

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2016

CONTACT: [Erin O'Connor](#)

## CENTRAL NEW YORK LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDS WITH KATKO

*In Announcing Support, Police, Sheriff & Fire Department Unions from Across NY-24 Applaud  
Katko's National Security Record in Congress*

**Syracuse, New York** – Standing at the Police Memorial at Forman Park in Syracuse this morning, law enforcement unions from across the 24<sup>th</sup> Congressional District announced their strong support for Congressman John Katko's re-election campaign. Many remarked on Congressman Katko's strong record on national security in the face of increased global threats.

Endorsements were announced from the **Syracuse Police Benevolent Association**, the **Onondaga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Association**, **Auburn Police Local 195**, the **Custody Officers of the Sheriffs Employees Association of Cayuga County**, **Auburn Firefighters Local 1446**, the **City of Oswego Police Union**, the **Police Benevolent Association of the New York State Troopers**, the **Upstate Police Benevolent Association**, and the **National Association of Police Organizations**.

"For over twenty years, I fought alongside our local law enforcement to keep our communities and our families safe," **said Congressman John Katko**. "In the current heightened threat environment, I am committed to working as Central New York's Representative in Congress to keep our nation safe. I am honored to have the support of our local men and women in law enforcement and our first responders, who put their lives on the line each and every day to do the same right here at home."

**Jeff Piedmonte, representing the Syracuse Police Benevolent Association and the Upstate New York Police Benevolent Association stated**, "As a federal organized crime prosecutor, John Katko worked alongside the men and women of the Syracuse Police Department for 16 years, fighting to improve the safety and stability of our community. In Congress, John has continued to prioritize our community's best interests. He has worked to keep our country safe from the growing threats of terrorism, becoming one of the foremost leaders on national security in Congress. We are proud to support him."

"The men and women of the Onondaga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Association are proud to endorse U.S. Congressman John Katko for re-election," **said Brian Crowley, President of the Onondaga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Association**. "With his integrity, character and proven track record, Congressman Katko is truly dedicated to making our communities a safer place to live, work and raise our families."

**Thomas H. Mungeer, President of the Police Benevolent Association of the New York State Troopers** stated, “The Police Benevolent Association of the New York State Troopers, Inc. is proud to announce the endorsement of John Katko for Congress. John Katko has proven his commitment to the community, and the entire country, through his involvement in both public service and volunteer efforts. John Katko has shown strong support for our military and law enforcement personnel, and has pledged to assist families when our military personnel are deployed. The challenges facing members of the law enforcement community are greater than ever before, and we need individuals like John Katko in leadership positions to help law enforcement officers better serve the residents of New York State.

“The Custody Officers of the Sheriffs Employees Association of Cayuga County are proud to endorse Congressman John Katko for reelection of the NY 24th Congressional District,” **said Association President Fred Whiting**. “We have been beneficiaries of Congressman Katko's hard work and we appreciate the efforts he is taking to make our communities safer.”

“As the President of the Auburn Police Local 195 I'm proud to announce our endorsement of Congressman Katko in the upcoming election,” **said President Joe Villano of the Auburn Police Union**. “Being born and raised in Central NY, Congressman Katko has first hand knowledge of the problems and concerns we face in our great community. As a former Federal Prosecutor, Congressman Katko spent over twenty years demonstrating his devotion to keeping our streets safe. We look forward to this continued blanket of safety and support that Congressman Katko has provided. Please vote with us for Congressman Katko on November 8<sup>th</sup>.”

**Lieutenant Brian Donovan, President of the Auburn Firefighters Local 1446** also expressed his organization's support for Congressman Katko, “The Auburn Firefighters are proud to endorse Congressman John Katko's bid for re-election to the 24th district. He has been and will continue to be a champion for the safety of our Nation's First Responders. Congressman Katko listens with an open mind and makes an informed decision based on what is best for the people.”

“The City of Oswego Police Union is proud to endorse Congressman John Katko in his reelection bid,” **said Union President Damian Waters**. “During his first term, Congressman Katko proved to be a capable and hard-working representative. We, as members of the law enforcement community, appreciate the steps he has taken to combat the problem of opiate and synthetic drug abuse. In addition, we are thankful for Congressman Katko's work in securing a National Park designation for Fort Ontario-Safe Haven.”

**Congressman John Katko** was elected in November 2014 to represent the 24<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of New York, which includes Onondaga, Cayuga, and Wayne Counties and the western portion of Oswego County.

###