

**52:17B-194.12 to 52:17B-194.16**  
**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**  
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**LAWS OF:** 2019                    **CHAPTER:** 369

**NJSA:** 52:17B-194.12 to 52:17B-194.16 (Establishes "Blue Alert System.")

**BILL NO:** A2604                    (Substituted for S3272)

**SPONSOR(S)** Wayne P. DeAngelo and others

**DATE INTRODUCED:** 2/1/2018

**COMMITTEE:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** ALP

**SENATE:** ---

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** 11/25/2019

**SENATE:** 1/13/2020

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** 1/20/2020

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

**FINAL TEXT OF BILL** (First Reprint enacted) Yes

**A2604**

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** Yes    Law & Public

Safety

**SENATE:** No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us))

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** Yes

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**S3272**

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** No

**SENATE:** Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us))

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** Yes

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** Yes

"Gov. signs into law a trio of pro-cop bills," The Star-Ledger, January 22, 2020.

Rwh/cl

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 369, *approved January 20, 2020*  
Assembly No. 2604 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** establishing a “Blue Alert System” and supplementing  
2 Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. a. The Attorney General shall establish a “Blue Alert  
8 System” which shall provide a Statewide system for the rapid  
9 dissemination of information in order to facilitate the apprehension  
10 of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law  
11 enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law  
12 enforcement officers. The program shall be a voluntary,  
13 cooperative effort between State and local law enforcement  
14 agencies and the media, including but not limited to print, radio,  
15 and television media outlets.

16 b. The Attorney General shall notify the media serving the  
17 State of New Jersey of the establishment of the Blue Alert System,  
18 and invite their voluntary participation.

19  
20 2. a. For the purposes of this act, “lead law enforcement  
21 agency” means a law enforcement agency that is conducting an  
22 investigation to apprehend a person suspected of seriously injuring  
23 or killing a law enforcement officer, or is investigating the  
24 disappearance of a law enforcement officer who went missing while  
25 on duty under circumstances that warrant concern for the officer’s  
26 safety.

27 b. A Blue Alert authorized pursuant to this act may be  
28 activated if all of the following criteria are met:

29 (1) the lead law enforcement agency confirms that a law  
30 enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed, and that a  
31 suspect has not been apprehended, or that a law enforcement officer  
32 is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern  
33 for the law enforcement officer’s safety;

34 (2) there is sufficient descriptive information about the person  
35 suspected of seriously injuring or killing a law enforcement officer  
36 or the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer’s  
37 serious injury, death, or disappearance indicate that the activation of

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly floor amendments adopted February 25, 2019.

1 a Blue Alert may assist in locating a suspect or missing law  
2 enforcement officer; and

3 (3) the lead law enforcement agency requests that a Blue Alert  
4 be initiated.

5 c. Nothing in this section shall require that a Blue Alert be  
6 initiated if the criteria under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection b.  
7 of this section are met but it is determined by the lead law  
8 enforcement agency that the activation of a Blue Alert would cause  
9 public harm or would compromise an ongoing investigation.

10

11 3. a. Any media outlet that participates in the Blue Alert  
12 System established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. c. (C. )  
13 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) may voluntarily agree,  
14 upon notice of the issuance of a Blue Alert, to inform the public of  
15 a missing law enforcement officer, a person suspected of killing or  
16 seriously injuring a law enforcement officer, or any other  
17 circumstances surrounding the death, serious injury, or  
18 disappearance of a law enforcement officer within the service  
19 regions of that media outlet. The notice shall be provided through  
20 the lead law enforcement agency.

21 b. The alerts shall terminate upon notice from the lead law  
22 enforcement agency.

23 c. The alerts shall include a description of the missing officer  
24 or person suspected of killing or seriously injuring a <sup>1</sup>[police] law  
25 enforcement<sup>1</sup> officer and <sup>1</sup>[such]<sup>1</sup> other information <sup>1</sup>[as]<sup>1</sup> the lead  
26 law enforcement agency may deem appropriate. The lead law  
27 enforcement agency shall, in a timely manner, update the media  
28 with new information regarding the missing officer or suspect when  
29 appropriate.

