

# FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

1100 Connecticut Avenue NW ▪ Suite 900 ▪ Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 202-293-1550 ▪ www.fleoa.org



## Representing Members Of:

AGRICULTURE  
OIG  
Forest Service  
COMMERCE  
Export Enforcement  
OIG  
NOAA Fisheries Law Enforcement  
DEFENSE  
Air Force – OSI  
Army – CID  
Defense Criminal Investigative Service  
Naval Criminal Investigative Service  
OIG  
EDUCATION – OIG  
ENERGY  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
OIG  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
CID  
OIG  
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION – OIG  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION – OIG  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OIG  
Food and Drug Administration  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
Border Patrol  
Coast Guard Investigative Service  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Customs and Border Protection  
Federal Air Marshal Service  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Federal Protective Service  
U.S. Secret Service  
Transportation Security Administration  
OIG  
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT – OIG  
INTERIOR  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Bureau of Land Management  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Park Service  
OIG  
U.S. Park Police  
JUSTICE  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U.S. Marshals Service  
OIG  
U.S. Attorney's Office – CI  
LABOR – OIG  
POSTAL SERVICE  
Postal Inspection Service  
OIG  
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION – OIG  
STATE DEPARTMENT  
Bureau of Diplomatic Security  
OIG  
TRANSPORTATION – OIG  
TREASURY  
FinCEN  
OIG  
Internal Revenue Service – CI  
TIGTA  
U.S. CAPITOL POLICE  
U.S. PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES  
VETERANS AFFAIRS  
OIG  
VA Police  
RETIREES  
NATIONAL OFFICERS  
President  
NATHAN CATURA  
Executive Vice President  
LARRY COSME  
Vice President – Operations  
TIM CHARD  
Vice President – Agency Affairs  
FRANCIS NEELEY  
Vice President – Membership Benefits  
WILLIAM HAMPSTEAD  
Vice President – Legislative Affairs  
DOMINICK STOKES  
Executive Director  
PATRICK O'CARROLL  
Immediate Past President  
JON ADLER  
Secretary  
ENID FEBUS  
Treasurer  
MADELINE GORRA  
Director of Administration  
WILLIAM BELLER  
National Chapters Director  
MARK HEINBACH  
National Awards Director  
CHRISTINA TWEED  
National Recruitment Director  
RASHEED TAHIR  
Retirement Director  
STAN SCHWARTZ  
General Counsel  
LAWRENCE BERGER  
Public Affairs Officers  
JASON BRIEFEL  
NIKKI CANNON

October 18, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan

Speaker

The United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On behalf of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) – the nation's largest professional, non-profit association representing 26,000 federal law enforcement officers from 65 agencies – I am writing you regarding the recently introduced legislative proposal by the Office of Personal Management (OPM), which would amend Federal civilian death gratuities and allowances for survivors of Federal employees killed in the line of duty.

Every day, Federal law enforcement officers and agents risk their lives to defend the United States, guarding our borders and ports of entry, thwarting acts of terror – both domestic and abroad – protecting our elected officials and safeguarding our financial and economic infrastructure. In their efforts, many pay the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Death gratuities paid to the families of Federal civilian employees killed in the line of duty have varied based on a number of factors, including the specific segment of the Federal workforce that the employee was part of, the agency administering the benefit, and a differing set of rules related to offset requirements, tax treatment, and eligible beneficiaries. Currently, significant disparities and inequities exist across the Federal government with respect to the administration of death gratuities. This proposal will greatly improve, expand, and harmonize death gratuities and other related allowances for the survivors of Federal civilian employees killed in the line of duty, including those resulting from a terrorist attack, a criminal act, exposure to extreme risk while performing their jobs, or retaliation for carrying out their responsibilities.

FLEOA appreciates your time and effort regarding this issue and we look forward to working with you.

Respectfully,

Dominick L. Stokes

*Dominick L. Stokes*

FLEOA Vice President for Legislative Affairs