FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 17, 2013

STATEMENT BY BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE CHIEF JIM JOHNSON,
CHAIR, NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO
PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN RESPONSE TO SENATE FAILURE TO
EXPAND BACKGROUND CHECKS

The National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence (the Partnership), is deeply disturbed by today’s U.S. Senate rejection of common sense measures to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and other dangerous individuals. The lack of background checks for all gun purchasers is cutting too many lives short and causing needless pain and suffering in our communities. While the Manchin-Toomey background check amendment received 54 votes, 60 votes were necessary for Senate passage. Too many Senators ignored the will of the American people and failed to stand with law enforcement today.

Partner groups will continue to fight for commonsense measures to keep guns out of dangerous hands and excessive firepower out of our communities. The Brady Bill failed the first time it was up for a vote, but law enforcement came back fighting as we will again on these critical public safety issues.

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)
Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA)
International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA)
International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC)
National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE)
National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)
Police Foundation (PF)