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> Date: July 8, 2016 For Immediate Release

Statement from New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell on the Police Officers Killed in Dallas

New Bedford, Massachusetts—I extend my condolences to Mayor Rawlings and to the people of Dallas in the wake of the horrific events that unfolded in their community last night. The flags at all municipal buildings in New Bedford will be lowered to half-staff in honor of the five police officers who were brutally slain while protecting the rights of their fellow citizens to freely assemble and express their views. They were doing exactly what they were sworn to do.

The demonstrators in Dallas were bringing attention to recent acts of apparent excessive force by police officers in other cities. Our prayers go out to the families of the men who were killed in those incidents. These acts are stark reminders that the work of building trust in America's cities requires determination and understanding, and is hardly finished.

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