

To Dallas Police Department July 8, 2016
Chief Brown,

My heart goes out to you and our Dallas, Texas Police Department Family. Words can't express the sorrow we feel at the great loss of heroes your department suffered last night. The men and women of our department and our families stand in unity with you and we pray for, hurt and grieve with you and your staff and their families. These are indeed troubling times in our profession. It would be easy ...to just lay our duty belts on the ground and walk away from all of this undeserved hate and animosity and all of the propaganda the media stirs about our God chosen profession and simply go home to our families.

Instead, I charge you and your staff in the face of this tragedy to stand back up, stay in the fight and continue to move forward. We are with you!

There has been so much discussion about our officers not being "warriors" but instead being "guardians". The discussion misses the mark entirely. We are indeed both! Our profession demands we stand fast in the gap and protect everyone without fear or favor, malice or ill will. We stand up to that challenge daily to be "guardians" and as your brave officers proved last night, we willingly fill the role and gladly lay down our lives to protect even those who protest against us.

What's more though is the real fact that we are also warriors. We do indeed get knocked down in battle. Every warrior falls in battle. The thing that separates a warrior from everyone else though is the fact that warriors continue to rise back up to their feet, again and again, when we are knocked to the ground! Not because this is our job. Not for a paycheck; but because this is who we are!

I encourage you to charge your staff to continue to stay sharp and stay in the fight! No matter what, when we get hit again, and we will get hit again, and we land flat on our backs, tell them to remember to spread their arms to absorb the impact, then push off and spring right back up and get back to fighting for there are millions of people out there who depend on us to face this evil head on! After a fall, **TOGETHER WE WILL RISE!! 1***

God Bless you, your staff and their families,

Chief Earl L Phipps
Pinehurst NC Police Department