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IACP ENDORSES NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR INFORMATION SHARING

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) today announced its support for the National Strategy for Information Sharing.

This document developed with substantial input from the IACP and the state, tribal, and local law enforcement community, embraces many important concepts which are critical to the success of our continuing national effort to combat terrorism.

Foremost among these is the recognition that state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies are vital to the ability to detect, deter, disrupt, prevent and apprehend terrorists before they can strike. As the National Strategy properly declares, state, tribal, and local officials are "full and trusted partners with the Federal Government" and as a result require "timely, credible and actionable information and intelligence about individuals and organizations intending to carry out attacks within the United States."

The IACP is also pleased that the National Strategy calls on the federal government to provide states and major urban areas with the assistance necessary to not only establish fusion centers but also to provide them with the continuing support necessary to meet the long term intelligence and information sharing needs of the law enforcement community. These fusion centers will play a vital role in ensuring that law enforcement agencies throughout the nation have the information necessary to protect our communities from dual specters of both terrorism and crime.

The IACP looks forward to working with the Administration, the Congress, and law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, tribal, and local level as we strive to implement this critical strategy.

Founded in 1893, the International Association of Chiefs of Police is the world's oldest and largest association of law enforcement executives with more than 20,000 members in nearly 100 countries. For more information, visit www.theiacp.org.