



# The Peace Officers Association of Georgia, Inc.

DEDICATED TOWARD THE PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PEACE OFFICERS

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## Statement from the Executive Committee of the Peace Officers' Association of Georgia

The death of Rayshard Brooks is tragic. No peace officer ever wants to be placed in a position to use deadly force. When a shooting incident does occur, every family member of a person killed and the police officer(s) involved deserve a thorough, complete, and accurate investigation brought before an independent and credible institution with due process of law.

The contemporary environment across our nation is complex, complicated, and contextual. It is much easier to frame and promote subjective conflict from certain ideology than to take the difficult course to discern the facts through an objective process where informed perspectives can be integrated and evaluated to work toward hard truths. Leadership is key.

Competent leadership is responsive, not reactive. Reactive leadership occurs when events overwhelm and overcome process because feelings, ideology, and passions inform decisions. Responsive leadership relies on process. It requires the self-discipline to be patient enough to gather and evaluate all the facts and circumstances then remains loyal to specific standards, policy, and law.

The Peace Officers' Association of Georgia is troubled regarding the leadership and decision-making demonstrated on the national stage by Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard. His rush to judgement without the professionally accepted course of coordination with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's active ongoing investigation, in combination with legal interpretations outside the perimeters of clearly established law, is irresponsible and reprehensible.

Our country and state are built on the trust that our institutions and processes will be based in facts and law. Peace officers stand for rule of law every day. When leaders do not stand firm in objectiveness and due process, whether from the influences of politics or the media, our system of fairness and justice fails. The example set by Paul Howard with management of the case and criminal charges on Atlanta Police Officers Garrett Rolfe and Devin Brosnan could have adverse consequences regarding the trust and confidence in our institutions.

Executive Director,  
Peace Officers' Association of Georgia, Inc.