



# NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVES

May 13, 2019

DWAYNE CRAWFORD  
Executive Director

*National President*  
**VERA BUMPERS**  
Chief of Police  
Metropolitan Transit Authority Police Department Houston, TX

*National First Vice President*  
**CERELYN J. DAVIS**  
Chief of Police  
Durham, NC Police Department

*National Second Vice President*  
**LYNDA R. WILLIAMS**  
Deputy Assistant Director (Retired), U.S. Secret Service  
Professor Criminal Justice, Middle Tennessee State University

*Immediate Past President*  
**CLARENCE E. COX, III**  
Director of Special Projects, Office of the Chief  
Fulton County, GA Police Department

*Treasurer*  
**GINA V. HAWKINS**  
Chief of Police  
Fayetteville City Police Department

*Recording Secretary*  
**MITCHELL R. DAVIS, III**  
Chief of Police  
Hazel Crest, IL Police Department

*Financial Secretary*  
**WAYNE P. HARRIS**  
Deputy Chief of Police (Retired)  
Rochester Police Department

*Sergeant-at-Arms*  
**SHEILA WADSON**  
Chief of Police  
Woodmere Police Department

*Parliamentarian*  
**ANTHONY APRIL**  
Captain  
Alaska State Troopers

*Associate Members Representative*  
**MICHELLE I. TÈGE**  
Detective  
New York City, NY Police Department

*Region One Vice President*  
**GERALD NELSON**  
Chief (Retired)  
New York City Police Department

*Region Two Vice President*  
**ESTELLA J. THOMAS**  
Supervisor (Retired)  
Transportation Security Administration

*Region Three Vice President*  
**KEVIN GRANVILLE**  
Captain  
Broward County, FL Sheriff's Office

*Region Four Vice President*  
**BRENDA GOSS ANDREWS**  
Deputy Chief of Police (Retired)  
Detroit, MI Police Department

*Region Five Vice President*  
**FREDERICK THOMAS**  
Captain/Commander  
East Baton Rouge, LA Parish Sheriff's Office

*Region Six Vice President*  
**CHRIS WATERS**  
Captain  
Los Angeles Police Department

*Federal Assistant to the National President*  
**TREVOR VELINOR**  
Special Agent in Charge  
Bureau of ATF

*Special Assistant to the National President*  
**CYNTHIA HERRIOTT-SULLIVAN**  
Chief of Compliance, Diversity, Inclusion & Public Safety  
Rochester Housing Authority

*Special Assistant to the National President*  
**DR. CEDRIC ALEXANDER**  
Deputy Mayor  
City of Rochester-Office of the Mayor

*Special Assistant to the President for International Affairs*  
**MELODY JACKSON**  
Special Agent in Charge (Retired)  
Health and Human Services-Office of Inspector General

*National Chaplain*  
**REVEREND CASSANDRA BLEDSOE**  
Community Liaison to the Chief  
Cleveland Division of the Police

Honorable Chair Nathanson  
House Revenue Committee

Dear Chair Nathanson:

This letter acts as a formal confirmation of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) support for the Lyft organization as an on-demand transportation company providing primarily ride-sharing services. NOBLE applauds the mission of Lyft which is to reconnect people through transportation and bring communities together. We are excited about this partnership and agree with Lyft's vision of seeing the future as community-driven.

Ridesharing companies like Lyft are playing a critical role in the everyday lives by increasing access to safe, affordable, reliable access to transportation. Drivers undergo a rigorous and thorough background check and the on-demand apps have built in a number of additional enhanced safety features that provide further safety benefits for passengers and drivers.

Not only is ridesharing changing the way people are able to safely get around their community, these new forms of transportation are improving public safety. Studies have shown the availability of services like Lyft reduce alcohol-related driving arrests. A UC Davis Institute of Transportation study documents substantial decreases in impaired driving in cities once rideshare is introduced - from 14% to 37% in cities studied (<https://steps.ucdavis.edu/new-research-ride-hailing-impacts-travel-behavior/>). A Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania has similar findings of decreases up to almost 60% in impaired driving instances (<https://www.pennmedicine.org/news/news-releases/2017/october/impacts-of-ride-hailing-on-crashes-differ-from-city-to-city>).

Other studies document a decrease in impaired drivers by up to 51% ([Dills & Mulholland](#)), reduction in assault and disorderly conduct arrests by up to 42% ([Dills & Mulholland](#)), and reduce DWI deaths by more than 10%. ([UT Austin](#)). Also, 88% of Lyft passengers already say they are less likely to drive drunk because of the availability of Lyft ([2019 Lyft Economic Impact Report](#)).

We look forward to a successful partnership with Lyft as we both continue to serve communities across this nation.

Sincerely,

Dwayne A. Crawford  
Executive Director