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**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION DEMONSTRATES THE BENEFITS OF
RIDESHARING THROUGH ONGOING SUPPORT FOR RIDESHARING
PROGRAMS SUCH AS LYFT**

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation, in 2015, 35,092 people killed, 2.44 million people injured, and 24 million vehicles damaged at a cost of \$242 billion in motor vehicle crashes in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, countering the rise in traffic deaths and injuries is of paramount importance to the Office of Sheriff and to law enforcement agencies across the country; and,

WHEREAS, ridesharing is improving public safety. Studies have shown the availability of ridesharing services like Lyft in a community reduce alcohol-related driving arrests by up to 51% (Dills & Mulholland), reduce assault and disorderly conduct arrests by up to 42% (Dills & Mulholland), and reduce DWI deaths by more than 10% (UT Austin); and,

WHEREAS, in addition to the issue of traffic safety, many urban, rural, and unincorporated areas of our nation currently lack adequate infrastructure and resources to address the transportation issues of disenfranchised individuals, such as victims of domestic violence and human trafficking; and,

WHEREAS, the safety of our communities is top priority for law enforcement. Lyft has demonstrable policies and features that protect both drivers and passengers. Rigorous and thorough criminal background and driving record checks are administered for each driver including a social security number trace, enhanced nationwide criminal search, county court records search, federal criminal court records search, and a search of the U.S. Department of Justice National ex Offender public website; and,

WHEREAS, expert background checks are conducted in real time from up-to-date court records instead of relying on fingerprint based background checks as these show incomplete and delayed FBI and federal data; and,

WHEREAS, age-related declines in vision and cognitive functioning (ability to reason and remember), as well as physical changes, may affect some older adults' driving abilities. Access to transportation plays a key role in the lives of older adults and those who care for them because the risk of poor health outcomes, food insecurity, and social isolation is significant. Ridesharing provides older adults with continued independence and dignity while reducing the burden on family members; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, more than 6,100 older adults were killed and more than 236,000 were treated in emergency departments for motor vehicle crash injuries. This amounts to an average of 16 older adults killed and 648 injured in crashes every day. By rapidly expanding safe, affordable, and welcoming rides to older adults, on-demand ridesharing provides older adults with an alternative to driving for maintaining an active and independent lifestyle while making roads safer for everyone; and,

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association believes that a coordinated multidisciplinary approach—one that includes alternatives to driving while impaired, maintaining safe speeds while on the roadways, eliminating distracted driving, providing equitable access to alternative modes of transportation for older adults, and curbing victimization—is necessary to improve the safety of motorists and crash victims and improves the quality of life in our communities; and,

WHEREAS, access to transportation plays a critical role in the everyday lives of those in our communities. Across the country, the growth and popularity of Lyft and other on-demand ridesharing services have expanded access to safe, reliable, and affordable transportation, thereby increasing communities' access to economic empowerment, education, commerce, art, and culture, and creating safer roads for healthy, vibrant communities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association strongly supports the important role of Lyft and ridesharing efforts in promoting safer roads, healthier cities, and more vibrant communities.