Godly Perspective on Law Enforcement By: Dr. Matthew Stachmus

Freedom cannot exist w/o the rule of law. Our forefathers knew liberties and law had their ultimate source not in they themselves, but in God. As such they declared "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." They acknowledged that liberties, and by extension laws governing them were of *divine* origin...as such no *man* had the right to remove them. This idea is carved in stone in front of our state capital building, "Government is of <u>divine</u> origin and any government is <u>free</u> where laws rule and people are a party to those laws." In America the power of government is vested in "We the people...." Government has the responsibility to make and enforce law.

A free nation with the foundation of jurisprudence derived from Truth must have a practical means that the laws government legislates can be exercised & enforced. As such, it's not law makers which are given charge over enforcement of law. This duty's placed on men & women trained & equipped as law enforcement officers, whom themselves are subject to the same laws they're entrusted to protect.

Every soul is to be subject to higher powers as there is no power apart from the will of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. A society of law & justice cannot exist w/o a proper recognition of the ultimate *divine* source of government, its laws and by extension its law enforcement officers whom have sworn to serve and protect.

For years, foundations of our government/society have been questioned. Much effort has been placed to reconstruct our nation and alter much of what has given us our identity. It should be of no surprise that those seeking to harm our nation and what it stands for would likewise seek to harm those given the sober responsibility to serve and protect in law enforcement. When lawbreakers attack members of law enforcement, God's ministers of justice...they're indeed striking out at God himself & his plan for law, justice & government.

Given the state of our society, those in law enforcement have a difficult task. Every day they're willing to place their lives on the line. We trust them because we Trust in God who has established and ordained their work. We want this law enforcement community to know that we support you, we back you, and in these United States of America, our seat of ultimate power is not in our resources or our institutions or we ourselves...but God.

Without debate abuses of power have occurred by some individuals in law enforcement...but this is not the norm & the notion of having a free and safe society without capable police is absurd. Do we close the hospital for the mistakes of one egregious physician? Do we close the school for one poor educator? Do we close the fire station for one bad fire fighter? Of course not, because such a broad penalty to punish such institutions harms not just those institutions, but the community at large.