

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION** 

## STATEMENT FROM THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ON THE ATTACK IN PENNSYLVANIA TODAY DURING A RALLY FOR FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMP

July 13, 2024 – The National Sheriffs' Association strongly condemns the violence that took place today in Pennsylvania during a rally for former President Trump. Violence has no place in our political discourse, and political violence of any kind is never acceptable. Regardless of where individuals or groups of people sit on the political spectrum, an attack on a former President, sitting president, or nominee for the Presidency is an attack on American democracy and the very foundation with which this country was built.

The American people have the ability to freely vote in this country, a freedom not enjoyed by other countries due to communist, dictatorial, authoritarian regimes. America respects and enjoys these freedoms because of one simple fact: the Rule of Law. No individual, political party or entity is above this sacred tenant. We, as Americans, cannot and will not allow that to happen. We must reaffirm our commitment to upholding the Rule of Law, the cornerstone of our democracy.

As Sheriffs of this country, we stand firm against the criminality and violence being brought against our citizens, including the reprehensible events that occurred today against the presumptive Republican nominee for the President of the United States. Tragically, innocent people were victims of this senseless violence today. It is heartbreaking. It is reprehensible. It is senseless. Good and reasonable people can disagree on policies and the best directions to move this nation forward, but we must do so with civility and not cowardice.

The United States of America is and must be better than this. In the face of such events, it is more important than ever that we stand united as a nation, upholding our values and protecting our democracy. The Sheriffs of this great nation pray for Mr. Trump and his family, the families of the injured, and the brave men and women of the Secret Service and law enforcement who were present today at the rally. May God be with each and every one of them, and may we all find common ground to move forward as one Nation Under God.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Kieran Donahue Canyon County, Idaho President, National Sheriffs' Association