



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION
OF NEW YORK CITY

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**Statement of Crime Commission President Aborn
on Shooting of Two NYPD Officers**

NEW YORK - Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, released the following statement in reaction to news that two police officers were shot in Brooklyn today:

"The death of these two officers is a terrible tragedy which all New Yorkers will mourn. New York City has made incredible strides in public safety over the last 20 years-- principally because of the dedication and bravery of the men and women of the NYPD. Indeed, the safety of the city we enjoy today makes this killing all the more shocking.

"Only an inhuman killer would use one tragic death to justify committing another. New Yorkers will not allow such hatred and fear to be compounded. Instead, New Yorkers today will be united in their condemnation of this brutal violence and in their appreciation for our police.

"The anger and sense of isolation felt by our police and their leadership is understandable, though their fiery rhetoric should now begin to recede. But irresponsible parties, not part of the police, who are seeking to blame people other than the assailant following the tragic murder of officers Ramos and Liu are not on the side of law and order, nor do they represent the aims of the peaceful protesters or the brave police officers who have worked so well together to quell tensions over the last few months.

"Research evidence is clear that a strong bond between police and the public they serve is necessary for public safety. Now is the time to make that bond stronger, not to weaken it by sowing distrust and fear.

"The challenge of a successful policing strategy is to address the concerns of the public while protecting them—so that citizens and police are united in their common goal of a safe, just city. The public must also recognize the unimaginable dangers police officers face every day.

"The NYPD is about to finish one of its most successful years on record because of their unwavering dedication to our protection. Now is a pivotal moment when police and the public must work together to stay the course and work more closely to address each other's concerns. Allowing the heinous act of a cowardly assassin to knock us off our path by dividing us further would surely mean more tragedy, not less."

About the Citizens Crime Commission:

The Crime Commission is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make New York City's criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. For more information on the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, please visit our website: www.nycrimecommission.org

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