

***Statement of IACP President Joseph Estey
in response to today's announcement by Second Chance Body Armor***

"The IACP is greatly concerned with today's announcement by Second Chance Body Armor that calls on law enforcement agencies and police officers nationwide to immediately replace body armor manufactured with Zylon. Clearly, any questions about the safety and effectiveness of ballistic body armor is of great concern to the IACP and the law enforcement profession as a whole.

Second Chance's announcement also highlights the critical and continuing need for a prompt resolution to this troubling issue. Over the last 18 months, the Department of Justice has launched a comprehensive investigation into the question of body armor degradation and initiated a review of the vest certification and approval process.

However, as today's announcement makes clear, the concerns of the law enforcement community remain. Throughout the nation, law enforcement agencies are struggling over how to address the anxiety of their officers and their families over the effectiveness of body armor. Consequently, the IACP believes that the results of this investigation and a definitive statement on the effectiveness of the body armor tested must be issued as soon as practically possible.

The IACP urges that this crucial investigation remain a top priority for the Department of Justice and that it take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that our nation's law enforcement agencies are provided with this critical information in a timely fashion. "



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Gene Voegtlin
Legislative Counsel/
Manager Public Affairs Activities
703/836-6767 ext.211

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