

# FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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## FLEOA APPLAUDS REPEAL OF RULES BARRING LAW ENFORCEMENT FROM ACCESSING SURPLUS GEAR

*Washington, DC* – In the midst of increased attacks on law enforcement, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), today commends President Trump and Attorney General Sessions for rescinding the most detrimental aspects of Obama administration restrictions on the types of federal surplus gear state, local, and tribal law enforcement could access that helps them execute their public safety missions.

FLEOA President Nathan Catura said, "**All FLEOA members work with their state, local, and tribal law enforcement partners to help protect America and its citizens. The last Administration's rule to prohibit them from accessing surplus federal equipment was tantamount to exposing them to increase risk.**

Catura continued, "**FLEOA did not support the Obama administration decision then and worked with Senate partners including Pennsylvania's Patrick Toomey and former Senator, now Attorney General, Jeff Sessions to try to re-open access to that self-defense gear. At the time, they were two of the only Senators pushing to change the arbitrary administration policy.**

"As we see playing out in Hurricane Harvey, when tragedy strikes, law enforcement must respond to defend and protect all citizens and often, federal agencies rely on our state, local, and tribal counterparts for support. While we applaud the bravery of the responders in Texas and pray for the victims, the tragedy can only be overcome by law enforcement having the right gear - which this new Executive Order will ensure happens," said Catura.

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*The Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association ([www.fleoa.org](http://www.fleoa.org)) is the largest nonprofit, nonpartisan professional association that exclusively represents over 26,000 active and retired federal law enforcement officers from over 65 Agencies.*