



January 3, 2017

Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Reprehensible and repugnant “art” on display in our Capitol

<http://dailycaller.com/2016/12/29/missouri-congressman-hangs-painting-in-us-capitol-showing-own-cops-as-pigs/>

<http://ijr.com/2016/12/766256-painting-of-cops-as-pigs-hung-proudly-in-u-s-capitol/>

Dear Speaker Ryan,

Our law enforcement organizations, representing over 27,000 law enforcement professionals, strongly urge you to exercise the extraordinary power you possess as Speaker of the House of Representatives to immediately remove the reprehensible and repugnant “art” on display in our nation’s Capitol that depicts police officers as Pigs intent on gunning down innocent people. We have included two links to two recent stories about the offensive art in question.

This latest indignation, sponsored by an elected official intent on pandering to professional protesters, unfortunately adds credence to a demonstrably false narrative about law enforcement that undermines the safety of law enforcement officers and those we protect. This false narrative portrays law enforcement professionals as posing a danger to the very communities we serve. That is untrue and this “art” reinforces this false narrative and is disrespectful on so many levels.

Speaker Ryan, please stand up for those of us in law enforcement and immediately remove this stain from our beloved Capitol and send a message that you support the men and women of law enforcement over those that perpetrate lies about our profession.

In 2016, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page, there were 140 members of law enforcement that died in the line of duty, 63 of those were killed by gunfire, and 21 of those killed by gunfire were killed in ambush attacks. In the homes of our fallen brothers and sisters, this recent holiday season had many empty chairs around many family dinner tables and to have “art” such as this displayed in our Capitol is incredibly disrespectful to the families of those killed in the line of duty.

Please act to right this wrong. Immediately remove this “art” from our nation’s Capitol and take the necessary steps to ensure that this type of divisive art is not put on display in our Capitol again.

Sincerely,

Craig Lally, President
Los Angeles Police Protective League

Paul Kelly, President
San Jose Police Officers Association

Ed Mullins, President
NY Sergeants Benevolent Association

Martin Halloran, President
San Francisco Police Officers Association

Barry Donelan, President
Oakland Police Officers Association