



International Association of
Chiefs of Police

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January 6, 2009

President-Elect Barack Obama
Chicago, IL

Dear President-Elect Obama:

On behalf of the over 22,000 members of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am writing to inform you of our opposition to proposals that would remove the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). It is the IACP's belief that removal of FEMA from DHS will erode the ability of our nation's public safety agencies to develop and implement a coordinated and integrated emergency response effort.

The IACP remains committed to working with both Congress and the Administration as we strive to both increase and improve our nation's emergency response capabilities. FEMA must play a central role in these efforts, and it is our belief that separating FEMA from the Department of Homeland Security will fragment and weaken our efforts in this critical area.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact the IACP at 703-647-7211.

Sincerely,

Russell B. Laine
President