30 d. The alerts also shall provide information concerning the  
31 method by which members of the public who have information  
32 relating to the missing officer, potential suspect, or circumstances  
33 relating to the death, serious injury, or disappearance of a law  
34 enforcement officer may contact the lead law enforcement agency.

35

36 4. The Attorney General, with the assistance of the  
37 participating media, shall develop and undertake a public education  
38 campaign to inform the public about the Blue Alert System.

39

40 5. The Attorney General may adopt guidelines to effectuate the  
41 purposes of this act.

42

43 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
44 month following enactment.

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Establishes "Blue Alert System."

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2604

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 1, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman EDWARD H. THOMSON**

**District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywomen Pinkin  
and DiMaso**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes “Blue Alert System.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2018)**

1 AN ACT establishing a “Blue Alert System” and supplementing  
2 Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. The Attorney General shall establish a “Blue Alert  
8 System” which shall provide a Statewide system for the rapid  
9 dissemination of information in order to facilitate the apprehension  
10 of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law  
11 enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law  
12 enforcement officers. The program shall be a voluntary,  
13 cooperative effort between State and local law enforcement  
14 agencies and the media, including but not limited to print, radio,  
15 and television media outlets.

16 b. The Attorney General shall notify the media serving the  
17 State of New Jersey of the establishment of the Blue Alert System,  
18 and invite their voluntary participation.

19

20 2. a. For the purposes of this act, “lead law enforcement agency”  
21 means a law enforcement agency that is conducting an investigation to  
22 apprehend a person suspected of seriously injuring or killing a law  
23 enforcement officer, or is investigating the disappearance of a law  
24 enforcement officer who went missing while on duty under  
25 circumstances that warrant concern for the officer’s safety.

26 b. A Blue Alert authorized pursuant to this act may be activated if  
27 all of the following criteria are met:

28 (1) the lead law enforcement agency confirms that a law  
29 enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed, and that a  
30 suspect has not been apprehended, or that a law enforcement officer is  
31 missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for the  
32 law enforcement officer’s safety;

33 (2) there is sufficient descriptive information about the person  
34 suspected of seriously injuring or killing a law enforcement officer or  
35 the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer’s serious  
36 injury, death, or disappearance indicate that the activation of a Blue  
37 Alert may assist in locating a suspect or missing law enforcement  
38 officer; and

39 (3) the lead law enforcement agency requests that a Blue Alert be  
40 initiated.

41 c. Nothing in this section shall require that a Blue Alert be  
42 initiated if the criteria under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection b. of  
43 this section are met but it is determined by the lead law enforcement  
44 agency that the activation of a Blue Alert would cause public harm or  
45 would compromise an ongoing investigation.

46

47 3. a. Any media outlet that participates in the Blue Alert System  
48 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. c. (C. ) (pending

1 before the Legislature as this bill) may voluntarily agree, upon notice  
2 of the issuance of a Blue Alert, to inform the public of a missing law  
3 enforcement officer, a person suspected of killing or seriously injuring  
4 a law enforcement officer, or any other circumstances surrounding the  
5 death, serious injury, or disappearance of a law enforcement officer  
6 within the service regions of that media outlet. The notice shall be  
7 provided through the lead law enforcement agency.

8 b. The alerts shall terminate upon notice from the lead law  
9 enforcement agency.

10 c. The alerts shall include a description of the missing officer or  
11 person suspected of killing or seriously injuring a police officer and  
12 such other information as the lead law enforcement agency may deem  
13 appropriate. The lead law enforcement agency shall, in a timely  
14 manner, update the media with new information regarding the missing  
15 officer or suspect when appropriate.

16 d. The alerts also shall provide information concerning the  
17 method by which members of the public who have information  
18 relating to the missing officer, potential suspect, or circumstances  
19 relating to the death, serious injury, or disappearance of a law  
20 enforcement officer may contact the lead law enforcement agency.

21  
22 4. The Attorney General, with the assistance of the  
23 participating media, shall develop and undertake a public education  
24 campaign to inform the public about the Blue Alert System.

