



# BATON ROUGE UNION OF POLICE

## LOCAL #237

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Date: November 29, 2016

On behalf of the Officers of the Baton Rouge Police Department, I would like to address the recent monetary pay off our City Council and Parish Attorney "rewarded" to the same people who threatened and assaulted them during the recent protests, as well as wreaked havoc on the City of Baton Rouge.

The repercussions of this payoff is not only a slap in the face to the Officers who worked tirelessly during this tumultuous ordeal, but has set a dangerous precedent by opening the door for even larger out of state crowds to converge on our city in the event of future incidents. Is the Metro Council and Parish Attorney prepared for even LARGER payouts of taxpayer's money to accommodate the larger crowds that are sure to come to our city? Was this even a consideration prior to handing out this "ransom" money? I believe the Council, Parish Attorney, as well as our local politicians need to answer some questions to the law enforcement community in Baton Rouge, as well as law enforcement in the surrounding parishes who came to help us maintain civility during this time. This payout has been a slap in the face to all Officers involved who succeeded in keeping our interstates open and our businesses from being ravaged and looted. Did our Council and Parish Attorney even consider the impact this settlement will have on the ability of law enforcement to do an already difficult job in the future without the support of our Metro Council?

The citizens of Baton Rouge also need to have some answers as to why such a large sum of taxpayer's money was given away instead of being used for much needed crime prevention programs that would actually benefit the citizens of Baton Rouge.

This settlement has set a dangerous precedent for Baton Rouge....just threaten a lawsuit and the City of Baton Rouge will write you a check. No litigation needed. Is this really the message we want to send out to troublemakers who travel around the country turning communities like ours upside down? This should have been considered prior to paying out this "ransom" to the people who attempted to ruin the great city of Baton Rouge. Our citizens, as well as our law enforcement officers deserve better than this.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sgt. C. Bryan Taylor".

Sgt. C. Bryan Taylor  
President, Baton Rouge Union of Police Local #237