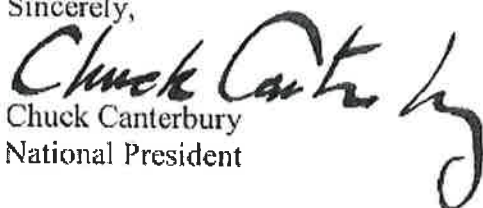
On the 11<sup>th</sup> of September, our nation pauses to reflect on the victims and heroes who lost their lives in the horrific attacks on the United States in 2001. Yet too often we forget about those heroes who survived that day, who put themselves at risk to save others as well as those who, in the months after the attack worked at Ground Zero sifting through the carnage. These responders may not have presented an immediate physical injury, but their exposure to the wreckage and to the toxins and chemicals released when the Twin Towers fell still cost them their lives. When Congress adopted the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act in 2010, we made a commitment to the victims and their families—that their sacrifice would also be recognized by a grateful nation and that they and their families would be provided for as they battled the illnesses contracted on 9/11 and in the months that followed.

We are grateful to both of you for your ongoing commitment to these responders and their families. The legislation you have introduced will reauthorize the Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) through Fiscal Year 2090, the same reauthorization Congress provided for the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP). Given the recent announcement that the VCF may soon be out of funds, it is important the Congress act soon to avoid deep cuts to claims filed by responders to 9/11.

As a nation, we made a commitment to these responders and Congress adopted these programs to help them and their families. These men and women answered in the call of duty—it would be a grave injustice to abandon them now.

On behalf of the more than 345,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you again for your constant support for our 9/11 responders. If I can be of any further assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Executive Director, Jim Pasco, in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

  
Chuck Canterbury  
National President

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