25  
26 5. The Attorney General may adopt guidelines to effectuate the  
27 purposes of this act.

28  
29 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
30 month following enactment.

31

32

33

#### STATEMENT

34

35 This bill establishes an emergency “Blue Alert System” for the  
36 rapid dissemination of information in order to facilitate the  
37 apprehension of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law  
38 enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law  
39 enforcement officers. Under the provisions of the bill, the program is  
40 to be a voluntary, cooperative effort between State and local law  
41 enforcement agencies and the media, which is to include, but not be  
42 limited to, print, radio, and television media outlets. The bill requires  
43 the Attorney General to notify the media serving the State of New  
44 Jersey of the establishment of the “Blue Alert System,” and to invite  
45 their voluntary participation.

46 The provisions of the bill further require that a Blue Alert may be  
47 activated if all of the following criteria are met:

**A2604 DEANGELO, THOMSON**

1       (1) A law enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed,  
2 and a suspect has not been apprehended, or a law enforcement officer  
3 is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for  
4 the law enforcement officer's safety;

5       (2) There is sufficient descriptive information about the suspect or  
6 the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer's serious  
7 injury, death, or disappearance to indicate that activation of the alert  
8 may help locate a suspect or missing law enforcement officer; and

9       (3) The lead law enforcement agency that is investigating the  
10 death, serious injury, or disappearance of the officer requests that a  
11 Blue Alert be initiated.

12       The bill further provides that participating media outlets may agree  
13 to inform the public of a missing officer or suspect within their service  
14 region. The alerts are to include a description of the missing officer or  
15 suspect and such other information as the lead law enforcement agency  
16 deems appropriate. The alerts are to provide information concerning  
17 how those members of the public who have information relating to the  
18 missing officer or suspect may contact the lead law enforcement  
19 agency.



# ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 2604

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 3, 2018

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2604.

As reported by the committee, this Assembly Bill No. 2604 establishes an emergency “Blue Alert System” for the rapid dissemination of information in order to facilitate the apprehension of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law enforcement officers. Under the provisions of the bill, the program is to be a voluntary, cooperative effort between State and local law enforcement agencies and the media, which is to include, but not be limited to, print, radio, and television media outlets. The bill requires the Attorney General to notify the media serving the State of New Jersey of the establishment of the “Blue Alert System,” and to invite their voluntary participation.

The provisions of the bill further require that a Blue Alert may be activated if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) a law enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed, and a suspect has not been apprehended, or a law enforcement officer is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for the law enforcement officer’s safety;

(2) there is sufficient descriptive information about the suspect or the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer’s serious injury, death, or disappearance to indicate that activation of the alert may help locate a suspect or missing law enforcement officer; and

(3) the lead law enforcement agency that is investigating the death, serious injury, or disappearance of the officer requests that a Blue Alert be initiated.

The bill further provides that participating media outlets may agree to inform the public of a missing officer or suspect within their service region. The alerts are to include a description of the missing officer or suspect and other information as the lead law enforcement agency deems appropriate. In addition, the alerts are to provide information concerning how those members of the public who have information relating to the missing officer or suspect may contact the lead law enforcement agency.

STATEMENT TO  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2604**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman DEANGELO)

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 25, 2019

Assembly Bill No. 2604 establishes an emergency “Blue Alert System” for the rapid dissemination of information in order to facilitate the apprehension of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law enforcement officers.

These Assembly amendments replace the term “police officer” with the preferred term, “law enforcement officer,” and make technical and clarifying amendments.

**SENATE, No. 3272**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED DECEMBER 10, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Gopal, O'Scanlon and Singer**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes "Blue Alert System."

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/18/2018)**

1 AN ACT establishing a “Blue Alert System” and supplementing  
2 Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. The Attorney General shall establish a “Blue Alert  
8 System” which shall provide a Statewide system for the rapid  
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11 enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law  
12 enforcement officers. The program shall be a voluntary,  
13 cooperative effort between State and local law enforcement  
14 agencies and the media, including but not limited to print, radio,  
15 and television media outlets.

