



# Las Vegas Police Protective Association Metro, Inc.



To: LVPPA Members  
From: David Roger, General Counsel *DR*  
Re: Sheriff Lombardo's E-mail  
Date: October 14, 2015

Sheriff Lombardo felt compelled to criticize your Association for filing a federal lawsuit to protect your rights. The Executive Board has directed me to address the Sheriff's comments.

By way of background, last year all three associations listened to the mandate of their members and supported Sheriff Lombardo's opponent. When Sheriff Lombardo won the election, we extended an olive branch to the Sheriff and received a stiff arm in response.

We have met with the Sheriff's representatives to resolve differences but have not been able to make headway with the Department. Today, all three associations are in litigation with the Department. The Sheriff's suggestion that he is looking out for your rights is laughable.

The Sheriff criticizes the Associations for not polling its members before filing the federal lawsuit. Aside from the fact that the Sheriff does not have a say in association business, his statement is ironic because he disparaged the association's poll indicating that he had hardly any support from the members in the Sheriff's race.

The Sheriff claims that the Department did not have a hand in lobbying to support the Union Busting legislation. What we do know is that the Department dispatched three Department members and a very influential lobbying firm to represent the Sheriff's interests in the legislature. You decide whether you believe the Sheriff did not have a role in supporting this devastating legislation.

With respect to the Sheriff's claim that he is merely following the law when he demands cash from the Associations for their representative leave time, we disagree. To nobody's surprise, many other Southern Nevada public employers have rejected the Department's legal interpretation. Many employers have sat down at the bargaining table to hammer out a resolution. We only ask that the

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Sheriff respect collective bargaining, and Nevada law, and discuss a resolution that does not require cash on the barrelhead.

Many officers believe that Sheriff Lombardo's demand that PPACE pay cash for their representatives' positions is payback for supporting his opponent in the election. Keep in mind that PPACE offered to pay for the positions by making financial concessions. Why else would the Sheriff demand cash from the smallest association, but to send the association spiraling into insolvency and eliminate them as a voice for the civilian employees. Political payback? You decide whether the Sheriff has your back.

PPACE just happened to be the first association on the chopping block. PPA and PMSA have spoken to the Department and have been given the impression that they are next. The associations have been left with no alternative but to seek help from the courts.

We are not asking for a handout; we have never received freebies from the Department. We want to sit down with the Sheriff to resolve our differences. However, the Sheriff has taken the, "my way or the highway" approach to the associations. Do you feel safe dealing with the Department without representation? Do you believe you will receive a fair shake from the Department if they have the final say on wages? We don't believe so and nor should you. With your support, we will continue to have your back and make sure you are treated fairly.