



International Association of  
Chiefs of Police

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March 17, 2016

The Honorable Loretta Lynch  
Attorney General  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am writing to express our profound concern and disappointment over the apparent lack of action in resolving the suspension of the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Program payments.

As we cautioned in a joint law enforcement letter on December 23, 2015, this decision has had a significant and immediate impact on the ability of law enforcement agencies throughout the nation to protect their communities and provide their citizens with the services they expect and deserve.

Yet, despite repeated assurances that this situation would be resolved quickly and that the equitable sharing payments would resume, no apparent resolution is in sight and little information has been made available to the state and local law enforcement community.

In addition, despite the suspension in equitable sharing payments, the IACP urged state and local law enforcement agencies to continue to both support and participate in federal task forces regardless of the costs and other difficulties this would cause their agencies. We undertook this effort in good faith because of the value and importance of these task forces and because of our belief that the Department of Justice would work diligently to resolve this situation and resume equitable sharing payments as soon as possible. Unfortunately, the lack of action to date has caused both our organization and the agencies we represent to question the wisdom of this approach.


At this point, the IACP believes it is imperative that the state and local law enforcement community be provided with the following information:

- The current status of the equitable sharing fund

- A target date for the resumption of equitable sharing payments to state and local law enforcement agencies
- The Department of Justice's plan for the future of the equitable sharing program

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. M. Cunningham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "T" and last name "Cunningham" being the most prominent parts.

Terrence M. Cunningham  
President