Brothers Before Others Inc.

P.O. Box 236 Brodheadsville, PA 18322 Michael J. Burke, President

Contact: Rob O'Donnell

Director of Media & Business Relations Email: <u>rob@brothersbeforeothers.org</u> Website: <u>brothersbeforeothers.org</u>

August 19th, 2019



Press Release

The men and women of Brothers Before Others are dismayed by the decision to terminate Police Officer Daniel Pantaleo by Police Commissioner James O'Neill. This message will no doubt send a clear message to not only the department's rank and file, but to Law Enforcement across this Nation.

Officer Pantaleo was acting under the direct orders of the Chief of Patrol to address these quality of life crimes, as well as being supervised by an on-scene supervisor. Officer Pantaleo was investigated by a Richmond County Grand Jury as well as a federal Civil Rights probe by the Department of Justice, both finding that Officer Pantaleo acted properly and within the scope of his authority.

As tragic as any loss of life is, we cannot cower and transfer personal responsibility when the loudest voices threaten violence, or get airtime with longtime race-baiting agitators. Mr. Garner broke the law and had several opportunities to comply to avoid his demise. But instead he clearly stated he was not going to comply and proceeded to resist.

For the NYPD Trial judge to disregard the very same evidence that two courts of law found no wrong doing, in efforts to merely propel an anti-police Mayor's wishes, disgusts the very law and order we are sworn to uphold.

Make no mistake, the streets of New York are no longer safe. Officers both young and old from every background will now hesitate when coming to your aid. Response times due to delays for supervision, additional, or specialized units will skyrocket. Criminals will go unapprehended because Cops will second guess their own use of force, because they now know they are not supported by their chain of command. Criminals and those who wish to do you harm know this, will exploit this, and will increase their criminal efforts because of this.

We implore the good law abiding citizens and tourists of the New York City area to be vigilant and use extreme caution. We also implore the men and women of the NYPD to follow the guidance of your Union in regards to any and all enforcement activities.

###