



# *State Troopers Fraternal Association of New Jersey, Inc.*

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## **In Memoriam: Trooper Werner Foerster #2608, End of Watch: May 2, 1973**

### **Statement for Immediate Release (May 2, 2019):**

The lasting wounds of the assassination of Trooper Werner Foerster #2608 on the side of the New Jersey Turnpike forty-six years ago today are far from healed within the ranks of the New Jersey State Police. In fact, it will take a number of remedies for the members of the New Jersey State Police to even begin to place some sort of closure on the events of the last patrol of Trooper Foerster on May 2, 1973.

First, without hesitation or any further delay, the nation of Cuba must unequivocally detain and extradite Joanne Chesimard back to the United States, as she still remains a fugitive from justice by the New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In fact, a two-million-dollar reward is still to be claimed for the return of this domestic terrorist and the FBI is in the process of placing Chesimard back on the Ten Most Wanted List.

Americans need to recognize the fact that Chesimard is a convicted, cold-blooded killer and domestic terrorist. Our wounds can begin to heal by having all Americans recognize these facts. Unfortunately, last month, a summit under the guise of "We the People" was held in our nation's Capital which ripped wide open the New Jersey State Police's wound of enduring the assassination of Trooper Foerster. Sadly, at this rally were individuals aspiring to be our next Commander in Chief. Although those candidates were afforded the plausible deniability of "not being present" when a creed of the domestic terrorist and convicted murderer was recited, it is appalling the organizers of the event felt the audacious need to laud the fugitive from justice's words at all.

Likewise, within our state, business and community leaders as well as legislators must cease their efforts to attempt to engage the nation of Cuba in any way shape or form. Let us be clear: no engagement with Cuba, especially with any interests involving the State of New Jersey or its citizens, should be undertaken until Joanne Chesimard is returned to US soil, in handcuffs, in order to complete her life sentence for the murder of Trooper Foerster. I would urge any business or community leader and legislator currently involved in this "Engage Cuba" endeavor to step back from it immediately. Beyond that, I wish to publicly commend Assembly members DeAngelo, Karabinchak, Verrelli, Pinkin, and Murphy for demonstrating their unwavering and continued support for the New Jersey State Police, the Foerster family, and the law enforcement community as a whole by withdrawing their involvement from this farce of an endeavor.

Finally, I wish to also commend Assemblyman Joe Howarth – and all legislators who choose to join in his efforts to ensure Trooper Foerster's death is vindicated by the return of Chesimard – for proposing legislation to strengthen sanctions by the State of New Jersey against the nation of Cuba. This proposed legislation will prohibit pension funds from being invested in any company that maintains an equity tie to the nation of Cuba until Chesimard is returned to serve her life sentence. The New Jersey State Police family looks forward to justice being served in the case of the assassination of Trooper Foerster so that we may continue to proudly honor his memory, service, and sacrifice while no longer languishing for justice to prevail in this forty-six-year horror story. Trooper Werner Foerster #2608, and all fallen New Jersey State Troopers, shall never be forgotten.

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