16 b. The Attorney General shall notify the media serving the  
17 State of New Jersey of the establishment of the Blue Alert System,  
18 and invite their voluntary participation.

19

20 2. a. For the purposes of this act, “lead law enforcement agency”  
21 means a law enforcement agency that is conducting an investigation to  
22 apprehend a person suspected of seriously injuring or killing a law  
23 enforcement officer, or is investigating the disappearance of a law  
24 enforcement officer who went missing while on duty under  
25 circumstances that warrant concern for the officer’s safety.

26 b. A Blue Alert authorized pursuant to this act may be activated if  
27 all of the following criteria are met:

28 (1) the lead law enforcement agency confirms that a law  
29 enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed, and that a  
30 suspect has not been apprehended, or that a law enforcement officer is  
31 missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for the  
32 law enforcement officer’s safety;

33 (2) there is sufficient descriptive information about the person  
34 suspected of seriously injuring or killing a law enforcement officer or  
35 the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer’s serious  
36 injury, death, or disappearance indicate that the activation of a Blue  
37 Alert may assist in locating a suspect or missing law enforcement  
38 officer; and

39 (3) the lead law enforcement agency requests that a Blue Alert be  
40 initiated.

41 c. Nothing in this section shall require that a Blue Alert be  
42 initiated if the criteria under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection b. of  
43 this section are met but it is determined by the lead law enforcement  
44 agency that the activation of a Blue Alert would cause public harm or  
45 would compromise an ongoing investigation.

46

47 3. a. Any media outlet that participates in the Blue Alert System  
48 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. c. (C. ) (pending

1 before the Legislature as this bill) may voluntarily agree, upon notice  
2 of the issuance of a Blue Alert, to inform the public of a missing law  
3 enforcement officer, a person suspected of killing or seriously injuring  
4 a law enforcement officer, or any other circumstances surrounding the  
5 death, serious injury, or disappearance of a law enforcement officer  
6 within the service regions of that media outlet. The notice shall be  
7 provided through the lead law enforcement agency.

8 b. The alerts shall terminate upon notice from the lead law  
9 enforcement agency.

10 c. The alerts shall include a description of the missing officer or  
11 person suspected of killing or seriously injuring a police officer and  
12 such other information as the lead law enforcement agency may deem  
13 appropriate. The lead law enforcement agency shall, in a timely  
14 manner, update the media with new information regarding the missing  
15 officer or suspect when appropriate.

16 d. The alerts also shall provide information concerning the  
17 method by which members of the public who have information  
18 relating to the missing officer, potential suspect, or circumstances  
19 relating to the death, serious injury, or disappearance of a law  
20 enforcement officer may contact the lead law enforcement agency.

21  
22 4. The Attorney General, with the assistance of the  
23 participating media, shall develop and undertake a public education  
24 campaign to inform the public about the Blue Alert System.

25  
26 5. The Attorney General may adopt guidelines to effectuate the  
27 purposes of this act.

28  
29 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
30 month following enactment.

31

32

33

#### STATEMENT

34

35 This bill establishes an emergency “Blue Alert System” for the  
36 rapid dissemination of information in order to facilitate the  
37 apprehension of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law  
38 enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law  
39 enforcement officers. Under the provisions of the bill, the program is  
40 to be a voluntary, cooperative effort between State and local law  
41 enforcement agencies and the media, which is to include, but not be  
42 limited to, print, radio, and television media outlets. The bill requires  
43 the Attorney General to notify the media serving the State of New  
44 Jersey of the establishment of the “Blue Alert System,” and to invite  
45 their voluntary participation.

46 The provisions of the bill further require that a Blue Alert may be  
47 activated if all of the following criteria are met:

1 (1) A law enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed,  
2 and a suspect has not been apprehended, or a law enforcement officer  
3 is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for  
4 the law enforcement officer's safety;

5 (2) There is sufficient descriptive information about the suspect or  
6 the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer's serious  
7 injury, death, or disappearance to indicate that activation of the alert  
8 may help locate a suspect or missing law enforcement officer; and

9 (3) The lead law enforcement agency that is investigating the  
10 death, serious injury, or disappearance of the officer requests that a  
11 Blue Alert be initiated.

