



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

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Glenn McEntyre
Chanel 10 News
770 Twin Rivers Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Mr. McEntyre:

With regard to the story aired on Channel 10 that discussed Live PD and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, the FOP can provide some additional information and perspective. It is not uncommon within Franklin County and indeed around the state for different pursuit policies to be adopted by different agencies. Sheriff Baldwin has authority to institute the policy he deems appropriate to combat crime in Franklin County. In my 22 plus years of law enforcement experience, I can personally attest to the fact that traffic stops for routine violations often can lead to solving multiple crimes. In the recent past, the Sheriff's Office apprehended a suspect out of a stolen car. This apprehension led to six other crimes being solved. That is six additional victims that saw justice served for the crimes perpetrated against them. The public should expect justice to be served and to be safe from further victimization.

The number of pursuits the Sherriff's Office has experienced this year remains consistent with the number of pursuits that took place in 2017 and 2018; furthermore, the leadership within the Sheriff's Office routinely terminates pursuits for a variety of reasons, including the safety of motorists and pedestrians. Columbus does have a different policy, and that is within the discretion of Chief Quinlan. In the past, Chief Quinlan and Sheriff Baldwin have met to discuss these policies and how they will respectively handle situations that may involve both agencies. Anonymous remarks in the media do not serve the public or law enforcement generally, and differences in policy should not form the basis for causing dissension among law enforcement agencies that have a shared goal of protecting the public and serving justice. FOP Lodge 9 leadership respects all of the agencies within our jurisdiction, and we also respect the ability of leadership to effectively implement their own strategies to combat crime and protect the public.

Live PD has brought the issues that are faced by officers and residents daily to light in real time. This allows law enforcement to remain transparent while working together with the public to solve issues within our community. If one agency should choose to engage this strategy, then we respect their decision and acknowledge that they have not reached their decisions without thorough study of the issues.

Sincerely,

Keith Ferrell
President
FOP Lodge #9

REPRESENTING OVER 4,300 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

www.fop9.org

