



ARIZONA STATE LODGE

Fraternal Order of Police, Inc.

Sean Mattson
President

Patrick Scherden
Secretary

22 November 2019

Dear Senator McSally,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Arizona State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police to respectfully ask you to cosponsor S. 2563, the “**Improving Laundering Laws and Increasing Comprehensive Information Tracking of Criminal Activity in Shell Holdings (ILLICIT CASH) Act**,” which we hope will be considered before the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs before the end of the year. This comprehensive legislation will provide for the collection of beneficial ownership information, allowing law enforcement to better combat money laundering by organized criminal enterprises.

The U.S. Treasury will collect information of the true beneficial owners of anonymous shell companies. The legislation reduces the burden on these beneficial owners by collecting only their name, address, date of birth, and individual ID number. Anonymous shell companies are often used to commit fraud and conceal criminal activity from law enforcement. The collection of this data not only helps end these unlawful operations but deter the deliberate misuse of these companies.

As you know our State is inundated with violent and organized criminals that are engaging in human trafficking as well as smuggling firearms and fentanyl into Arizona. Whether it’s in Santa Cruz or Coconino County, the men and women of law enforcement officers share a common goal—keeping Arizonians safe. These anonymous shell corporations are used as a mask, concealing the identities of these criminals allowing them to launder the illicit profits from their activities. We need the tools in the “**ILLICIT CASH Act**” to shut down these unlawful operations and get justice for the victims.

On behalf of the 9,000 members of the Arizona Fraternal Order of Police, I want to thank you for the willingness to engage and work with the Fraternal Order of Police on this important legislation. We urge you to consider demonstrating your support by cosponsoring this bill and supporting its consideration by the committee. If I can provide any additional information on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sean A. Mattson, President Fraternal Order of Police, Arizona State Lodge