



## SHERIFFS CALL FOR MORE TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNMENT COORDINATION ON DRONE ISSUE

December 19, 2024 – (Alexandria, V.A.) – The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) President Sheriff Kieran Donahue (Canyon County, I.D.) and Sheriff Michael Mastronardy (Ocean County, N.J.) released the following statement in response to the drone issue in New Jersey and the Biden Administration lack of information and transparency.

“The National Sheriffs’ Association stands by Sheriff Mastronardy and other Sheriffs who have been at the forefront of this matter, engaging in dialogue and investigating on behalf of citizens of their jurisdictions. As the President of the NSA, I continue to be deeply concerned by the lack of transparency and deliberate stonewalling of information from the Biden Administration. They have continually failed to provide adequate information or assistance to local law enforcement in response to the drone issue in New Jersey and elsewhere, and it has left the American people on edge,” said Sheriff Donahue. “Our federal government can’t have it both ways, where one agency refuses to admit the drones exist while another sets regulation to limit them and ban airspace. Is there something they are not telling the citizens of this country, or is it that they just don’t know? Either way, the rhetoric is unacceptable and dangerous. Just tell the truth.”

“Our federal partners need to communicate better with local agencies. We need to understand all the facts of the situation that has vast effects on our communities and the ability for me to keep them safe and communicate effectively to what citizens should be doing,” added Sheriff Mastronardy. “Additionally, federal regulations must keep up with technology and there should be more coordination and resources for local law enforcement to deal with these situations in the future.”

The National Sheriffs’ Association is one of the largest non-profit associations of law enforcement professionals in the United States, representing more than 3,000 elected sheriffs across the nation, and with a total membership of approximately 10,000 individuals. NSA is dedicated to raising the level of professionalism among sheriffs, their

deputies, and others in the field of law enforcement, public safety, and criminal justice. Throughout its eighty-four-year history, NSA has also served as an information resource for all law enforcement, as well as local, state, and federal government agencies.