12 The bill further provides that participating media outlets may agree  
13 to inform the public of a missing officer or suspect within their service  
14 region. The alerts are to include a description of the missing officer or  
15 suspect and such other information as the lead law enforcement agency  
16 deems appropriate. The alerts are to provide information concerning  
17 how those members of the public who have information relating to the  
18 missing officer or suspect may contact the lead law enforcement  
19 agency.

# SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 3272**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: FEBRUARY 14, 2019

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 3272.

As amended and reported by the committee, this bill establishes an emergency “Blue Alert System” for the rapid dissemination of information in order to facilitate the apprehension of persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring law enforcement officers and to aid in the location of missing law enforcement officers.

Under the provisions of the amended bill, the program is to be a voluntary, cooperative effort between State and local law enforcement agencies and the media, which is to include, but not be limited to, print, radio, and television media outlets. The amended bill requires the Attorney General to notify the media serving the State of New Jersey of the establishment of the “Blue Alert System,” and to invite their voluntary participation.

The provisions of the amended bill further require that a Blue Alert may be activated if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) A law enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed, and a suspect has not been apprehended, or a law enforcement officer is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for the law enforcement officer’s safety;

(2) There is sufficient descriptive information about the suspect or the circumstances surrounding a law enforcement officer’s serious injury, death, or disappearance to indicate that activation of the alert may help locate a suspect or missing law enforcement officer; and

(3) The lead law enforcement agency that is investigating the death, serious injury, or disappearance of the officer requests that a Blue Alert be initiated.

The amended bill further provides that participating media outlets may agree to inform the public of a missing officer or suspect within their service region. The alerts are to include a description of the missing officer or suspect and other information as the lead law enforcement agency deems appropriate. The alerts are to provide information concerning how those members of the public who have information relating to the missing officer or suspect may contact the lead law enforcement agency.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to make technical changes.

# Governor Murphy Signs Legislative Package to Support Law Enforcement

01/20/2020

**TRENTON** - Governor Phil Murphy today signed a legislative package into law to create and establish protections for law enforcement. The series of bills provide resources and safeguards for New Jersey's police officers.

"New Jersey's law enforcement officers are the finest in the nation and we will take every step necessary to ensure their safety both in the line of duty and off-duty," **said Governor Murphy**. "I am proud to sign legislation that will support the officers who dedicate every day to us."

"Each and every day our law enforcement officers risk their personal safety and well-being to serve our communities. We owe it to our officers to protect them not only from the dangers they face on the job, but also from the effects of daily trauma," **said Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal**. "Last year, the Governor and I addressed the largest gathering of law enforcement officers ever assembled in New Jersey at our statewide Resiliency Summit, which laid the foundation for this groundbreaking work. Today, we join our law enforcement community as we mourn the loss of Patrolman Edward Nortrup of the Roselle Park Police Department."

"Among the threats that a law enforcement officer may confront, perhaps no two things are more preventable than officers being unintentionally struck by motorists and officer suicide," **said Colonel Patrick Callahan of the New Jersey State Police**. "This legislation will help raise public awareness about the importance of the 'Move Over Law' and will create essential training for law enforcement so that officers know how to get the help and support they need, but most importantly, it will help save lives."

- **A1028 (Johnson Pinkin, Lampitt/Weinberg, Oroho)** - Establishes training program to prevent suicide by law enforcement officer; requires reporting of law enforcement officer suicides to Attorney General.
- **A2604 (DeAngelo, Thomson, Mukherji/Cryan, Greenstein)** - Establishes "Blue Alert System."
- **A3890 (Houghtaling, Downey/Gopal, Singleton)** - Imposes motor vehicle penalty points for certain violations of "move over law"; establishes public awareness campaign; designated as "Slow Down or Move Over, It's the Law Act."

"Today's bill signings reflect on our obligation as a State to look after the safety and the physical and mental health of New Jersey's law enforcement officers," **said Patrick Colligan, President of the New Jersey State Police Benevolent Association (NJSPBA)**. "There are risks that are ever present in law enforcement and we can never foresee the day when an officer will face them. These bills will make a difference. The New Jersey State PBA is grateful to the Governor and the bill sponsors for making them a priority."

