



Montgomery County Lodge 35, Inc.

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FOP Press Release

Montgomery County Police Officers Retain Lanny Davis and “Purple Nation Solutions” in Defense of Attempted Roll-back of Bargaining Rights

Tuesday, September 18, 2012—For Immediate Release

“We are pleased to be accepting help from such a great communicator. His support of working police officers has been without parallel,” said **Torrie Cooke, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 35.**

Purple Nation Solutions is a D.C.-based strategic communications and public affairs firm founded by former White House special counsel and legal crisis management expert **Lanny J. Davis** and former RNC chairman/Lt. Gov. of Maryland **Michael Steele.**

Lanny Davis is also a former Maryland Democratic official.

FOP Lodge 35 collected nearly 40,000 signatures to put the issue of police collective bargaining on the ballot. Over 34,000 were certified by the County Board of Elections. In an effort to prevent citizens from voting on the referendum the **County Council took it to court, spending over \$250,000 of taxpayers’ money to keep it off of the ballot.** The issue will be on the November Ballot as “Question B.” “The voter will finally have a chance to decide,” said Cooke.

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett and County Council President Roger Berliner, **both self proclaimed “progressive Democrats,” have aggressively lobbied Democratic Party Leaders to support them in repealing effects bargaining from police officers.** If successful, police officers will lose a 30 year right to bargain the impact of the exercise of management rights in the workplace, a right of every private sector union employee and every Montgomery County represented government employee and fire fighter.