

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

March 15, 2023

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WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE Executive Director and General Counsel The Honorable Sherrod Brown Chair Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tim Scott
Ranking Member
Committee on Banking, Housing
and Urban Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Brown and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the more than 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers we represent across the United States, I am writing to advise you of our serious concerns with the nomination of Solomon Greene to serve as Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Mr. Greene has a significant record of supporting anti-law enforcement statements in his writings and on social media, including calls to "defund the police". This shows an antipolice bias that should disqualify him for a prominent role in the federal government. As a private citizen, our Constitution affords Mr. Greene the right to hold and express these views. However, it is profoundly concerning to us that a nominee to be Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research at HUD has harbored such an openly hostile and defamatory viewpoint of police. If Mr. Greene is confirmed to this position, there is no way to assure those views will not be perpetuated, which would negatively impact public housing community views against the officers who serve them.

We want to move forward with improving our relationship with our communities and enhance their trust in our profession, but if such sentiments are held by high-ranking members federal government, this will be difficult to do. The men and women of the law enforcement community put their lives on the line every day to serve and protect their communities and they deserve the support and respect of their government.

We appreciate your consideration of our concerns, and we urge you to stand with us in opposition to the nomination of Mr. Greene to serve as HUD's Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research. If you would like to discuss this issue further, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq.

Executive Director

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



The Honorable Sherrod Brown U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs 534 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Pat Toomey
U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Brown and Ranking Member Toomey:

The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) opposes the nomination of Solomon Greene for Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Law enforcement officers, including public housing authority police in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and across the country, risk their lives every day to protect and serve our communities. They deserve the support of senior officials in the federal government who help to set policy. Unfortunately, Mr. Greene has failed to provide such support by repeatedly making alarming statements that denigrate the police and advocate for defunding the police.

Mr. Greene has used his Twitter account to broadly accuse the police of harassment and call for police to be defunded. On May 30, 2020, he tweeted "No More Money for the Police." He accompanied this tweet with a quote saying: "Here's another idea: Imagine if the money used to pay the salaries of police officers who endlessly patrol public housing buildings and harass residents can be used to fund plans that residents design to keep themselves safe." Mr. Greene continued this "defund the police" tweet thread by stating that two vocal advocates of defunding the police—Neighborhood Funders Group and Funders for Justice—"had it right all along!"

Similarly, last spring in the midst of violent demonstrations throughout the country, Mr. Greene tweeted that "Violent protests are not the story. Police violence is."

On behalf of the 3080 Sheriffs of the NSA, I urge you to stand up for our nation's law enforcement professionals by opposing Mr. Greene's nomination for HUD Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Thompson

Executive Director and CEO National Sheriffs' Association

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