"I am pleased that the Governor is supporting law enforcement by signing these 3 important FOP priority bills into law," **said Robert W. Fox, President of the New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police**. "The signing of these bills will help improve the safety of the law enforcement community in this State."

## **A1028**

"For the third straight year in 2018, officer deaths by suicide outnumbered those who died in the line of duty in our country," **said Assemblyman Johnson**. "An estimated 159 officers took their own lives last year, compared to the 145 who died in the line of duty. Those numbers are staggering and heartbreaking. We must do all we can to prevent these tragedies, beginning with ensuring the right people are trained to address troubling situations."

"An entire community grieves the loss of an officer. When that loss may have been preventable, it's all the more tragic," **said Assemblywoman Pinkin**. "Our brave officers and their families deserve our utmost respect and support, particularly if they are going through difficult times. With the program created under this law, we can hopefully get these officers the help they need and potentially save lives."

"Sadly, New Jersey has one of the highest rates of officer suicide in the nation; our state lost eight officers to suicide last year," **said Assemblywoman Lampitt**. "But we cannot forget that suicide is preventable. The first step towards combating this crisis is to develop a comprehensive training program for our law enforcement agencies, and ensure they have the resources they need to identify and respond when someone needs help."



“Sadly, the greatest threat facing our police force today is suicide. It is so prevalent in the profession that the number of police officers who died by suicide is more than triple that of officers who were fatally injured in the line of duty,” **said Senator Weinberg**. “This law will ensure we are addressing the mental health struggles of our law enforcement and connecting them with the help that they need.”

“New Jersey’s brave law enforcement community repeatedly rushes towards danger as others flee,” **said Senator Oroho**. “Continuously being exposed to stressful situations takes a mental toll, which can sometimes seem too great to bear. Empowering our police officers and corrections officers with resiliency tools and training will help our local heroes when they need it most.”

#### **A2604**

“Law enforcement officers take on the dangerous task of protecting communities across New Jersey. When they’re attacked or go missing, every resident of this state with any relevant information has a duty to come forward,” **said Assemblyman DeAngelo**. “Blue Alerts can provide a means of making sure that those who harm men and women in uniform are found and penalized accordingly.”

“Police work is inherently dangerous. Given the safety risks faced by law enforcement officers, it is only right that we create a system that would allow for more efficient communication to help ensure that an individual who attacks an officer is caught swiftly and brought to justice,” **said Assemblyman Mukherji**. “This not only ensures that justice is served for these officers, but helps protect the public by getting a dangerous individual off the streets as quickly as possible.”

“It is a priority to protect the people who protect us,” **said Assemblyman Thomson**. “The men and women in blue who literally put their lives on the line need to know that if they are harmed, we will do everything in our power to capture the criminals and bring them to justice.”

“Law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day in service to the communities they serve and the people they protect,” **said Senator Cryan, vice chair of the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee and the former Union County Sherriff**. “If they are threatened, injured or go missing this will provide a ‘Blue Alert’ that enables others to act quickly. It could mean the difference between life and death in dangerous situations. The alert system will be modelled after the Amber and Silver Alert programs already in place in New Jersey to protect children and senior citizens.”

#### **A3890**

“Violators of the Move Over Law’ are putting officers at serious risk of injury or death, and they must understand that the severity of their actions,” **said Assemblyman Houghtaling**. “This law shows how seriously we take the safety of our state’s brave police officers.”

“We want to do everything we can to protect our state’s law enforcement officers,” **said Assemblywoman Downey**. “By penalizing individuals who violate the state’s ‘Move Over Law’ with points, they will understand that this is not an issue we in New Jersey take lightly.”

“Slowing down or moving over allows our public safety officers and highway management crews to do their jobs safely, especially here in New Jersey, which is the most densely populated state in the nation,” **said Senator Singleton**. “I am pleased that New Jersey finally has a law that extends these highway safety protections to these workers.”