Date May 15, 2020

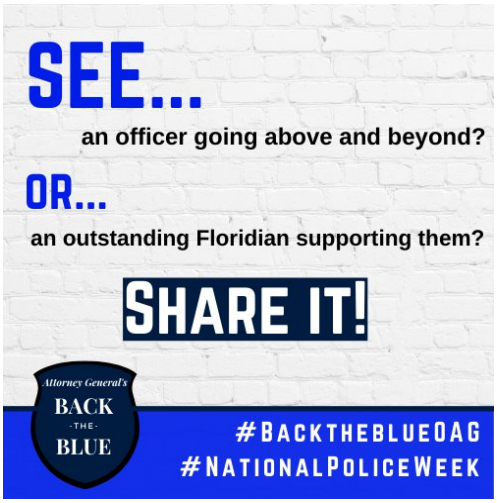
Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - May 15, 2020



As you may know by now, I am a huge supporter of law enforcement.
One of my top priorities as Attorney General is to foster better relationships between our law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. And as the wife of a law enforcement officer, I know first-hand the sacrifice and strong dedication that comes with putting on the badge.

This week was National Police Week—a time to honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and recognize all the hard work that officers endure daily to keep us safe.

I believe their incredible service is something to be commended and shared as they continue to put their lives at risk, especially now during these uncertain times during a global pandemic.



Their work to keep us safe should never be taken for granted and I've been amazed how active Floridians have been showing their support.

It's refreshing to see the many acts of kindness and support between first responders and citizens fighting this crisis together.

Just two weeks ago, I issued a Back the Blue Alert to recognize the thousands of law enforcement officers, citizens and organizations in Florida supporting each other during these challenging times.

Although our in-person Back the Blue Awards ceremonies are on hold to help stop the spread of COVID-19, it's still very important to honor and highlight the many positive stories that we are hearing.

Let's continue working together to end this crisis. If you see a law enforcement officer risking their safety for ours, please tell them thank you!

Stay safe, Florida.



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Protecting Floridians



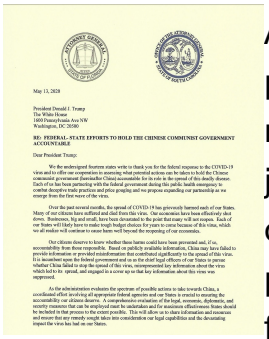
er-Up

Attorney

General Ashley Moody is calling on Congress to investigate the Chinese government's role in the COVID-19 pandemic. In a letter to the leadership of the U.S. House and Senate Foreign Relations Committees, Speaker of the House, Senate Majority Leader, and other congressional leaders, Attorney General Moody and 17 other state attorneys general are calling for a congressional investigation into China's role in covering up its coronavirus crisis and intentionally misleading the international community about the severity of the disease.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "What did China know, when did they know it and why did its members participate in a massive conspiracy to cover up and mislead the international community about the severity and highly contagious nature of the novel coronavirus?" Read More

Attorney General Moody Leads Coalition Calling for a Federal-State Partnership to Hold China Responsible for the COVID-19 Pandemic



May 13, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: FEDERAL-STATE EFFORTS TO HOLD THE CHINESE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE

Dear President Trump:

We the undersigned fourteen states write to thank you for the federal response to the COVID-19 virus and to request your assistance in pursuing what could be historic actions that hold the Chinese communist government (hereinafter China) accountable for its role in the spread of this deadly disease. Each of us has been partnering with the federal government during this public health emergency to combat deceptive trade practices and price gouging and we propose expanding our partnership as we emerge from the first wave of the virus.

Over the past several months, the spread of COVID-19 has grievously harmed each of our States. Many of our citizens have suffered and died from this virus. Our economies have been effectively shut down. Businesses, big and small, have been devastated to the point that many will not reopen. Each of our States will likely have to make tough budget choices for years to come because of this virus, which we all realize will continue to cause harm well beyond the reopening of our economies.

Our citizens deserve to know whether these harms could have been prevented and, if so, accountability from those responsible. Based on publicly available information, China may have failed to provide information or provided misinformation that contributed significantly to the spread of this virus. It is incumbent upon the federal government and us as the chief legal officers of our States to pursue whether China failed to stop the spread of this virus, misrepresented key information about the virus which led to its spread, and engaged in a cover up so that key information about the virus was suppressed.

As the administration evaluates the spectrum of possible actions to take towards China, a coordinated effort involving all appropriate federal agencies and our States is crucial to ensuring the accountability our citizens deserve. A comprehensive evaluation of the legal, economic, diplomatic, and security measures that can be employed must be undertaken and for maximum effectiveness States should be full partners in this process. Therefore, we request a briefing from you or your designee to discuss and ensure that any remedy sought takes into consideration our legal capabilities and the devastating impact the virus has had on our States.

Attorney General Ashley Moody is calling for a federal-state partnership to develop a comprehensive plan to hold China responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic. Attorney General Moody is joined by 13 state attorneys general in the call to action. The coalition sent a letter to President Donald J. Trump requesting a partnership to begin exploring all avenues to hold China responsible for the public health and economic damage caused by its withholding of information and international dissemination of misinformation as COVID-19 began to spread in China and beyond.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “It’s clear China’s actions, or lack thereof, played a role in the global spread of COVID-19 that is causing death and economic destruction here in the United States. States must work in tandem with the federal government to chart the best course of action to hold China responsible for any dissemination of misinformation and failure to mitigate this devastating virus.” Read More



Press Devastation

Attorney

General Ashley Moody is asking Congress to modify the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act as Florida and other states seek to hold China accountable for its role in the COVID-19 pandemic. Attorney General Moody today sent a letter to leaders in Congress requesting that the FSIA be amended to increase opportunities to seek damages from China, when appropriate, for public health and economic harm.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “China must be held accountable, but our current legal framework presents challenges. Modest changes to the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act would clarify and support actions against China, if necessary, to seek damages from the devastation from COVID-19.” Read More